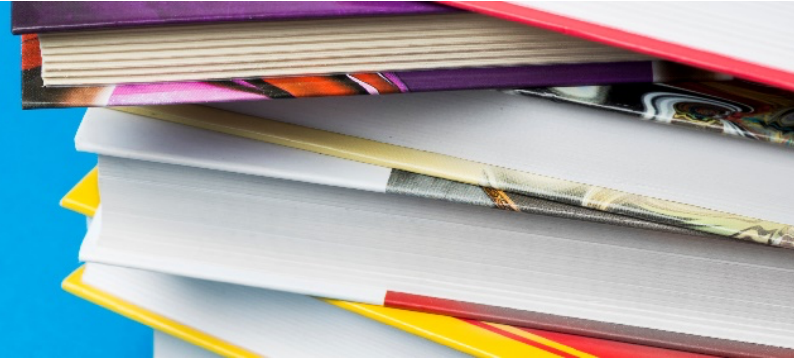




Short Syllabus



Course Title

Queer Theory

Lecturer

Tomer Sassonkin-Efron, PhD

Contact Details

Email: tomerkexp@hotmail.com

Office Hours: By appointment

Semester

Spring 2023

Short Description

The course will offer a critical introduction to key tenets of queer theory, focusing on the queer critique of identity – sexual, gender, and otherwise – and the political implications of this critique. Taking the U.S. as our main site of discussion, we will begin with a historical and conceptual background from which queer theory and activism emerged in the 1990s. We will discuss the liberation movements of the 1960s-1980s, the Stonewall riots, Liberal and Marxist political theories, and the groundbreaking work on sexuality by Michel Foucault, explicating key ideas and distinctions such as sex/gender/sexuality, normalizing power, heteronormativity, cisgender/transgender, and gender mobility. We will then move on to discuss major instances of the queer critique of identity, as these emerge in the works of Judith Butler, Gayle Rubin, and Michael Warner. Throughout the course, we will see how these scholars, each in their own unique way, foregrounds the significance of the sexual and gendered body as a locus for effective transformative-political work. We will further see how a critically queer endeavor – historically originating in distinctly LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans) realities and experiences – is in no way confined in its relevance to sexual or gendered “others.”

Final Grade Components

Midterm:

Short essay (2-3 pages), **30%** of final grade.

Final Requirement:

Final essay (4-5 pages), **50%** of final grade.

Submission date for the final essay is set by the university and the Liberal Arts program and extension requests can only be granted by the program’s academic committee.

Participation:

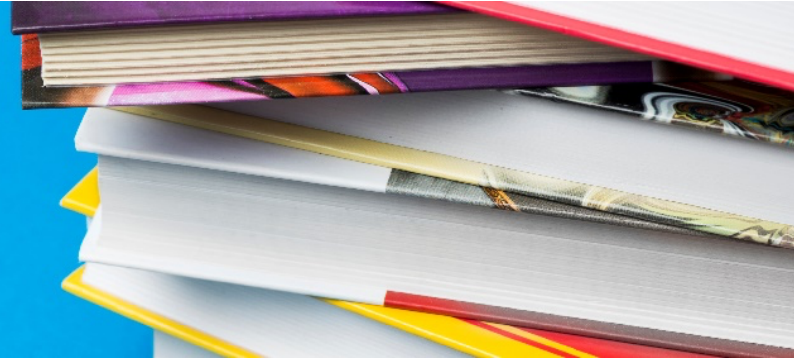
Active participation and contribution to class discussions, **20%** of final grade.

Attendance



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Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three unauthorized absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.*

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.*

Final Assignment

Exam dates and submission deadlines are published on the Liberal Arts website. Courses with a final exam also have a second make-up exam. Students requiring an extension for a final paper must submit an Academic Committee Request Form to the Liberal Arts office in advance of the deadline. Late papers will be subject to a point deduction.*

Additional Requirements

While in class, phones are to be silenced.

* See Liberal Arts academic handbook for further details