

HISTORY 2181B
Sexual History:
Expression, Regulation, and Rights in the West Since 1800
Winter 2022
January-April 2022
(online asynchronous)

Instructor: Monda Halpern, Professor

Office Hours: Tuesday, 2:30 PM-4:00 PM, and by appointment

On ZOOM

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This is a draft syllabus. Please see your course OWL site for the final syllabus.

Course Description:

This course examines the history of sexuality from the nineteenth century to the present, investigating sexual desire, behaviour, and ideologies. Topics include the body, marriage, reproduction, prostitution, same-sex relations, and religious, medical and psychiatric intervention, and help demonstrate that sexuality has been the object of social scrutiny and political regulation.

Course Syllabus:

Not solely a biological expression that is static and fixed, sexuality is ever-changing, and has a dynamic and vibrant history. This half-credit lecture course will examine the history of sexuality from the nineteenth century to the present day. It will investigate sexual desire and behavior, and sexual and gender ideologies, and will explore how they relate to a variety of topics, including perceptions of the body, marriage, reproduction, prostitution, same-sex relations, pornography, disease, and religious, medical and psychiatric intervention. All of these issues will be studied to underscore the concept that sexuality is both biological and social, and that sexuality and the connected notions of masculinity and femininity (gender) have been the object of intense social scrutiny and political regulation.

Learning Outcomes:

Students should be able to:

analyze the ways in which gender and sexuality are socially constructed, and thus vary over time, place, class, and cultures.

examine the ways in which the history of sex and sexuality intersect with other historical trends and movements.

explore the ways in which discourses about sex and sexuality have often been used as a tool of oppression, and as a way to promote the status quo.

Course Materials:

Accessible online articles cited in the syllabus.

Methods of Evaluation:

Test 1 (30 minutes, multiple choice, worth 25%), **February 3, 12:05am-February 4, 11:55pm (EST)**, covers the course materials of the first 3 units (Weeks 1-3, Units 1-3)

Test 2 (40 minutes, multiple choice, worth 35%), **March 3, 12:05am-March 4, 11:55pm (EST)**, covers the course materials of the next 3 units (Weeks 4-6, Units 4-6)

Final Exam (60 minutes, multiple choice, worth 40%), **April TBA**, covers the course materials of the last 4 units (Weeks 9-12, Units 7-10)

Course Schedule and Readings:

The designated weeks cited below serve as a guide that allow you to complete the course content in an organized and consistent fashion in anticipation of tests and the final exam. Please note that the schedule also accommodates assessments, as well as official university holidays. Please be aware of your test dates – you will want to reserve some studying time in the weeks prior to these dates.

WEEK 1 (Monday, January 10-Sunday, January 16), UNIT 1

INTRO: THEORIES OF SEXUALITY; BACKGROUND: THE CHRISTIAN FOUNDATIONS OF SEXUALITY (PART 1)

THEORIES OF SEXUALITY

Vern L. Bullough, "Teaching the History of Sex," *The History Teacher*, 12, 3 (May 1979): 329-336.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/491141>

BACKGROUND: THE CHRISTIAN FOUNDATIONS OF SEXUALITY

Vern L. Bullough, "Sex Education in Medieval Christianity," *The Journal of Sex Research*, 13, 3 (August 1977): 185-196.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/3811777>

WEEK 2 (Monday, January 17-Sunday, January 23), UNIT 2

BACKGROUND: THE CHRISTIAN FOUNDATIONS OF SEXUALITY (PART 2); BACKGROUND: THE SCIENTIFIC EVOLUTION OF SEXUALITY

Karen Harvey, "The Century of Sex? Gender, Bodies, and Sexuality in the Long Eighteenth Century," *The Historical Journal*, 45, 4 (December 2002): 899-916.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/3133533>

WEEK 3 (Monday, January 24-Sunday, January 30), UNIT 3

CLASS, RACE, AND VICTORIAN IDEOLOGY; THE POPULARITY OF “FEMALE FRIENDSHIPS”

CLASS, RACE, AND VICTORIAN IDEOLOGY

Nancy F. Cott, “Passionlessness: An Interpretation of Victorian Sexual Ideology, 1790-1850,” *Signs* 4, 2 (1978): 219-36.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3173022>

Vicki Howard, “The Courtship Letters of an African American Couple: Race, Gender, Class, and the Cult of True Womanhood,” *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, 100,1 (1996): 64-80.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/30240221>

THE POPULARITY OF “FEMALE FRIENDSHIPS”

Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, “The Female World of Love and Ritual: Relations between Women in Nineteenth-Century America,” *Signs* 1,1 (1975): 1-29.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3172964>

WEEK 4 (Monday, January 31-Sunday, February 6), UNIT 4

TEST 1 (see EVALUATION above); THE CAUSES OF URBAN, MIDDLE-CLASS REFORMERS (PART 1)

OBSCENITY AND CENSORSHIP:

Shirley J. Burton, “Obscene, Lewd, and Lascivious: Ida Craddock and the Criminally Obscene Women of Chicago, 1873-1913,” *Michigan Historical Review*, 19, 1 (1993): 1-16.

www.jstor.org/stable/20173370

John S. Sumner, “Comstock and Sumner,” *The Journal of Education*, 82, 17(November 11, 1915): 458-59. (John S. Sumner (1876-1971) led the [New York Society for the Suppression of Vice](#), succeeding founder [Anthony Comstock](#).)

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/42824771>

WEEK 5 (Monday, February 7-Sunday, February 13), UNIT 5

THE CAUSES OF URBAN, MIDDLE-CLASS REFORMERS (PART 2):

PROSTITUTION AND VENEREAL DISEASE:

The Contagious Diseases Act, or, A Few Suggestions for the Controlling Men as Well as Women (1875), 1-15.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/60244247>

Eric C. Crimino, "The Travelers' Aid Society: Moral Reform and Social Work in New York City, 1907–1916," *New York History*, 97,1 (2016): 34-54.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/90018205>

EUGENICS AND REPRODUCTION:

Molly Ladd-Taylor, "Coping with a 'Public Menace': Eugenic Sterilization in Minnesota," *Minnesota History*, 59, 6 (2005): 237-48.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/20188483>

Russell L. Johnson, "Clara Bow in 'Free to Love' (1925): Feature Films and Eugenics in the 1920s," *Australasian Journal of American Studies*, 27, 1 (2008): 1-15.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/41054097>

WEEK 6 (Monday, February 14-Friday, February 18), UNIT 6

HOMOSEXUALITY, HETEROSEXUALITY, AND THE RISE OF SEXOLOGISTS

Catherine Dollard, "The Alte Jungfer as New Deviant: Representation, Sex, and the Single Woman in Imperial Germany," *German Studies Review*, 29,1 (2006): 107-26. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/27667956>

Vern L. Bullough, "Krafft-Ebing: A Reconsideration," *The Journal of Sex Research*, 38,1 (2001): 75-76.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3813264>

WEEK 7 (Saturday, February 19-Sunday, February 27)

SPRING READING WEEK

WEEK 8 (Monday, February 28-Sunday, March 6)

TEST 2 (see EVALUATION above)

WEEK 9 (Monday, March 7-Sunday, March 13), UNIT 7

SEXUALITY, NATIONALISM, AND THE STATE

Robert G. Waite, "Teenage Sexuality in Nazi Germany," *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, 8, 3 (1998): 434-76.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3704872>.

Jeffrey Vacante, "Writing the History of Sexuality and 'National' History in Quebec," *Journal of Canadian Studies/Revue d'études canadiennes*, 39, 2 (2005): 31-55.

<https://muse-jhu-edu-proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/article/200630>

WEEK 10 (Monday, March 14-Sunday, March 20), UNIT 8

WOMEN'S RIGHTS, GAY RIGHTS, AND THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Carey Lovelace, "Optimism and Rage: The Women's Movement in Art in New York, 1969-1975," *Woman's Art Journal*, 37,1 (2016): 4-11.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/26452049>

GAY RIGHTS

Colin P. Ashley, "Gay Liberation: How a Once Radical Movement Got Married and Settled Down," *New Labor Forum*, 24, 3 (2015): 28-32.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/24718619>

THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION

W. Andrew Achenbaum, "The Summer of Love: From Fantasy to Fallout," *Generations: Journal of the American Society on Aging*, 41, 2 (2017): 6-14.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/26556277>

WEEK 11 (Monday, March 21-Sunday, March 27), UNIT 9

GLOBAL PROTEST IN THE 1980s AND 90s (AND TODAY)

HIV/AIDS:

Jennifer Power, "Rites of Belonging: The AIDS Memorial Quilt," in *Movement, Knowledge, Emotion: Gay Activism and HIV/AIDS in Australia* (ANU Press, 2011), 145-58.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt24hd2p.9>

FEMALE GENITAL CUTTING:

Courtney Smith, "Who Defines 'Mutilation'? Challenging Imperialism in the Discourse of Female Genital Cutting," *Feminist Formations* 23, 1 (2011): 25-46.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/41301637>

Charlotte Bunch, "Women's Rights as Human Rights: Toward a Re-Vision of Human Rights," *Human Rights Quarterly*, 12, 4 (1990): 486-98.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/762496>

WARTIME RAPE:

Jonathan Gottschall, "Explaining Wartime Rape," *The Journal of Sex Research*, 41, 2 (May 2004): 129-36.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3813647>

Claudia Card, "Rape as a Weapon of War," *Hypatia*, 11, 4, *Women and Violence* (Autumn 1996): 5-18.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3810388>

WEEK 12 (Monday, March 28-Sunday, April 3), UNIT 10

TRANSGENDER LIVES; ASEXUAL LIVES; THE NEW HYPERSEXUALITY?

TRANSGENDER LIVES

Patricia Gagné and Richard Tewksbury, "Conformity Pressures and Gender Resistance among Transgendered Individuals," *Social Problems*, 45, 1 (February 1998): 81-101.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3097144>

Sam Bullington, "Transgendered Feminist Body Issues," *Off Our Backs*, 34, 11/12 (November/December 2004): 34-36.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/20838217>

ASEXUAL LIVES

Karli June Cerankowski and Megan Milks, "New Orientations: Asexuality and Its Implications for Theory and Practice," *Feminist Studies*, 36, 3 (Fall 2010): 650-664.

<http://www.jstor.org.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/stable/27919126>

THE NEW HYPERSEXUALITY?

Mark Griffiths, "Sex on the Internet: Observations and Implications for Internet Sex Addiction," *The Journal of Sex Research*, 38, 4 (November 2001): 333-42.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3813457>

Heather Hartley and Leonore Tiefer, "Taking a Biological Turn: The Push for a "Female Viagra" and the Medicalization of Women's Sexual Problems," *Women's Studies Quarterly*, 31, 1/2 (Spring-Summer 2003): 42-54.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/40004551>

END OF TERM

Use of Electronic Devices:

During the writing of tests and exams, the use of course lectures, readings, activities, and forums, as well as other online resources and communication, is strictly prohibited.

Additional Statements:

Please review the Department of History Course Must-Knows document, <https://www.history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Department%20of%20History%20Course%20Must-Knows.pdf>, for additional information regarding:

- Academic Offences
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- Medical Issues
- Plagiarism
- Scholastic Offences
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