HISTORY 29

Sexuality and Society in Modern Europe

This class traces historical constructions of sexual identities in Western societies since 1700. Topics include a survey of Greek, Roman and Medieval European traditions, sexuality in colonized societies, urbanization and the creation of sexual minorities, the medicalization of sex, the 19th-century invention of deviant sexualities, contemporary Queer Theory and its relation to social history.

Course Requirements:

The course will be conducted primarily as a discussion class. Although I will occasionally lecture on background material, it is imperative that you come to class fully prepared. This means reading AND reflecting on the day’s assignment well in advance of class discussion. Occasionally I will distribute study guides to help you focus your thoughts about the readings. The history department has implemented the following draconian policy on attendance: Students are required to attend all classes for the successful completion of the course. Unexcused absences will result in a lower grade.

During the semester, each student will prepare a short five minute oral synopsis of one of the assigned readings (to be determined in advance). Students will also produce:

1) A 5-page (1,250 word) document analysis, due September 23 in class.
2) A take-home exam, due no later than November 5 at noon.
3) A final paper on a 20th-century topic (10 pages or 2500 words) due December 15 (topic due no later than December 3).

I will provide details about each assignment well in advance of the due date.

Readings:
The following paperback texts have been ordered for you at the Bookstore:

G. Chauncey, *Gay New York*
J. Fout, ed., *Forbidden History: The State, Society, and the Regulation of Sexuality in Europe*
S. Freud, *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality*
V. Martinez-Alier, *Marriage, Class and Color in 19th-Century Cuba*
S. Ullman, *Sex Seen. The Emergence of Modern Sexuality in America*

All other readings are available through Blackboard.

The books listed above as well as the following have been placed on General Reserve for this course:

H. Abelove, M. Barana, D. Halperin, eds., *The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader*
J. D’Emilio and E. Freedman, *Intimate Matters: A History of Sexuality in America*
M. Duberman, M. Vicinus, G. Chauncey, eds. *Hidden From History: Reclaiming the Gay and Lesbian Past*
J. Epstein, *Altered Conditions: Disease, Medicine and Story Telling*
J. Epstein and K. Straub, eds., *Body Guards: The Cultural Politics of Gender Ambiguity*
D. Halperin, *One Hundred Years of Homosexuality*
D. Halperin, *How to do the History of Homosexuality*
J. Katz, *The Invention of Heterosexuality*
T. Laqueur, *Making Sex: Body and Gender from the Greeks to Freud*
M. Warner, ed. *Fear of a Queer Planet*

### Schedule of Topics and Readings:

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T 9/7

SOME CLASSICAL CONSTRUCTIONS OF FEMALE SEXUALITY


Th 9/9

SEXUAL DIVERSITY IN PRE-INDUSTRIAL EUROPE

Reading: J. Brown, “Lesbian Sexuality in Medieval and Early Modern Europe in Hidden from History, pp. 67-75 (See Notes 34 and 46)

J. Liliequist, “Peasants against Nature: Crossing the Boundaries between Man and Animal in 17th- & 18th-Century Sweden,” in Forbidden History, pp. 57-88

T 9/14

FROM SOCIAL DISTINCTIONS TO BIOLOGICAL DIFFERENCE


Th 9/16

TOWARD NEW NORMATIVE GENDER ROLES IN EUROPE


J. J. Rousseau, selection “Sophie” from Emile

T 9/21

TOWARD A NEW NORMATIVE SEXUALITY IN EUROPE


T. van der Meer, “Tribades on Trial: Female Same-Sex Offenders, in Late 18th-Century Amsterdam,” in Forbidden History, pp. 189-210

Th 9/23

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: THE HERCULINE BARBIN FILE

Reading: M. Foucault, Herculine Barbin, pp. 119-151
Document Analysis Due in class

T 9/28  BIOLOGICAL TRUTH: THE MEDICALIZATION OF SOCIAL IDENTITY
Reading:  M. Foucault, *Herculine Barbin*, pp. vii-115

Th 9/30  PROSTITUTION, FEMINISM, AND THE STATE
Reading:  J. Walkowitz & D. Walkowitz, “We are not Beasts of the Field.” Prostitution and the Poor in Plymouth and Southampton Under the Contagious Diseases Acts,” in Hartman & Banner, *Clio’s Consciousness Raised*, pp. 192-225
J. Weeks, “Inverts, Perverts and Mary-Annes: Male Prostitution and the Regulation of Homosexuality in England in the 19th and early 20th Centuries,” in *Hidden from History*, pp. 195-211

T 10/5  RACE AND SEXUALITY ON THE COLONIAL FRONTIER
Reading:  V. Martinez-Alier, *Marriage, Class and Color in 19th-Century Cuba*, pp. 11-45; 57-81

Th 10/7  RACIAL HONOR AND SEDUCTION IN COLONIAL CUBA
Reading:  V. Martinez-Alier, *Marriage, Class and Color in 19th-Century Cuba*, pp. 82-119; xi-xix

FALL BREAK

T 10/19  SOCIAL DARWINIST THOUGHT AND FEMALE SEXUALITY
S. Gilman, “Black Bodies, White Bodies: Toward an Iconography of Female Sexuality in Late 19th-Century Art, Medicine, and Literature” in H. Gates, ed., *Race, Writing, and Difference*

Th 10/21  DEVIATION, DEVELOPMENT, AND PERVERSION: FREUD’S REVOLUTION
Reading: S. Freud, *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality*

**T 10/26**  
*FIN DE SIECLE CONSTRUCTIONS OF FEMALE SEXUALITY*  
Reading: M. Foucault, *Herculine Barbin*, pp. 155-199  
N. Sine, “Cases of Mistaken Identity: Salome and Judith at the Turn of the Century” in *German Studies Review*, 1988

**Th 10/28**  
*SEX AND PUBLIC SPACE: THE CITY*  
Reading: G. Chauncey, *Gay New York*, pp. 33-45; 151-225; 227-244

**T 11/2**  
*GENDER CONFUSION: THE NEW WOMAN AND THE NEW MAN*  
Reading: L. Hall, “Forbidden by God, Despised by Men: Masturbation, Medical Warnings, Moral Panic, and Manhood in Great Britain, 1850-1950,” in *Forbidden History*, pp. 293-316  
M. Vicinus, “Distance and Desire: English Boarding School Friendships, 1870-1920,” in *Hidden from History*, pp. 212-229

**Th 11/4**  
*GENDER CONFUSION: THE NEW MAN AND THE NEW WOMAN*  
FILM: *Anders als die Anderen*

**T 11/9**  
*THE ADJUSTABLE BED: CHANGING RELATIONS AMONG THE SEXES AT THE TURN OF THE LAST CENTURY*  
Reading: S. Ullman, *Sex Seen. The Emergence of Modern Sexuality in America*, pp. 18-140

**Th 11/11**  
*EMANCIPATION IN THE JAZZ AGE?*  
G. Chauncey, *Gay New York*, pp. 244-267; 301-329  
R. Koshar, “Sex and Class” in *German Travel Cultures*, pp. 81-96.
**T 11/16**  
**DEPRESSION AND REPRESSION**

Reading:  
Burleigh and Wippermann, *The Racial State: Germany 1933-1945*, pp. 182-197; 242-266  
E. Haeberle, “Swastika, Pink Triangle and Yellow Star: The Destruction of Sexology and the Persecution of Homosexuals in Nazi Germany,” in *Hidden from History*, pp. 365-379  

**Th 11/18**  
**WAR AND THE CREATION OF NEW SEXUAL COMMUNITIES**

Reading:  
G. Chauncey, “Christian Brotherhood or Sexual Perversion?” in *Hidden from History*, pp. 294-317  
A. Bérubé, “Marching to a Different Drummer” in *Hidden from History*, pp. 383-394  

**T 11/23**  
**THE POSTWAR CONSUMER AND SEXUAL REVOLUTIONS**

Reading:  
FILM: “Pillow Talk”

**Th 11/25**  
**THANKSGIVING**

**T 11/30**  
**“EX-GI BECOMES BLONDE BEAUTY”: HOW SEX CHANGED**

Reading:  

**Th 12/2**  
**THE LIBERAL MOMENT AND THE BACKLASH**

Reading:  
Meyerowitz, *How Sex Changed*, pp. 168-254  
G. Rubin, “Thinking Sex: Notes for a Radical Theory of the Politics of Sexuality” in *The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader*, pp. 3-43

**T 12/7**  
**AIDS CRISIS AND THE OVERT POLITICIZATION OF SEXUALITY**
Reading: P. Treichler, How to Have Theory in an Epidemic. Cultural Chronicles of AIDS, pp. 11-98

“Longtime Companion”