

LGBT Elective Courses

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES 178 (4)--GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN ASIAN AMERICAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE

This course explores gender/sexuality issues in Asian American literature and culture, such as simultaneous construction of gender/ethnicity/race/culture; heterosexual (masculinist/feminist) and gay/lesbian cultural projects; the body; family relations; matrilineal and patrilineal traditions. Instructor selects focus.

CLASSICS 161 (4)--GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND CULTURE IN THE ANCIENT WORLD

Study of topics in gender, feminism, and sexuality in ancient cultures. Topics vary from year to year .

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE 120 (4)—SPECIAL TOPICS IN COMP LIT: GENDER, LOVE, AND SEXUALITY IN THE BIBLE AND MODERN POETRY

In this course we explore the diverse constructions of gender, erotic love and human sexuality in the Hebrew Bible, and some of the ways in which modern poets have recycled and reinscribed these foundational texts.

Using extensive selections from biblical narrative, poetry and law as our point of departure, we will try to understand the fascination of modern, and especially modernist, poets with this formation of biblical intertextuality. What is it about the matriarch Rachel, for example, that makes many modern women poets rewrite her story? And why, after two thousand years of both Jewish and Christian allegorizing readings, do modern poets from Yehuda Amichai to Paul Celan still draw so heavily on the Song of Songs? These questions will enable us to examine the constructedness and porousness of all categories of gender and sexuality, as well as of the boundaries between erotic love and kinship. Specific issues that we will focus on in the process include attitudes toward women, homoerotic love, sexual desire, woman as metaphor for the land and the nation. In general, we hope to understand better the connections between constructions of gender, sexuality and the love relation, and questions of class, race and other formations of power/knowledge.

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE 185 (4)--GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND CULTURE

Comparative study in gender, feminism, sexuality in various national literatures and cultures.

ENGLISH 100— SPECIAL TOPICS IN ENGLISH: GENDER, SEXUALITY AND MODERNISM

Gender norms and literary forms both exploded at the turn of the twentieth century. These paired crises in social and literary narratives were perceived on the one hand as the stuttering end of western culture's story, the drying up of libidinal fuel; and on the other as the freeing of desire from the burden of reproduction, and of language from the burden of reference. Sexual and literary experimentation went hand in hand, but their intersections varied considerably. At the end of the twentieth century, a different phase of the sexual revolution produced a set of intensive theoretical debates about the construction of gender and sexuality. In this course, we will read back and forth across the century to stage a series of encounters between the narratives and practices of literature and theory.

ENGLISH 171 (4)--LITERATURE AND SEXUAL IDENTITY

Sexual identity in literature in relation to thematics, literary convention, psychology, and the particular politics and sociology of individual cultures. The course may range broadly over Western literature or concentrate on one historical period.

GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES 102 (4)--TRANSNATIONAL FEMINISM

An overview of transnational feminist theories and practices, which address the workings of power that shape our world, and women's practices of resistance within and beyond the U.S. The course engages with genealogies of transnational feminist theories, including analyses of women, gender, sexuality, "race," racism, ethnicity, class, nation; postcoloniality; international relations; post-"development"; globalization; area studies; and cultural studies.

GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES 103 (4)--IDENTITIES ACROSS DIFFERENCE

The course studies identity as a product of articulation and investigation of self and other, rather than an inherited marking. Emphasis, for example, may be placed on the complexities of the lived experiences of women of color in the United States and in diverse parts of the world.

GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES 129 (4)--BODIES AND BOUNDARIES

Examines gender and embodiment in interdisciplinary transnational perspective. The human body as both a source of pleasure and as a site of coercion, which expresses individuality and reflects social worlds. Looks at bodies as gendered, raced, disabled/able-bodied, young or old, rich or poor, fat or thin, commodity or inalienable. Considers masculinity, women's bodies, sexuality, sports, clothing, bodies constrained, in leisure, at work, in nation-building, at war, and as feminist theory.

GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES 144 (4)--ALTERNATE SEXUALITIES IN A TRANSNATIONAL WORLD

This course engages with contemporary narrations produced by and about lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transsexual postcolonial subjects through genres such as autobiography, fiction, academic writing, film, journalism, and poetry. Each semester the focus is geopolitically limited to no more than two countries to allow students to consider the conditions out of which the narrations are produced. Sites and subjects may vary from semester to semester.

HISTORY 117D (4)—SPECIAL TOPICS IN CHINESE HISTORY: THE CHINESE BODY: GENDER AND SEX, HEALTH, AND MEDICINE

This course brings a thematic approach to the critical analysis of the "Chinese body," as constructed before the 20th century, from four main perspectives, those of (1) gender, (2) sexual activity, (3) health, and (4) medicine. A variety of sources, material and literary, attest to changing perceptions over time, through the continuing use of standard vocabulary for Yin/Yang and the Five Phases frequently masked innovations.

LEGAL STUDIES 155 (4)—GOVERNMENT AND THE FAMILY

How has the law constructed and deconstructed "family" relationships? What are the common law, statutory, and constitutional principles that affect the formation, regulation, and dissolution of families? How do these principles, as well as diverse cultural and social values, guide the state in determining marriage, family, and child welfare policies?

LEGAL STUDIES 168 (4)--SEX, REPRODUCTION AND THE LAW

This course examines recent American legal and social history with respect to reproductive and sexual behavior. We will consider two theoretical aspects of the problem: first, theories of how law regulates social behavior and second, more general theories about how reproduction is

socially regulated. Armed with these theoretical perspectives, the course will then examine closely a number of legal/social conflicts, including sterilization, abortion and contraception.

LETTERS AND SCIENCE 180A (4)--ARCHAEOLOGY OF SEX AND GENDER.

Being a mother, a father, a son or daughter: these are universal human conditions, yet in every human society they are experienced differently. Grounded in universals of human sexual variation, this course takes experiences of people of different sexes at many points in history as a lens to explore how history, art history, and anthropology make arguments about human beings in the past. Archaeological case studies are used to explore masculinity, motherhood, childhood and aging, and the intersection of sex with other aspects of identity such as race and ethnicity. Central to this course is the way archaeologists use expertise in the study of material remains to approach such questions, often considered accessible only through texts or direct observation of action.

LINGUISTICS 151 (4)--LANGUAGE AND GENDER.

An overview of research over the past 30 years on the relationship between language and gender: how women's use of language differs from men's, in U.S. and other cultures; how men and women are spoken of differently; how women and men have different amounts of access to power via public discourse; gender differences in nondominant groups (e.g., lesbians and gays; African Americans); the role of stereotyping in linguistic differences between the sexes; role of gender in discourse genres.

PSYCHOLOGY 192--SPECIAL TOPICS IN PSYCHOLOGY: "HUMAN SEXUALITY"

The seminar deals with social, cultural and biological perspectives of human sexuality, broadly defined. Topics to be covered are selected by seminar participants and typically include: contraception, venereal disease, prostitution, abortion, sexual dysfunction and their treatment, diversity of sexuality (bisexuality, heterosexuality, homosexuality, transsexual and transvestite lifestyles, etc.), law, morality and ethics of sex, gender roles, rape, biology of sex, sex differentiation of behavior.

RHETORIC 179 (4) --RHETORIC OF SEXUAL EXCHANGE AND SEXUAL DIFFERENCE

This course examines the centrality of sexual difference and sexual exchange to the structuring of societies, cultures, and political life. Possible topics include theories of desire and corporeality; the figure of woman as object of exchange in historical and contemporary contexts such as Sati, prostitution, surrogacy and IVF, and the global traffic in female labor; and an examination of how sexual difference functions as a blind-spot in theories of culture, society, and economy.

SOCIOLOGY 134 (4)-- SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER

The focus of this course will vary depending on the instructor in charge. Examples of possible topics: gender and the state; gender and work; the gender dynamics of childhoods; gender assignment and identity; women's movements; changing constructions of masculinity in the U.S.; Muslim women in comparative perspective .

SOCIOLOGY 135 (4)--SEXUAL CULTURES

This course examines how sexual identities, communities, desires, and practices are socially, historically, and culturally constructed. We will look at how people reproduce dominant models of sexuality, as well as how a wide range of people--including lesbians, bisexuals, gay men, transgenderists, and self-described queers--contest the power that operates through dominant models of sexuality. Looking at empirical studies and theoretical texts, we will trace the paradigm shift from late 19th century sexology to early 20th century psychoanalysis, through a variety of approaches in the 1960's and 1970's to the feminist and queer theory of recent decades.

SOCIOLOGY 150B. SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY: INTERACTION, SELF, AND COGNITION. (4)

This course focuses on the most fundamental ways in which social interactions shape subjective phenomena such as beliefs, values, and emotions. As is traditional, special emphasis will be placed specifically on social beliefs such as identity and status of self and others, and how such beliefs in turn shape interaction. Particular attention will be placed on relatively small group settings in which we can find reasonably good observations of phenomena related to belief transmission, identity formation and change, socialization, and the emergence of social structure.