

GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES (BI-CO)

haverford.edu/gender-and-sexuality-studies

The Program in Gender and Sexuality is an interdisciplinary Bi-College program that can be integrated with certain majors or pursued independently. Students graduate from the program with a high level of fluency and rigor in their understanding of the different ways issues of gender and sexuality shape our lives as individuals and as members of larger communities, both local and global.

The program offers several different options. Students majoring in certain disciplines may complete a concentration Gender and Sexuality Studies via Haverford College. Students majoring in any discipline can complete a minor in Gender and Sexuality via Bryn Mawr College. The details of these programs are provided below. Students can petition with the special committee on their respective home campus (CSSP at Haverford and the Committee on Independent Majors at Bryn Mawr) to design an Independent Major in Gender and Sexuality Studies.

LEARNING GOALS

Students in the Program in Gender and Sexuality will:

- understand how social hierarchies related to gender, sexuality, race, and ethnicity have developed historically, cross-culturally, and transnationally.
- develop a high level of fluency and rigor in understanding how issues of gender and sexuality shape our lives as individuals and as members of larger communities, both local and global.
- gain competence in applying theory to practical experience for social transformation and citizenship.
- become critically conversant with theories of gender and sexuality, and their intersectionality with issues of race and class.
- draw upon and speak to feminist theory; women's studies; transnational and third-world feminisms; womanist theory and the experiences of women of color; the construction of masculinity and men's studies; lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, and transgender studies; and theories of gender as

inflected by class, race, religion, and nationality.

CURRICULUM

Students choosing a concentration (via Haverford, in association with certain majors), minor (via Bryn Mawr, regardless of major) or independent major in gender and sexuality plan their programs in consultation with the Gender and Sexuality coordinator on their home campus. Members of the Gender and Sexuality steering committee serve as their individual mentors. All students in the program take the core course, "Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Sex and Gender." Other courses in the program allow them to explore a range of approaches to gender and sexual difference including: critical feminist theory; women's studies; transnational and third world feminisms; the experiences of women of color; gender and science; the construction of masculinity; gay, lesbian, queer, transgender, and transsexual studies; the history and representation of gender and sexuality in a global context.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Students wishing to construct an independent major in Gender and Sexuality Studies should file a petition with the Committee on Student Standing and Programs (Haverford College) or make a proposal to the Committee on Independent Majors (Bryn Mawr College).

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

Six courses distributed as follows are required for the minor at Bryn Mawr College:

- An introductory course (including equivalent offerings at Swarthmore College or the University of Pennsylvania).
- The junior seminar: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Sex and Gender (alternating fall semesters between Bryn Mawr and Haverford).
- Four additional approved courses from at least two different departments, two of which are normally at the 300 level. Units of Independent Study (480) may be used to

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fulfill this requirement.

CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Six courses distributed as follows are required for the concentration at Haverford College:

- An introductory course (including equivalent offerings at Swarthmore College or the University of Pennsylvania).
- The junior seminar: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Sex and Gender (alternating fall semesters between Bryn Mawr and Haverford).
- Four additional approved courses from at least two different departments, two of which are normally at the 300 level. Units of Independent Study (480) may be used to fulfill this requirement.
- Of the six courses, no fewer than two and no more than three will also form part of the student's major.

Neither a senior seminar nor a senior thesis is required for the concentration or minor; however, with the permission of the major department, a student may choose to count toward the concentration a senior thesis with significant content in gender and sexuality.

STUDY ABROAD

Courses taken abroad may be counted for the concentration with consent of the coordinator. Upon returning to the Bi-Co, students must present a syllabus, reading list, and short narrative description of the course for the coordinator's evaluation.

STEERING COMMITTEE

At Haverford:

Anne Balay

Coordinator of Gender and Sexuality Studies at Haverford; Visiting Assistant Professor of Independent College Programs

Anne McGuire (*on leave 2017-2018*)

Associate Professor of Religion

Gustavus Stadler

Associate Professor of English

Susanna Wing

Associate Professor of Political Science

At Bryn Mawr:

Piper Sledge

Assistant Professor of Sociology

Gregory Davis

Associate Professor of Biology

Colby Gordon

Assistant Professor of English

H. Rosi Song

Acting Coordinator of Gender and Sexuality Studies at Bryn Mawr; Associate Professor of Spanish

Sharon Ullman

Professor of History

COURSES

ANTH H212 FEMINIST ETHNOGRAPHY

Juli Grigsby

Social Science (SO)

This course delves into the historical development and utility of feminist anthropology. Feminist Ethnography is both methodology and method that seeks to explore how gender, race, sexuality, and subjectivity operate in a variety of contexts. We will explore articulations and critiques of feminist ethnographic methods that engage researcher positionally and politics of research. This course is one party analytic and in another how-to, Participants will read classic and contemporary ethnographies while learning to craft auto-ethnographic research. Prerequisite(s): One anthropology course or instructor consent. (Offered Spring 2018)

ANTH H214 RACE, CRIME, & SEXUALITY

Juli Grigsby

Social Science (SO)

What is a crime and who is a criminal? How are social understandings of punishment and control informed by hegemonic racial and sexualized ideologies? How do the answers to these questions change the ways we imagine and respond to news? To violence? And impact subjectivities? This seminar will examine the complex intersections between race, gender, sexuality, and crime within U.S. cultural, political and social contexts. To do this, we will explore historical and contemporary interdisciplinary studies that provide arguments about the connections between race, gender, sexuality, poverty and the criminal justice system. Topics include: mass incarceration, policing, violence,

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and media representations of crime.

Prerequisite(s): One anthropology course or instructor consent. (Offered Spring 2018)

ANTH H228 REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE, SOCIAL MOVEMENTS, AND CIVIL SOCIETY

Juli Grigsby

Social Science (SO)

An exploration of ethnographic approaches to women's reproductive justice issues, as well as look at reproduction in the broader structural (socioeconomic and political) contexts in which it is situated. We will focus on specific topics such as abortion, contraception, sterilization, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and how these issues are connected to other social justice issues such as poverty, environmentalism, and welfare reform. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 103 or instructor consent. (Typically offered every year)

ANTH H313 SEX WORK, POLITICAL ECONOMY, AND CAPITAL

Juli Grigsby

Social Science (SO)

This course explores the ways sex and labor construct social spaces and unravel its connections to capital and political economy. Sex work, the commodification of desire and bodies can produce inevitable zones of conflict due to differing cultural understandings of sexuality, gender, ethnicity, power, and citizenship. Focusing on experiences of women we will probe these intersecting discourses by reviewing a wide range of texts that ethnographically detail dimensions of sex work. How does the study of sex work situated within specific social and political contexts, perhaps surprisingly, reveal important dimensions of gender, mobility, community, and globalization today?

Prerequisite(s): 100 level course in anthropology or Gender and Sexuality Studies, or instructor consent. (Offered Fall 2017)

COML H323 SEX-CRIME-MADNESS: THE BIRTH OF MODERN LITERATURE AND THE AESTHETICS OF TRANSGRESSION

Ulrich Schönherr

Humanities (HU)

The emancipation from rule-bound poetics, didactic, and moral constraints led to a redefinition of literature around 1800, for which the classic/classicist triad of the true, the good, and the beautiful was no longer valid. The successful separation from extra-aesthetic

determinants opened up new representational possibilities, in which the "beautiful" became boring and the "ugly" became interesting. Focusing on major literary figures from Goethe to Jelinek, the seminar will examine the 'paradigm shift' towards a modern aesthetics of transgression in which social, racial, and sexual deviancy take center stage. Crosslisted: German, Comparative Literature (Not offered 2017-18)

COML H334 GENDER DISSIDENCE IN HISPANIC WRITING

Israel Burshatin

Humanities (HU)

Study of the dissenting voices of gender and sexuality in Spain and Spanish America and US Latino/a writers. Interrogation of "masculine" and "feminine" cultural constructions and "compulsory heterosexuality," as well as exemplary moments of dissent. Texts to be studied include Hispano-Arabic poetry, Fernando de Rojas's *Celestina*; Tirso de Molina, Don Gil de las calzas verdes; Teresa of Avila, Gloria Anzaldúa, and Reinaldo Arenas. Prerequisite(s): One 200-level course or instructor consent. (Not offered 2017-18)

ENGL H269 LOVE AND SEX: QUEERNESS IN THE AMERICAN NOVEL 1850-1950

Gustavus Stadler

Humanities (HU)

An examination of non-normative sexualities and gender identifications as the guiding thematic and formal force in a series of U. S. novels. (Typically offered every other year)

ENGL H277 POSTCOLONIAL WOMEN WRITERS

Rajeswari Mohan

Humanities (HU)

This course will focus on writings by women from a range of postcolonial societies, and examine the ways they intervene in and energize aesthetic and political discourses that critique gender arrangements. In particular, we will explore the ways writers use diverse narrative traditions such as folklore, fable, and memoir—as well as, more recently, digital writing styles—to give voice to their particular historical, cultural, and political perspectives. We will also trace the play of irony, parody, and mimicry as writers figure their ambivalent positions as women, especially around issues of modernity, sexuality, religion, nation, globalization, and development. (Typically offered every three years)

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HIST H237 GEOGRAPHIES OF WITCHCRAFT AND THE OCCULT IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE

Darin Hayton

Social Science (SO)

Rather than dismiss witchcraft and the occult sciences as irrational beliefs, this course investigates them within the context of early modern Europe to understand them as rational practices. How did people defend magic and what evidence did they invoke? Why did people accuse each other of practicing witchcraft? How were arguments for and against occult practices related to religious, political, and geographic contexts? What role did ideas about gender and social roles play in ideas about witches, necromancers, and sorcerers? Equally important for this class: If we no longer accept these practices as valid, why do we still care today? (Typically offered every other year)

HLTH H208 DISABILITY AND SUPER-ABILITY ON SCREEN: FROM BIOETHICS TO SOCIAL JUSTICE

Carol Schilling

Social Science (SO)

Focusing on representations in film, this course examines ethical questions emerging from medical and social responses to disabilities and super-abilities and the consequences of those responses for human culture and for individual lives. (Offered Spring 2018)

ICPR H290 INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES ON GENDER

Anne Balay

Humanities (HU)

Explore the intersection of gender, sexuality, race, class, religion, and embodiment in our time. Our focus is principally on the USA, though we make some forays into international conversations. Readings are drawn from a smattering of the most recent developments in academic research and theory, as well as from science fiction, activism, popular culture, and new media. We work to bring the personal into the classroom, and to take what we learn out into the world. (Offered every fall, alternating between HC and BMC; offered as GNST B290 at Bryn Mawr in Fall 2017)

POLS H242 WOMEN IN WAR AND PEACE

Susanna Wing

Social Science (SO)

Analysis of the complex issues surrounding women as political actors and the ways in which citizenship relates to men and women differently. Selected cases from the United States, Africa, Latin America, and Asia are studied as we discuss gender, domestic politics, and international relations from a global perspective.

Prerequisite(s): One course in political science or instructor consent. (Offered Fall 2017)

PSYC H328 NEUROBIOLOGY OF SEXUAL BEHAVIOR

Laura Been

Natural Science (NA)

An examination of the neurobiology underlying sexual behavior. This seminar will focus on systems-level understanding of the neural regulation of both pre-copulatory and copulatory behavior, drawing from primary literature in invertebrate, rodent, and human model systems.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC 100 and PSYC 217, or instructor consent. (Offered Fall 2017)

RELG H104 RELIGION AND SOCIAL ETHICS

Staff

Humanities (HU)

Introduces students to debates in social ethics, with a focus on Jewish, Protestant, and Catholic perspectives on the theological and ethical significance of race, class, and gender in contemporary society. Topics may include racism, incarceration, poverty, gender-based domination, and same-sex marriage. (Offered Spring 2018)

RELG H221 WOMEN AND GENDER IN EARLY CHRISTIANITY

Anne McGuire

Humanities (HU)

An examination of the representations of women and gender in early Christian texts and their significance for contemporary Christianity. Topics include interpretations of Genesis 1-3, images of women and sexuality in early Christian literature, and the roles of women in various Christian communities. (Typically offered every year)

RELG H223 BODY, SEXUALITY AND CHRISTIANITY

Elaine Beretz

Humanities (HU)

Christianity's deeply-ingrained discomfort with the human body and sexuality has had a disproportionate impact on women, making rules about proper behavior that confined women's

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roles in church and society. At the same time, Christianity has always inspired a powerful feminism, prompting women to break all the rules. This course will explore Western Christianity during the medieval period, when the tension between misogyny and feminism was particularly powerful and when many of the tensions still felt in Western society were formed. (Offered Spring 2018)

RELG H258 GENDER AND POWER IN RECENT JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN THOUGHT

Molly Farneth

Humanities (HU)

An exploration of gender in Judaism and Christianity through a study of feminist and queer thinkers who critique and contribute to these traditions. Topics include sex/gender difference, the gender of God, and the nature of divine authority. Prerequisite(s): Familiarity with philosophical and/or theoretical inquiry is recommended. (Typically offered every other year)

RELG H259 GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN ISLAMIC TEXTS AND PRACTICES

Staff

Humanities (HU)

This course explores competing notions of gender and sexuality in Islamic societies from the time of Muhammad to the contemporary period. Readings include primary sources in translation as well as scholarly articles, works of fiction and nonfiction. (Not offered 2017-18)

RELG H276 RELIGION AND U.S. POLITICS: SEXUALITY, RACE, AND GENDER

Brett Krutzsch

Humanities (HU)

This course examines why religion is commonly invoked in political debates about sexuality and gender even though the United States promotes itself as a secular democracy. The class will question if the United States has a secular government, explore what the separation of church and state means, and analyze if American citizens have religious freedom. The class will also explore the role religion has played in political movements centered on race, gender, and sexuality, and question why women's reproductive rights and LGBTQ issues have been

a common focus for government regulations and religious lobbying. (Offered Fall 2017)

RELG H303 RELIGION, LITERATURE AND REPRESENTATION: IMAGES OF KRISHNA

Pika Ghosh

Humanities (HU)

This course approaches the Hindu god Krishna through varied expressions in architecture, sculpture, paintings, textiles, landscape design, poetry, music, dance, and drama. We will ask how these practices were employed to visualize the divine, to nurture faith and passion, and to gain proximity to the transcendent deity. Class work will include field trips to local temples and museums. (Offered Fall 2017)

RELG H305 SEMINAR IN RELIGION, ETHICS, AND SOCIETY: MONOGAMY AND MARRIAGE IN AMERICA

Brett Krutzsch

Humanities (HU)

This course will explore how coupled, monogamous marriage became the sexual and romantic ideal in the United States, and, in particular, how that ideal is connected to religion, race, gender, and sexuality. The class will question why politicians, religious leaders, and average citizens have promoted monogamy as the only legitimate sexual relationship. We will study queer theoretical arguments about monogamy and polyamory, anti-miscegenation laws, religious alternatives to monogamy, and the role religion has played in shaping social norms about acceptable sexual citizens. (Offered Fall 2017)

RELG H312 RITUAL AND THE BODY

Molly Farneth

Humanities (HU)

An exploration of the meaning and function of ritual, and of the ways that rituals shape bodies, habits, and identities. Special attention will be given to the relationship between ritual and gender. Readings include Durkheim, Mauss, Bourdieu, Butler, and Mahmood. Prerequisite(s): At least one 200 level in the department, or instructor consent. (Offered Spring 2018)

RELG H319 BLACK QUEER SAINTS: SEX, GENDER, RACE, CLASS AND THE QUEST FOR LIBERATION

Terrance Wiley

Humanities (HU)

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Drawing on fiction, biography, critical theory, film, essays, and memoirs, participants will explore how certain African American artists, activists, and religionists have resisted, represented, and reinterpreted sex, sexuality, and gender norms in the context of capitalist, white supremacist, male supremacist, and heteronormative cultures. Crosslisted: Africana Studies, Religion; Prerequisite(s): 200-level humanities course, or instructor consent. (Typically offered every other year)

SPAN H316 WOMEN AND THE ARMED STRUGGLE IN LATIN AMERICA

Aurelia Gómez Unamuno

Humanities (HU)

An examination of socialist armed struggles in 1970s, women's rights and feminist movements in Latin America. A comparative study of literary texts, testimonials and documentary films addresses theoretical issues such as Marxism, global feminism, hegemony and feminisms produced in the periphery. Prerequisite(s): 200-level, preferred 300-level course, or instructor consent. (Offered Spring 2018)

VIST H258 AMERICAN QUEEN: DRAG IN CONTEMPORARY ART AND PERFORMANCE

Christina Knight

Humanities (HU)

An interdisciplinary visual studies examination of queer subcultural performance and its influence on contemporary American culture. Readings include live performance, visual art and film as well as historical and theoretical secondary sources. Crosslisted: Independent College Programs, Visual Studies; Prerequisite(s): An intro course in Gen/Sex or instructor consent. (Offered Fall 2017)

WRPR H118 PORTRAITS OF DISABILITY AND DIFFERENCE

Kristin Lindgren

Rosemarie Garland-Thomson writes that "staring is an interrogative gesture that asks what's going on and demands the story. The eyes hang on, working to recognize what seems illegible, order what seems unruly, know what seems strange." In this seminar we will explore visual and literary portraits and self-portraits of bodies marked by difference, bodies that often elicit stares. We will ask: What kinds of stories are told about these bodies? How do memoirs and self-portraits by people with disabilities draw on and challenge

traditions of life writing and portraiture? How does this work enlarge cultural and aesthetic views of embodiment, disability, and difference? Open only to first-year students as assigned by the Director of College Writing. (Offered Fall 2017)

WRPR H176 ARE YOU WHAT YOU EAT? EATING AND IDENTITY

Elizabeth Blake

Investigates the complex relationship between food and identity; engages food practices that can unite families, consolidate ethnic identity, reinforce class boundaries, and express gender; asks whether food can assert contemporaneity or materialize nostalgia for an idealized agrarian past. Open only to members of Haverford's first-year class as assigned by the Director of College Writing. (Offered Fall 2017)

WRPR H179 TIME AFTER TIME: QUEER PASTS, PRESENTS, AND FUTURES

Elizabeth Blake

This course introduces students to the many ways queer lives and theories challenge normative conceptions of linear time. We will encounter queers feeling backward, growing sideways, and refusing normative futurity in a variety of literary, filmic, and theoretical texts. Open only to first-year students as assigned by the Director of College Writing. (Offered Spring 2018)