This course is designed to allow students to explore the meanings of manhood and the various constructions of masculine identity in America between the late-18th century and the end of the 20th century. It is a course on the cultural and social history of gender and sexuality in America.

REQUIRED READINGS:
The following books are required readings and available at the College Bookstore:
E. Anthony Rotundo, American Manhood.
Amy Greenberg, Manifest Manhood and the Antebellum American Empire.
Elliott Gorn, The Manly Art: Bare-Knuckle Prize Fighting in America.
Gail Bederman, Manliness and Civilization.
George Chauncey, Gay New York.
Nayan Shah, Stranger Intimacy.
Steve Estes, I am a Man! Race, Manhood, and the Civil Rights Movement.

ALL ADDITIONAL ASSIGNED READINGS ARE AVAILABLE ON MOODLE.

Additional books for paper assignments are on reserve at McCabe Library.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
Reading and Class Participation: This is a discussion-oriented course, so attendance and participation are an important part of every students’ commitment to this course. Students are expected to attend all class meetings, including films and guest lectures scheduled outside of class. Students are expected to complete the assigned readings before every class meeting, and be prepared for discussion.

Papers: Three papers (6-8 pages) will be written over the course of the semester. The papers are not designed to be research papers, but rather analytical essays integrating assigned and supplemental readings. Students can decide among a choice of topics. The essays will be based primarily on the supplemental reading list for each paper topic, but should also integrate the class lectures, discussion, and assigned readings. These papers will allow students to do in-depth studies of topics for which the course can only provide a rudimentary exposure. (A description of the expectations for the papers and the topics will be posted on Moodle.)
First Paper Due: Feb. 20.
Second Paper Due: Mar. 27.
Third Paper Due: May 2.

Examinations: There will be a final examination, either as a take-home exam or as an exam scheduled by the College Registrar (to be determined by the professor). The exam will be based on the assigned readings, class lectures and discussions.
POLICIES:
Evaluation/Grading:
Class participation: 20%
Papers: 60%
Final Examination 20%

Note: Students must complete all writing assignments (including the Final Exam) to pass this course.

Attendance & Communication: The following is the History Department policy on attendance & communication: “Students are required to attend all classes. Unexcused absences will result in a lower grade for the course. If you are having a medical or personal emergency, please contact the Dean’s Office as well as the instructor of the course. It is your responsibility to inform your instructor as soon as possible. It is essential that you check your email on a regular basis since History professors will contact you via email. We also expect you to use email to contact History professors.”

Laptops & Electronic Devices: To facilitate discussion and to avoid distractions, I am going to ask that you do not use a laptop or any other electronic devise in class. Please silence and put away your mobile phone during class. (Disability accommodations requiring the use of a computer are not covered by this policy.)

Accommodations for disability: If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact Leslie Hempling in the Office of Student Disability Services (Parrish 113) or email lhempli1@swarthmore.edu to arrange an appointment to discuss your needs. As appropriate, she will issue students with documented disabilities a formal Accommodations Letter. Since accommodations require early planning and are not retroactive, please contact her as soon as possible. For details about the accommodations process, visit the Student Disability Service website at http://www.swarthmore.edu/student-life/academic-advising-and-support/student-disability-service.xml. You are also welcome to contact me privately to discuss your academic needs. However, all disability-related accommodations must be arranged through Leslie Hempling in the Office of Student Disability Services.
CLASS SCHEDULE:

(WEEK 1)
Jan. 21 INTRODUCTION

Jan. 23 MANHOOD AND THE STUDY OF GENDER

Required Reading:
Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble* (1990), 1-34.

More Reading:  (Not now, but perhaps in your future)

(WEEK 2)
Jan. 28 MANHOOD IN COLONIAL & REVOLUTIONARY AMERICA

Required Reading:

I. NINETEENTH-CENTURY MANHOOD, 1790-1890

Jan. 30 INDUSTRIALIZATION & CAPITALISM: MEN, WOMEN, AND WORK

Required Reading:

(WEEK 3)
Feb. 4 THE DILEMMAS OF 19TH-CENTURY WHITE MANHOOD

Required Reading:

Feb. 6 SLAVERY AND AFRICAN AMERICAN MANHOOD

Required Reading:
Jim Cullen, “It’s a Man Now: Gender and African American Men.” in Catherine Clinton and Nina Silber, eds. *Divided Houses: Gender and the Civil War* (1992), 76-91
(WEEK 4)
Feb. 11 WHITE SOUTHERN MANHOOD

Required Reading:

Feb. 13 URBAN MANHOOD BEFORE THE CIVIL WAR

Required Reading:

(WEEK 5)
Feb. 18 BOYHOOD, YOUTH, AND REFORM MOVEMENTS

Required Reading:
Bruce Dorsey, *Reforming Men and Women: Gender in the Antebellum City* (2002), ch. 3.

Feb. 20 FILM: *IN THE WHITE MAN’S IMAGE*.
(FIRST PAPER DUE)

(WEEK 6)
Feb. 25 MEN AND WOMEN IN THE WEST
Required Reading:

Feb. 27 “MANIFEST DESTINY” AND MANHOOD

Required Reading:

II. TURN OF THE CENTURY (& INTIMACY/SEXUALITY), 1890-1940

(WEEK 7)
Mar. 4 SPORTS AND RECREATION

Required Reading:
Elliot Gorn, *The Manly Art*, Prologue, chapters 1, 4, 6, Epilogue. [Skim the rest.]

Mar. 6 RELIGION

Required Reading:

SPRING BREAK: March. 8-16.
(WEEK 8)
Mar. 18 TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY TRANSITION IN WHITE, MIDDLE-CLASS MASCULINITY

Required Reading:

Mar. 20 STRENUOUS, PASSIONATE MANHOOD

Required Reading:
Gail Bederman, *Manliness and Civilization*, ch. 4-5, Conclusion.

(WEEK 9)
Mar. 25 WOMEN, COURTSHIP, AND SEX: MALE-FEMALE SEXUALITY

Required Reading:

Mar. 27 FILM: LOS MINEROS
(SECOND PAPER DUE)

(WEEK 10)
Apr. 3 MALE-MALE INTIMACY

Required Reading:
Rotundo, *American Manhood*, ch. 4 "Youth and Male Intimacy."

Apr. 1 IMMIGRATION & STRANGER INTIMACY

Required Reading:

(WEEK 11)
Apr. 8 HOMOSEXUALITY AND GAY MANHOOD

Required Reading:

Apr. 10 WORLD WAR II & THE “STRAIGHT STATE”

Required Reading:
III. POSTWAR MASCULINITY, 1945-

(WEEK 12)
Apr. 15 CONFORMITY & ORGANIZATION MEN – THE MAN IN THE GRAY FLANNEL TRAP

Required Reading:

Selected Primary Sources:
Richard Nixon’s “Checkers Speech” (1952).

Films:
*North by Northwest*. Alfred Hitchcock, Director. 1959.

Apr. 17 FATHERS, SONS, AND JUVENILE DELINQUENTS

Required Reading:

Films:

(WEEK 13)
Apr. 22 CIVIL RIGHTS AND BLACK MASCULINITY

Required Reading:

Apr. 24 COLD WARRIORS AND VIETNAM

Required Reading:
Selected Primary Sources:

Films:
*My Son John*. Leo McCarey, Director. 1952.

(WEEK 14)
Apr. 29 MALE BODIES, SEX, & “TRANSSEXUALISM”

Required Reading:
Films:
Some Like it Hot. Billy Wilder, Director. 1959.

May. 1 FEMALE MASCULINITY & A TRANSGENDER HISTORY OF MANHOOD

Required Reading:
Peter Boag, “Go West Young Man, Go East Young Woman: Searching for the Trans in Western Gender History,” Western Historical Quarterly, 36 (2005), 477–97.

THIRD PAPER DUE: May 2. 5PM.

FINAL EXAMINATION: DATE & TIME ________________________________