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Clearihue B202  
Office Hours: Wed 1-3

History 513  
Fall 2011  
CLE B346  
Wed 9:30 – 12:20

## **Gender & Sexuality in American History**

The study of gender and sexuality operates at the cutting edge of American historiography today. New scholarship in this area is characterized by innovative methods, sources, and questions, which are bound to inspire both imitation and argument for years to come. In short, gender and sexuality is an ideal field for graduate students interested in pursuing fresh ideas.

### **Required Course Texts**

Ann C. Little *Abraham in Arms: War and Gender in Colonial New England* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2007).

Martha Hodes *White Women, Black Men : Illicit Sex in the Nineteenth-Century South* (Yale University Press, 1999)

Elizabeth Alice Clement *Love for Sale: Courting, Treating, and Prostitution in New York City, 1940-1945* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2006).

K. A. Cuordileone *Manhood and American Political Culture in the Cold War* (Routledge, 2004)

Regina Kunzel *Criminal Intimacy: Prison and the Uneven History of Modern American Sexuality* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008).

Elizabeth Reis *Bodies in Doubt: An American History of Intersex*.  
Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009.

Articles are accessible through Google Scholar. Book excerpts designated [M] have links on the course Moodle site.

## Course Work

1. Participation (20%)

The intellectual work that you perform in the graduate seminar classroom is as important as the reading that you do outside. In the classroom you create knowledge through intensive discussion – even argumentation – with your peers and professor. Attendance, of course, is mandatory in this class. So is thorough preparation (take notes on your reading!) and frequent vocal participation.
2. Article Review & Presentations (10%)

Write a brief review of your assigned article (maximum 1000 words), highlighting its thesis, scholarly context, evidence (if any), strengths, and weaknesses. Use quotations to support your analysis. Prepare a 5 minute presentation on the article to deliver before class. End your presentation with a set of questions designed to advance discussion of the article. Due Sept 14.
3. Book Review (15%)

Write a review (minimum 1500 words) of a required text highlighting its thesis, scholarly context, evidence, strengths, and weaknesses. Use quotations to support your analysis. Due at date of discussion of text.
4. Historiography Paper & Presentation (40%)

Write a 4000-word (minimum) critique of all the readings assigned for any non-article week. The critique should focus on the books' differences in interpretation, sources, methodology, theory, and writing. Which books make the strongest arguments? Which are less persuasive? For an example of how to write a good historiography paper, check out Marc Stein's essay "Theoretical Politics, Local Communities: The Making of U.S. LGBT Historiography" in *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies* 11.4 (2005): 605-625, or flip through back issues of *Reviews in American History* for multiple-book reviews (available online via JSTOR or Project Muse). Prepare a 15-minute presentation about the scholarship on your chosen subject. Your presentation should introduce classmates to the development of scholarship in the field (you can draw on the authors' historiographies here), to the relative merits of the texts you reviewed, and to the range

of sources, methods, and arguments you encountered. The paper is due 3 weeks after the presentation is given.

5. Research Prospectus (15%)

Having surveyed a wide range of contemporary scholarship on the history of gender and sexuality, you are now ready to find a place for yourself in the conversation. Write a research prospectus for a “Master’s Thesis” in the field. Your prospectus should include i) a brief summary of your topic, including a research question; ii) a literature review explaining how your topic fits into the historiography; iii) a section on methods/theory relevant to your topic; iv) a detailed list of sources (with locations) to begin research; v) a bibliography of secondary sources that will be relevant (you do not need to have to read this). This prospectus requires good research skills, not deep reading. It is a dry run for the countless versions you may write in the future. Due Nov. 30.

## Course Schedule

**1. Sept 7: Introductions. Syllabus Review.**

**2. Sept 14: Definitions Part I: Gender\***

\* Please read the articles in the chronological order they’re listed. They will make more sense that way.

Joan W. Scott “Gender as a Useful Category of Historical Analysis” *The American Historical Review* 91. 5 (Dec 1986): 1053-1075.

Judith Butler “Subjects of Sex/Gender/Desire” *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity* 1990 orig. ed. (New York: Routledge, 2007): 1-46. (M)

Laura Lee Downs “If ‘Woman’ is Just an Empty Category, Then Why am I Afraid to Walk Alone at Night? Identity Politics Meets the Postmodern Subjects” *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 35.2 (1993): 414-437.

Joan Hoff “Gender as a Postmodern Category of Paralysis” *Women’s History Review* 3. 2 (1994): 149-168.

Jeanne Boydston "Gender as a Question of Historical Analysis" *Gender and History* 20, no. 3 (2008): 558-583.

Joanne Meyerowitz "A History of Gender" *American Historical Review* 113. 5 (2008): 1346-1356.

Article review & presentation due.

### **3. Sept 21: Conquest & Gender**

Ann C. Little *Abraham in Arms: War and Gender in Colonial New England* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2007).

#### *Additional Readings:*

Ramon Gutierrez *When Jesus Came, the Corn Mothers Went Away : Marriage, Sexuality, and Power in New Mexico, 1500-1846* (Oxford University Press, 1991)

Kathleen M. Brown *Good Wives, Nasty Wenches, and Anxious Patriarchs: Gender, Race, and Power in Colonial Virginia* (Published for the Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture by the University of North Carolina Press: Chapel Hill, 1996).

Jennifer L. Morgan *Laboring Women: Reproduction and Gender in New World Slavery* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004).

Sharon Block *Rape & Sexual Power in Early America* (Chapel Hill: Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, by the University of North Carolina, 2006)

Julianna Barr *Peace Came in the Form of a Woman: Indians and Spaniards in the Texas Borderlands* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2007).

Jennifer M. Spear *Race, Sex, and Social Order in Early New Orleans* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009).

#### **4. Sept 28: Definitions Part II: Sex\***

\* once again: please read in chronological order

Michel Foucault, “Part One: We Other Victorians” and “Part Two: The Repressive Hypothesis” from *The History of Sexuality: Volume I: An Introduction* orig. ed. 1978 (New York: Vintage Books, 1990): 3-49.

Robert Padgug “Sexual Matters: On Conceptualizing Sexuality in History” *Radical History Review* 20 (Spring/Summer 1979):3-23.

Gayle Rubin “Thinking Sex: Notes for a Radical Theory of the Politics of Sexuality” (1984) *Culture, Society, and Sexuality*, 150-187. [This text is available as an e-book through the UVic Library website]

David Halperin “Is there a History of Sexuality” *History and Theory* (1989): 257-274.

Catharine MacKinnon “Does Sexuality Have a History?” *Michigan Quarterly Review* 30 (Winter 1991): 1-11.

David Halperin “Forgetting Foucault: Acts, Identities, and the History of Sexuality,” *Representations* 63 (Summer, 1998): 93-120.

Kevin P. Murphy and Jennifer Spear “Historicising Sexuality and Gender” *Gender & History* 22.3 (Nov 2010): 527-537.

#### **5. Oct. 5: Race & Sexuality**

Martha Hodes *White Women, Black Men : Illicit Sex in the Nineteenth-Century South* (Yale University Press, 1999)

##### *Additional Readings*

Kirsten Fischer *Suspect Relations : Sex, Race, and Resistance in Colonial North Carolina* (Cornell University Press, 2001)

Joshua Greenberg *Notorious in the Neighborhood: Sex and Family Across the Color Line in Virginia, 1787-1861* (2003)

Diane Miller Sommerville *Rape and Race in the Nineteenth-Century South*  
(University of North Carolina Press, 2004)

Julian Carter *The Heart of Whiteness : Normal Sexuality and Race in  
America 1890-1940* (Duke University Press, 2007)

Hannah Rosen *Terror in the Heart of Freedom: Citizenship, Sexual  
Violence, and the Meaning of Race in the Postemancipation South*  
(University of North Carolina Press, 2008)

Peggy Pascoe *What Comes Naturally : Miscegenation Law and the Making  
of Race in America* (Oxford University Press, 2010)

## **6. Oct 12: Sex & New York City**

Elizabeth Alice Clement *Love for Sale: Courting, Treating, and Prostitution  
in New York City, 1940-1945* (Chapel Hill: University of North  
Carolina Press, 2006).

### *Additional Readings:*

Christine Stansell *City of Women: Sex and Class in New York, 1789-1920*  
(Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1982).

Tim Gilfoyle *City of Eros: New York City, Prostitution, and the  
Commercialization of Sex, 1790-1920* (New York: W. W. Norton,  
1994).

Kevin Mumford *Interzones: Black/White Sex Districts in Chicago and New  
York in the Early Twentieth Century* (Columbia University Press,  
1997).

Patricia Cline Cohen *The Murder of Helen Jewett: The Life and Death of a  
Prostitute in Nineteenth-Century New York* (Vintage Books: New York,  
1998).

Helen Lefkowitz Horowitz *Rereading Sex: Battles over Sexual Knowledge  
in Nineteenth-Century America* (New York: Vintage Press, 2002).

Donna Dennis *Licentious Gotham: Erotic Publishing and its Prosecution in Nineteenth-Century New York* (Boston: Harvard University Press, 2009).

## 7. Oct. 19: American Manhood

K. A. Cuordileone *Manhood and American Political Culture in the Cold War* (Routledge, 2004)

### *Additional Readings*

E. Anthony Rotundo "Romantic Friendship: Male Intimacy and Middle-Class Youth in the Northern United States," *Journal of Social History* 23. 1 (Autumn 1989): 1-25.

Mark Carnes *Secret Ritual and Manhood in Victorian America* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1991).

Toby L. Ditz "Shipwrecked; or, Masculinity Imperiled" Mercantile Representations of Failure and the Gendered Self in Eighteenth-Century Philadelphia" *The Journal of American History* 8. 1 (June 1994) 51-80.

Gail Bederman *Manliness and Civilization: A Cultural History of Race and Gender in the United States 1880-1917*. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995).

Anya Jabour, "Male Friendship and Masculinity in the Early National South: William Wirt and His Friends," *Journal of the Early Republic* 20.1 (Spring 2000): 83-111.

Linda Espana-Maram *Creating Masculinity in Los Angeles's Little Manila: Working-Class Filipinos and Popular Culture in the United States* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2006).

Thomas Foster *Sex and the Eighteenth Century Man: Massachusetts and the History of Sexuality in America* (Boston: Beacon Press, 2008).

Nicholas L. Syrett *The Company He Keeps: A History of White College Fraternities* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2009).

Kevin P. Murphy. *Political Manhood: Red Bloods, Mollycoddles, and the Politics of Progressive Era Reform*. (New York: Columbia University Press, 2010).

### **8. Oct. 26 Definitions Part III: Queer History\***

Blanche Wiesen Cook “The Historical Denial of Lesbianism” *Radical History Review* (1970): 60-65.

Caroll Smith Rosenberg “The Female World of Love and Ritual: Relations Between Women in Nineteenth-Century America.” In *Disorderly Conduct: Visions of Gender in Victorian America*. New York: Knopf, 1985. [M]

George Chauncey “Christian Brotherhood or Sexual Perversion” *Journal of Social History* 19 (1985): 189-211.

Martin Duberman, Martha Vicinus, George Chauncey, eds. *Hidden from History: Reclaiming the Gay and Lesbian Past* (1989) Intro

Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, “Introduction: Axiomatic” *The Epistemology of the Closet* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990):1-63. [M]

Lisa Duggan “Making it Perfectly Queer” *Socialist Review* 22 1 (1992) 22(1): 11-31.

Anne G. Myles “Queering the Study of Early American Sexuality” *The William and Mary Quarterly* 60.1 (2003) 199-203.

David Serlin “Crippling Masculinity: Queerness and Disability in U.S. Military Culture” *GLQ* (2003): 149-79.

Leila Rupp “What’s Queer Got to do with it?” *Reviews in American History* 38.2 (2010): 189-198.



## 9. Nov. 2: Queer Twentieth Century

Regina Kunzel *Criminal Intimacy: Prison and the Uneven History of Modern American Sexuality* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008).

### *Additional Readings:*

Elizabeth Kennedy and Madeleine Davis *Boots of Leather, Slippers of Gold: The History of a Lesbian Community* (New York: Penguin Press, 1993).

George Chauncey *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Making of the Gay Male World 1890-1940* (New York: Basic Books, 1994).

Lisa Duggan *Sapphic Slashers: Sex, Violence, and American Modernity* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2000).

Nan Boyd *Wide-Open Town: A History of Queer San Francisco to 1965* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003).

Margot Canaday *The Straight State: Sexuality and Citizenship in Twentieth-Century America* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2009).

Carolyn Lewis *Prescription for Homosexuality: Sexual Citizenship in the Cold War Era* (Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 2010).

## 10. Nov. 16 Beyond Binaries: Transgender & Intersex History

Elizabeth Reis *Bodies in Doubt: An American History of Intersex*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009.

### *Additional Readings:*

Thomas Laqueur *Making Sex: Body and Gender from the Greeks to Freud* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1990).

Judith Halberstam, *Female Masculinity*. Duke University Press, 1994.

Kathleen M. Brown “Changed ... into the Fashion of Man: The Politics of Sexual Difference in a Seventeenth-Century Anglo-American Settlement” *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 6 (1995): 171-93.

Cheryl Chase, “Hermaphrodites with Attitude: An Emergence of Intersex Political Activism” *GLQ* 4:2 (1998).

Alice Domurat Dreger *Hermaphrodites and the Medical Invention of Sex* (Harvard University Press, 1998)

Anne Fausto-Sterling *Sexing the Body: Gender Politics and the Construction of Sexuality* (New York: Basic Books, 2000).

Joanne Myerowitz *How Sex Changed: A History of Transsexuality in the United States* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2002).

Susan Stryker, *Transgender History*. Berkeley: Seal Press, 2008.

Sandra Eder “The Volatility of Sex: Intersexuality, Gender and Clinical Practice in the 1950s” *Gender & History* 22.3 (Nov 2010): 692-707.

### **11. Nov. 23 Transnational**

Inderpal Grewal and Caren Kaplan “Global Identities: Theorizing Transnational Studies of Sexuality” *GLQ* 7.4 (2001) 663-679.

“AHR Forum: Transnational Sexualities” *American Historical Review* 114. 5 (December 2009): 1250-1353.

### **12. Nov. 30 Wrap-Up Future Research Trends**

Recent articles on gender and sexuality selected by the students.

Due: Research Prospectus