Instructor: Dr. Georgia Sitara
Office: CLE B127
Office Hours: Wednesday 2:00-3:00, Thursday 11:00-12:00 and by appointment
Email: gsitara@uvic.ca
Course Description

This course explores the history of sexuality in three geographical regions, Europe, the United States and Canada, with a focus on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The course is organized thematically and engages key scholars and ideas in the history of desire, including age of consent, the historical construction of heterosexuality and homosexuality, as well as the sexual nature of same sex intimacy. Other course themes include intergenerational sex, bisexuality and free love. This course takes up these and other themes to explore dominant ideologies and the everyday practices of a variety of historical bodies and their pleasures.

Each week is designed as a unit on a theme and will include lecture, film and open class discussion. Students are strongly encouraged to do the assigned readings for the Monday session.

Course Readings

All course readings are available electronically through the University Library website. Go to http://library.uvic.ca and click on course reserves, and then click on our course number HSTR 358CA01. Our course readings are listed alphabetically by journal or book title. With the exception of some book chapters (which are available through the course reserves as electronic PDFs), all other readings can be accessed individually through the library database America: History and Life. Copy and paste the exact title into the database. A link to the reading should come up. If you are having trouble accessing any of the course readings, please contact the library reserve desk ASAP at reserve@uvic.ca or by telephone at 250-721-6673.

Please do the readings to ensure to maximize your learning and optimal success in this course.

Course Requirements and Grade Distribution

10% Attendance and Participation
10% Research Proposal due Thursday October 12 at the beginning of class
20% Critical Reflection due Thursday November 2nd at the beginning of class
30% Research Paper due Thursday November 23rd at the beginning of class
30% Final Exam December Date set by the University

10% Attendance and Participation: Students are expected to attend every session having done all the readings and prepared for informed engagement with lecture, film and discussion.

10% Research Proposal due October 12th at the beginning of class: The research paper assignment is an opportunity for students to research and write about a theme of their choice in
the history of sexuality. There are two components to the research paper assignment. Students are required to submit a research proposal and a working annotated bibliography. Your proposal should be 100-200 words (double spaced) and provide a clear description of the theme or focus of your research paper. What do you want to learn about? What questions do you want to answer? The bibliography should list a minimum of the five non-course-based academic secondary sources (books, book chapters, journal articles, etc.) and provide a short description of each title demonstrating how each will contribute to your research. For citations and bibliography, students are required to follow the History Department Style Guide: https://www.uvic.ca/humanities/history/assets/docs/styleguide.pdf

The proposal and bibliography will provide me with an opportunity to offer feedback and suggestions to strengthen your work. If you need help, at any stage of your process, please send me an email and come see me. It would be my pleasure to help you find a topic, narrow down your topic, and find relevant sources.

Please note: Students are required to attach and resubmit their marked proposal and preliminary bibliography with their final research paper.

20% Critical Reflection due Thursday November 2nd at the beginning of class
Students are required to write 3-4 pages double spaced (750-1000 words) on the material assigned for the week of Monday October 16th on “Age, Youth and Intergenerational Sex.” What did you learn from each source? What is the argument and evidence presented by each author? What are some of the differences between the sources? What do they have in common? Which arguments did you find most persuasive and why? Students are welcome to use lecture notes as well as the material assigned for the unit on Courtship (week of Monday October 23rd) to strengthen their answer.

This is an assignment on the course material. It is an opportunity for students to write about, and get feedback on, their thinking on the required readings. It is meant to help students prepare for writing the essay questions on the final exam. Students need to provide a bibliography of all the sources they have consulted and considered in writing this assignment, using the History Department Style Guide: https://www.uvic.ca/humanities/history/assets/docs/styleguide.pdf

30% Research Paper Thursday November 23rd at the beginning of class: The research paper should be 6-7 pages double spaced (1500-1750 words) and should contain discussion of all the material that appears in your bibliography. You are welcome to use class materials in addition to your five non-course based sources. For citations and bibliography, students are required to follow the History Department Style Guide: https://www.uvic.ca/humanities/history/assets/docs/styleguide.pdf

Students are required to attach and resubmit their marked proposal and preliminary bibliography with their final research paper.
30% Final Exam December Date set by the University: The exam will be held during the University exam period and the date will be set by the University. It will be composed of THREE essay style questions on course themes. Students will be required to draw on course readings, films and lectures to support their answers. Exam questions will be distributed and discussed in class during the last week of classes.

How to Succeed in This Course

- do the readings before you come to class
- bring your readings to class
- come to class and pay attention
- take notes during lecture, film and discussion
- review your notes
- ask questions in class, by email and in office hours when you need clarification
- do the work
- do your best
- ask for assistance and support (everyone struggles and resources are available to help)
- let me know how I can best support you

Course Schedule

Wednesday September 5 and Thursday September 6
Introduction and Welcome

Monday September 11, Wednesday September 13 and Thursday September 14
Historicizing Sex: Thinking about Sex Historically
Film clips: Thou Shalt Not: Sex, Sin and Censorship in the Pre-Code Hollywood Era


Monday September 18, Wednesday September 20 and Thursday September 21
Historicizing Heterosexuality: Intimacy Between Women and Men
Film Clips: Thou Shalt Not: Sex, Sin and Censorship in the Pre-Code Hollywood Era

Monday September 25, Wednesday September 27 and Thursday September 28
Intimacy Between Men
Film clips from: The Celluloid Closet


Monday October 2, Wednesday October 4 and Thursday October 5
Intimacy Between Women
Film clips from: Forbidden Love: Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Lives

• Deborah Yaffe, "My Mid-term Exam in Lesbian Theory and Practice: Discuss the question 'Are Lesbians Going Extinct?' as if your life depended on it," Trivia: Voices of Feminism, 10 (February 2010): http://www.triviavoices.com/my-mid-term-exam-in-lesbian-theory.html

Monday October 9 (Thanksgiving No class)

Wednesday October 11 and Thursday October 12
Proposal due Thursday October 12th at the beginning of class
Bisexuality
Film: Kinsey


Monday October 16, Wednesday October 18 and Thursday October 19
Age, Youth and Intergenerational Sex
Film: *Kinsey* (cont.)


Monday October 23, Wednesday October 25 and Thursday October 26
Courtship and Dating
Film: *Kinsey* (cont.)


Monday October 30, Wednesday November 1 and Thursday November 2
Critical Reflection due November 2nd at the beginning of class
Marital Sex
Film: *Kinsey* (conclusion)


Monday November 6, Wednesday November 8 and Thursday November 9
Sex as Work
Film: *Strip Tease: The Greatest Erotic Dancers of all Time*

  http://www.pivotlegal.org/evaluating_canada_s_sex_work_laws_the_case_for_repeal
Monday November 13, Wednesday November 15 (Reading Break No Classes)
Thursday November 16
Film: *Little Sister's Vs Big Brother*

Monday November 20, Wednesday November 22 and Thursday November 23
Research Paper due November 23rd at the beginning of class

**Sex Radicals and Free Love**
Film Clips: *Emma Goldman & Emma Goldman: The Anarchist Guest*


Monday November 27, Wednesday November 29 and Thursday November 30

**Various Sexual Pleasures and Positions**