

Willamette University
Department of Gender Studies

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Office: 503-376-6327 (Eaton 431)
Class: TTh 9:40-11:10am, WLT 427

Office Hours: TTh 2:00pm-4:00pm
or by appointment

Course Description

Our purpose in this course is to examine intersectional ties between queer sexualities, genders, and cultures. Through historical and theoretical lenses, we will examine political actions, social implications, and other issues in regards to queerness from a variety of different perspectives. Theoretical, historical, and political readings in conjunction with queer blogs will provide some necessary background knowledge to examine power and privilege as it affects and is affected by intersecting and conflicting notions of sexualities, genders, races/ethnicities, and classes, among other identities.

Required Texts

- 1.

- and cultural issues and make connections between theoretical arguments as well as the lived realities of the queer writers and bloggers that you analyze.
3. You will demonstrate through paper writing, WISE postings, and class discussion the historical and contemporary social implications that affect are affected by queer cultures, politics, and activism.
 4. You will demonstrate through paper writing an understanding of the complexities of academic writing and be able to develop an innovative thesis, anticipate your reading audience, reason and argue convincingly, and support your claims with concrete, textual evidence.
 5. You will demonstrate through paper writing the ability to practice writing as a process that entails brainstorming, research, outlining, and revision through multiple drafts.
 6. You will demonstrate through WISE postings the ability to identify and evaluate (via blog) useful research sources as well as relate it to the lived experiences of bloggers, theorists, and other writers.

Some Ground Rules

6. Support your statements. Use evidence and provide rationale for your points.
7. Out of respect for each other, all electronics (including but not limited to computers, phones

Queer Blogs

An “F” paper results when the writer neglects to hand in the assignment; refuses to address the paper topic; or violates common standards of decency. Additionally, plagiarism also will result in a paper grade of “F.”

-Michael Denny, Gay Politics: Sixteen Propositions (485-498)

Tue

Max H. Kirsch, Queer Theory and Social Change

-Meta-identity, performativity, and internalized homophobia (79-93)

-Theory, politics, and the community (114-123)

Scott Tucker, The Queer Question: Essay on Desire and Democracy

-There's No Place Like Home: Straight Supremacy, Queer Resistance, and Equality of Kinship (202-245)

Thur

Mark Simpson, Anti-Gay

-Lisa Power, Forbidden Fruit (55-65)

Scott Tucker, The Queer Question: Essay on Desire and Democracy

-Too Queer to be Gay? A Populist Group Fails to Support Sexual Minorities (10-15)

Tue

******Paper 1 DUE at the start of class******

Mark Blasius, Sexual Identities: Queer Politics

-Robert W. Bailey, Sexual Identity and Urban Space: Economic Structure and Political Action (231-255)

Compilation by the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies, CUNY, Queer Ideas

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-Judith Butler, Doing Justice to Someone: Sex Reassignment and Allegories of Transsexuality (183-193)

-Aaron H. Devor and Nicholas Matte, ONE Inc. and Reed Erickson: The Uneasy Collaboration of Gay and Trans Activism, 1964-2003 (387-406)

Thur

Susan Stryker and Stephen Whittle, The Transgender Studies Reader

-Gayle Rubin, Of Catamites and Kings: Reflections on Butch, Gender, and Boundaries (471-481)

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