History of Sexualities in Europe

This survey traces the impact of politics, class, and war in Europe through an examination of the shifting nature of human sexualities from early modern to contemporary times. Topical emphasis will be on patterns of sociability, authority, gender relations, marriage, same-sex desire, and solitary vice. The course also considers deviance, law codes, medical representations, and eugenics.

In addition to assigned readings and regular class attendance, course requirements include one book review and one film review, five to seven double-spaced pages in length (each 25% of the grade), and a final paper (the remaining 50%). Students must complete all assignments and do so in a timely fashion in order to pass the course. All essays must be submitted in hard copy and in person. All readings will be placed on LATTE. A list of novels, memoirs and movies approved for the first two assignments will be distributed in class.

Students need to comply with University policy on academic integrity as set forth in the Rights and Responsibilities Handbook distributed by the Office of Campus Life. Those with a documented disability on record at the University and who require that reasonable accommodation be made for them should see me immediately. Essays cannot be accepted by electronic mail or by facsimile.

Goals and Outcomes: This course aims to strengthen analytical tools by underscoring the different meanings of sex, the body, and gender in various national and historical contexts. Students will develop critical skills to understand primary documents and to write a paper based on their researches.

August 26

Introduction

Thomas W. Laqueur, Making Sex: Body and Gender from the Greeks to Freud, pp. 114-192
Week of September 6  The Political and Legal Lineaments of Decency and Indecency


Week of September 12  Power and Patriarchy in Early Modern England

Lawrence Stone, *Family, Sex, and Marriage in England*, pp. 151-218

Week of September 19  Affective Individualism in the Home

Lawrence Stone, *Family, Sex, and Marriage in England*, pp. 220-324

Week of September 26  Home Alone


Week of October 7  Writing Workshop

No class on 4 October

Week of October 11  Doctors and the Definition of Sex Difference

Alice Domurat Dreger, *Hermaphrodites and the Medical Invention of Sex*, pp. 1-166

Film Review due October 14
Week of October 18  
Female Sexual Excess: Nymphomania and Prostitution

Alain Corbin, *Women for Hire: Prostitution and Sexuality in France after 1850*, pp. 116-185
Cesare Lombroso, *The Female Offender*, Chapters XIV-XVII
Claude Quétel, *History of Syphilis*, Chapter 9

Week of October 25  
Sex and the City in the Nineteenth Century

Matt Cook, " 'A New City of Friends': London and Homosexuality in the 1890s,” *History Workshop Journal*, No. 56 (Autumn, 2003), pp. 33-58

Week of November 1  
Domesticity and Divorce

Leigh Summers, *Bound to Please*, Chapters 5 and 6

Week of November 8  
On Inversion

Havelock Ellis, *Sexual Inversion* (selections)
Robert Aldrich, *The Seduction of the Mediterranean*, Chapters 3 and 6
Dagmar Herzog, *Sexuality in Europe: A Twentieth-Century History*, Chapter 1
Week of November 15  From Russia With Love

Wendy Goldman, Women, the State and Revolution: Soviet Family Policy and Social Life, 1917-1936, Chapters 5-7
Laura Engelstein, The Keys to Happiness: Sex and the Search for Modernity in Fin-de-Siècle Russia, Chapters 7-9

Week of November 22  Nazi Homosexualities


Week of November 28  Eugenics and the Medicalization of Sex

Stefan Kuhl, The Nazi Connection: Eugenics, American Racism, and German National Socialism, Chapters 4-7
Naomi Pfeffer, The Stork and the Syringe: A Political History of Reproductive Medicine, Chapters 3-5

December 6  Conclusion

Final research paper due in class

July 2016