SEX & SEXUALITIES

WOMNST 0550/SPECIAL TOPICS/CLASS # 28039/SPRING 2014
INSTRUCTOR: JULIE BEAULIEU
EMAIL: jrb107@pitt.edu
SCHEDULE: TUESDAY & THURSDAY, 2:30-3:45PM
SITE: TUESDAY (2800 POSVAR) & THURSDAY (2201 POSVAR)
OFFICE HOURS: M/W 4:00-6:00PM

REQUIRED TEXTS

• Sigmund Freud, *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality*
• Elizabeth Bernstein, *Temporarily Yours: Intimacy, Authenticity, and the Commerce of Sex*

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED READINGS

• All additional required readings are listed on the syllabus and are available through courseweb (cw)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

How and why did sex and sexuality become subjects of study? How are our experiences of sex and sexuality shaped by a history of "scientific" explorations of desire? Why has sexuality become so central to our understanding of identity? What was sex like before "sexuality" was invented? This seminar explores these questions by approaching sex and sexuality as socially, historically, and culturally contingent concepts. We will consider sex and sexuality as they relate to other categories of identity, including race, class, ethnicity, nation, and ability. Our theoretical and historical investigations will create the groundwork for understanding and rethinking how sexuality is understood in culture today. Topics treated will include "sodomitical sin," "inversion," the "intermediate sex," sex ed in schools, the Kinsey report, sex work, AIDS, and the history of pornography.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

• Introduction to sexuality studies, and to a range of disciplinary tools and methods for understanding sex and sexualities in historical and cultural context

• The ability to construct a written historical argument through primary and secondary sources

• The development of written and oral skills and an introduction to the critical vocabulary in the field

• The development of a rich understanding of the social construction of sexuality

ASSIGNMENTS & ASSESSMENT

Participation & Weekly Quizzes (30%)
Assignment # 1 (10%)
Assignment # 2 (10%)
Assignment # 3 (10%)
Final (40%)
COURSE POLICIES

Attendance
Attendance is required. Please come to class on time and prepared. If you must miss class, it is your responsibility to contact me about missing work and subsequent assignments. “Excused” absences will be given if you provide documentation. Please expect your grade to reflect your commitment to this course. If you miss more than 3 classes, you forfeit a large portion of your participation grade. If you miss 4 or more classes, you will not pass the course.

Participation
Thoughtful participation is expected, appreciated, and part of your grade.

Written Work/Assignments
All written work must be proofread. If you are absent, your work is still due. Late assignments will be marked down 10% per day. Please use MLA in-text citation for all sources. NOTE: You must submit a final project in order to pass the class.

Academic Integrity
All of the writing you present in this course must be your own work. Presenting the work of others as if it is your own constitutes plagiarism, and is a serious breach of academic integrity. Plagiarism refers not only to copying someone else’s paper, but also to including someone else’s sentences or paragraphs in your work without acknowledgement. Whenever you draw on the writing of others (for ideas, information, or examples), you must properly cite your sources. If you have questions about plagiarism, please see the University’s statement on this subject, available at: http://www.as.pitt.edu/academicintegrity.html

Assistance
If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and Disability Resources and Services, 140 William Pitt Union, (412) 648-7890 / (412) 383-7355 (TTY), as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

“Turnitin”
Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of Turnitin.com page service is subject to the Usage Policy and Privacy Pledge posted on the Turnitin.com site.

Classroom Recording Policy
To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student's own private use.

E-mail Policy
Each student is issued a University e-mail address (username@pitt.edu) upon admittance. This e-mail address may be used by the University for official communication with students. Students are expected to read e-mail sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications. The University provides an e-mail forwarding service that allows students to read their e-mail via other service providers (e.g., Hotmail, AOL, Yahoo). Students that choose to forward their e-mail from their pitt.edu address to another address do so at their own risk. If e-mail is lost as a result of forwarding, it does not absolve the student from responding to official communications sent to their University e-mail address.
SCHEDULE OF READINGS

SEX BEFORE SEXUALITIES

WEEK # 1

TUESDAY JAN. 7
• Introduction to the course

THURSDAY JAN. 9
• David Halperin, “Is There a History of Sexuality?” (cw)
• Alan Bray, “Homosexuality and the Signs of Male Friendship in Elizabethan England” (cw)

WEEK # 2

TUESDAY JAN. 14
• Anon., Onania; or the Heinous Sin of Self Pollution (excerpt) (cw)
• Anon., Aristotle’s Master-piece (excerpt) (cw)

THURSDAY JAN 16
• John Cleland, Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure (excerpt) (cw)
• Henry Abelove, “Some Speculations on the History of ‘Sexual Intercourse’ During the Long Eighteenth Century in England” (cw)

WEEK # 3

TUESDAY JAN. 21
• Jonathan Ned Katz, “The Age of Sodomitical Sin, 1607-1740” (cw)
• Rochester & Aphra Behn (selected poems) (cw)
• Marquis de Sade, Philosophy in the Boudoir: Or, the Immoral Mentors (excerpt) (cw)

THURSDAY JAN. 23
• Primary Source Research Due (Assignment # 1)

MADNESS, MEDICINE, & SEX

WEEK # 4

TUESDAY JAN. 28
• Sigmund Freud, Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality
THURSDAY JAN. 30

• Sigmund Freud, *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality*

WEEK # 5

TUESDAY FEB. 4

• Richard von Karafft-Ebing, *Psychopathia Sexualis* (excerpt) (cw)
• Edward Carpenter, *The Intermediate Sex* (excerpt) (cw)
• Siobhan Somerville, “Scientific Racism and the Emergence of the Homosexual Body” (cw)

THURSDAY FEB. 6

• Secondary Source Review Due (Assignment # 2)

FOUCAULT & THE HISTORY OF SEXUALITY

WEEK # 6

TUESDAY FEB. 11

• Michel Foucault, *The History of Sexuality, vol. I* (excerpt) (cw)

THURSDAY FEB. 13

• Ann Laura Stoler, “Placing Race in the History of Sexuality” (cw)

THE BIRTH OF THE NORM

WEEK # 7

TUESDAY FEB. 18

• Alfred Kinsey, *Sexual Behavior in the Human Female & Sexual Behavior in the Human Male* (excerpts) (cw)
• Janice Irvine, “Toward a ‘Value-Free’ Science of Sex: The Kinsey Reports” (cw)

THURSDAY FEB. 20

• Heather S. Dell, “‘Ordinary’ Sex, Prostitutes, and Middle-Class Wives: Liberalization and National Identity in India” (cw)

SEX EDUCATION

WEEK # 8

TUESDAY FEB. 25

• Margaret Mead, *Coming of Age in Samoa* (excerpt) (cw)
• Havelock Ellis, “Sexual Education” (excerpt) (cw)
• Julian Carter, “Birds, Bees, and Venereal Disease: Toward an Intellectual History of Sex Education” (cw)
THURSDAY FEB 27

• Stacy Leigh Pigg, “Globalizing the Facts of Life” (cw)
• Jeffrey Moran, “Putting Sex in Schools” (cw)

WEEK # 9

TUESDAY MARCH 4

• Patrick White, “Sex Education; or How the Blind Became Heterosexual” (cw)

THURSDAY MARCH 6

Close Reading Due (Assignment # 3)

WEEK # 10

TUESDAY MARCH 11

• Spring Recess (no class)

THURSDAY MARCH 13

• Spring Recess (no class)

SEXUAL COMMERCE

WEEK # 11

TUESDAY MARCH 18

• Elizabeth Bernstein, Temporarily Yours: Intimacy, Authenticity, and the Commerce of Sex

THURSDAY MARCH 20

• Elizabeth Bernstein, Temporarily Yours: Intimacy, Authenticity, and the Commerce of Sex

WEEK # 12

TUESDAY MARCH 25

• Sheila Jeffreys, Industrial Vagina: The Political Economy of the Global Sex Trade (excerpt) (cw)

THURSDAY MARCH 27

• Live Nude Girls Unite (film in class)
PLEASURE, PROBLEMS, & POLITICS

WEEK # 13

TUESDAY APRIL 1

• Sheila Jeffreys, “Anticlimax: A Feminist Perspective on the Sexual Revolution” (cw)
• Janice Irvine, “Reiventing Perversions: Sex Addiction and Cultural Anxieties” (cw)

THURSDAY APRIL 3

• Sex in an Epidemic (film in class)

WEEK # 14

TUESDAY APRIL 8

• The Feminist Porn Book: The Politics of Producing Pleasure (excerpt) (cw)

THURSDAY APRIL 10

• Inside Deep Throat (film in class)

CLIMAX

WEEK # 15

TUESDAY APRIL 15

• Annamarie Jagose, “Orgasm and the Long Twentieth Century” (cw)
• Julia Serano, “Boygasms and Girlgasms: A Frank Discussion About Hormones and Gender Difference” (cw)

THURSDAY APRIL 17

• Review for Final
ASSIGNMENTS & ASSESSMENT IN DETAIL

Participation, Weekly Quizzes, and Attendance at GSWS events (30%):

Participation, weekly quizzes, and in-class writing responses will make up a large portion of your grade. These requirements will be based on the readings so please come to class prepared. Attendance at GSWS events can be used to make-up missed quizzes or to improve a low quiz grade. For a full list of Spring events go to the GSWS homepage: http://www.wstudies.pitt.edu/. If you attend an event, you must submit a one-page review for credit. Extra credit will be provided for those with already exceptional quiz grades and attendance.

Assignment # 1: Primary Source Research (3-4 pages) (10%):

Choose one of the following sources for analysis: the Old Bailey records, or excerpts from Onania, Aristotle’s Master-piece, or Philosophy in the Boudoir. This short essay should accomplish two goals. First, accurately summarize the document. Describe the form, purpose (stated and/or implicit), and audience (stated and/or implicit). Characterize the content and style of the document. Second, historically contextualize the document using at least 2 of our assigned readings.

Assignment # 2: Secondary Source Review (3-4 pages) (10%):

Choose one of the secondary sources for review and assess it. What is the writer’s main argument? How does s/he support their claims? Are you convinced by this argument? Use evidence to support your assessment of the text.

Assignment # 3: Close Reading (3-4 pages) (10%):

Use the “close reading” handout to critically describe and analyze primary sources on sex education. Choose one of the following: vintage sex education videos, books, or pamphlets.

Final Exam (40%)