

Gender/LGBTQS M114

Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Studies

Course Information

Introduction to history, politics, culture, and scientific study of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgendered, and queer people; examination of sexuality and gender as categories for investigation; interdisciplinary theories and research on minority sexualities and genders.

5 units

Class meetings: T/Th 11:00-12:30, Boelter 5252

Please note: the class meetings should be attended *in person*. **I am not making recordings of these publicly available.** If you have an ongoing medical or other kind of emergency situation that prevents you from attending multiple class meetings, please consult with me. If you simply miss a class meeting because of minor illness or another reason, please just get notes from one of your classmates.

Course Instructor:

Dr. Michael Hunter (he/him)

Office Hours: Tues 3-4pm Kaplan 350A (please note my name is not on the door of this office) or [Zoom](#)

Course Materials

You can access our course website (BruinLearn) through MyUCLA. On this site you will find the class syllabus, readings, media, assignment prompts, and other important links and resources. Some media will require you to be signed into the VPN, so make sure you are set up to do this.

Since BruinLearn will be where the majority of the course materials will be found and also where your assignments will be uploaded, please spend some time familiarizing yourself with how it is organized and ASK if you are confused about anything.

You may want to consider purchasing the *Routledge History of Queer America* (ed. Don Romesburg) since we will be reading a number of essays from it and the rest of the volume is very useful for additional course research/context.

Classroom community and language

Because of the nature of the material in the course, some of the readings and images we examine are very frank about the range of human sexuality, and may expose you to ideas or feelings that are outside

your comfort zone. I ask you to be patient with, and open to, these ideas, and also to come and talk to me if there are aspects of the course that are consistently making you feel uncomfortable. A little bit of discomfort is healthy! – but if you continue to feel shut down or confused by the nature of the material, please talk to me about it.

It is also important that you be considerate of the other members of the class in discussing and thinking about issues that may be extremely sensitive to some people. Classes about gender & sexuality at UCLA attract both students who are fulfilling a requirement, as well as students for whom these topics are very important to their personal identity. There is much to learn by combining these different groups in a classroom, but there is also a risk of insult or offense. By taking this class, you commit to working together to build a strong sense of trust and respect in our classrooms.

I would also ask that you be patient with your classmates in this course. The language we use to talk about sexuality and gender is changing all the time, and some of you might be very fluent in that language, and others might be trying to use it for the first time. It's a hard subject to talk about, especially when you feel you might make a language mistake and unintentionally upset someone. I would ask you to help each other, and try to understand the difference between a phobic or intolerant comment and one which is made in good faith, but where the person speaking may still be struggling to get the terminology right. If someone misgenders you, correct them, and try doing it in a respectful and constructive way. If someone points out that you're using terminology that might be considered inappropriate or offensive, listen to what they are saying and try to learn. The ways in which the language around these things are changing can be fun and exciting — we are constantly re-evaluating and creating new ways to understand the wide range of human sexuality and gender experience! I ask you to enter into the class in a spirit of respect, humility, courage, and openness to learn from each other.

Resources such as the [HRC Glossary](#) and [The Gendercool Project](#) are great ways to educate yourself on changing terminology and growing acceptance & expanding diversity of LGBTQ+ communities.

Assignments & Grade Distribution

Participation 20%. Your participation grade will be based on your presence and participation in class meetings.

Weekly assignments 30% (6 pts each x 5) due each Friday midnight on the BruinLearn site

Manifesto Assignment 30% due Sunday Week 4 (July 17)

Final Review Assignment 20% due Wed Week 11 (June 8)

Rubrics for the Manifesto and Final Review assignments will be posted with the assignment description. I will go over expectations for participation with you in class.

Weekly Topics

Week 1: Modern Sexualities in Modern Times: early Sexology and the Invention of the Homosexual

Week 2: Closets and Codes: World War II and the Lavender Scare

Week 3: Queer Liberation: Stonewall and After

Week 4: HIV/Aids, ACT UP, & LGBTQ+ Health Care

Week 5: Beyond the Binary: Transgender, Nonbinary, and Intersex Identities & Experiences

Week 6: LGBTQ+ Neoliberalism: Marriage Equality, Rainbow Washing, & Antidiscrimination Policy

Course Policies

Academic Honesty

I expect you to adhere to UCLA's Student Conduct Code in all matters of academic honesty. A PDF of the Student Guide to Academic Integrity is easily downloaded from the Office of the Dean of Students website. <https://deanofstudents.ucla.edu/student-conduct-code>

Not sure if something you're doing is a violation of the Code? If in doubt, ASK ME.

Accessibility

Please notify me within the first two weeks of the quarter if you have any accommodations that will need to be addressed. We are all navigating this changing environment together, and I want to make sure that you are able to participate to the best of your ability.

Communications

Please make sure you have your email address (one you check regularly) registered so that you receive all class email announcements and correspondence. I will generally respond to course-related emails within 24-36 hours. If I have not responded within this time-frame, please email me again.

Grading policy

UCLA's grading policy can be found here:

<https://catalog.registrar.ucla.edu/Policies-and-Regulations/Academic-Policies/Grades>

Late Work and Words of Encouragement

I understand that many of you are participating under duress: we are in the middle of a global pandemic, as well as a variety of ongoing national struggles. Some days, your work for this course might not be the most important thing on your mind. Some days, some of the work we are doing together might be painful and activating. Be transparent with me about the struggles you are facing and let me know if you are having difficulty meeting deadlines or struggling in any way. I want you to succeed, and I am here to help you do so. Late weekly assignments will be accepted for partial credit (1/3 letter grade off per day), and extensions on major assignments may be granted on a case-by-case basis.

LGBTQ & Mental Health Resources

The **LGBT Campus Resource Center** offers a multitude of services and resources to support and enhance the experiences of LGBTQ students on campus.

<https://lgbtq.ucla.edu/contact-us>

UCLA CAPS and the **RISE Center** offer various types of mental health resources.

<https://counseling.ucla.edu/what-is-new/treatment-services-at-caps>

<https://risecenter.ucla.edu>

The **CARE program** provides a safe place for survivors of sexual violence to get confidential support. <https://careprogram.ucla.edu>

UCLA provides resources if **you are feeling overwhelmed and need personal and/or academic assistance**. Please see the [this resource](#) for more information.

For a **full list of Student Services** available at UCLA, visit [this website](#).

Grade Distribution

Letter Grade Scheme

Grade	Percentage
A+	100% to 97%
A	96.99% to 93%

Grade	Percentage
A-	92.99% to 90%
B+	89.99% to 87%
B	86.99% to 83%
B-	82.99% to 80%
C+	79.99% to 77%
C	76.99% to 73%
C-	72.99% to 70%
D+	69.99% to 67%
D	66.99% to 60%
F	59.99% to 0%

P-NP Grading

P	100% to 70%
NP	< 70% to 0%

University Policies

Academic Integrity

UCLA is a community of scholars. In this community, all members including faculty, staff and students alike are responsible for maintaining standards of academic honesty. As a student and member of the University community, you are here to get an education and are, therefore, expected to demonstrate integrity in your academic endeavors. You are evaluated on your own merits. Cheating, plagiarism, collaborative work, multiple submissions without the permission of the professor, or other kinds of academic dishonesty are considered unacceptable behavior and will result in formal disciplinary proceedings usually resulting in suspension or dismissal. See the [Dean of Students website](#) for more information.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

If you are already registered with the Center for Accessible Education (CAE), please request your Letter of Accommodation in the Student Portal. If you are seeking registration with the CAE, please submit your request for accommodations via the CAE website. Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations should submit their request for accommodations as soon as possible, as it may take up to two weeks to review the request. For more information, please visit the [CAE website](#), visit the CAE at A255 Murphy Hall, or contact us by phone at (310) 825-1501.

Covid-19 information

Please review [the University's updated Covid-19 policies](#) if you haven't already.

Title IX

Advocacy and Confidential Services

Please note that Title IX prohibits gender discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you have experienced sexual harassment or sexual violence, you can receive confidential support and advocacy at the CARE Advocacy Office for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, 205 Covell Commons, Los Angeles, CA, 90095, care@careprogram.ucla.edu, (310) 206-2465. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) provides confidential counseling to all students and can be reached 24/7 at (310) 825-0768.

Reporting and Non-confidential Services

Your professor is required under the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment to inform the Title IX Coordinator should he become aware that you or any other student has experienced sexual violence or sexual harassment. In addition, You can also report sexual violence or sexual harassment directly to the University's Title IX Coordinator, 2255 Murphy Hall, titleix@equity.ucla.edu, (310) 206-3417. Reports to law enforcement can be made to UCPD at (310) 825-1491.

Modules

Course content is divided into modules that run from Monday at 12:01am through Sunday at 11:59pm US Pacific Time (UTC-08:00). Due dates are communicated within each Assignment tool.

Changes to the course schedule may occur and will automatically be reflected in the Course Summary section below.