

CTCS 673: Topics in Theory - Theories of Gender & Sexuality

Theories of Gender & Sexuality

This graduate seminar surveys theoretical writing about gender and sexuality, with an emphasis on those theories that have been influential in cinema and media studies. We will engage with media texts insofar as they might nuance or inform our ongoing theoretical engagements with gender and sexuality. Though our interests within the areas of gender and sexuality will be broad, we will read mostly relevant and influential scholarship produced within the areas of feminist and women's studies; queer theory; lesbian, gay, and transgender studies; cultural studies; psychoanalysis; critical theory; and cinema and media studies.

Meeting Times and Location

Tuesdays 2-5:50 p.m. in SCA 316

Instructor: Kara Keeling, PhD

Office: SCA 333

Office Hours: By Appointment on Wednesdays 1-3 p.m.
Schedule online at <http://tungle.me/KaraKeeling>

Telephone: 213-740-3329

Email: kkeeling@cinema.usc.edu

Course Requirements

Students are required to complete two class presentations, two 2-page response papers, a final paper proposal, and a final 15-20 page essay. The response papers must be posted to the course web site by 5 p.m. on the Monday before the class session to which they are responding. A response paper cannot be submitted for a session for which a presentation is due. All students are expected to review the response papers as part of their preparation for each week's meeting. All students are expected to attend every class meeting and participate in the week's discussion. Absences will adversely affect your final grade.

CTCS 673: Topics in Theory - Theories of Gender & Sexuality

Grades

Class Participation:	10%
Response papers and presentations:	30%
Final Paper and Proposal:	60%

Unless other arrangements have been confirmed with me in writing, final grades will be adjusted to reflect absences. More than one absence will result in your grade dropping one letter grade.

Teaching Assistant

Jia Tan

Students with Disabilities

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure that the letter is delivered to the Professor as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is (213)740-0776.

Incompletes and Late Assignments

You should plan to complete this course in the time allotted for you to do so. Generally, I will not grant you an incomplete for this course. I will consider accepting a late assignment if you arrange a new due date with me at least 48 hours before the scheduled due date.

CTCS 673: Topics in Theory - Theories of Gender & Sexuality

Academic Integrity

USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless an instructor allows otherwise, and the obligations both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's work as one's own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. SCampus contains a Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended sanctions for violating this code are located in Appendix A, both can be found at <http://web-app.usc.edu/scampus/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>. Should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty, students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for review. The review process can be found at: <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/>.

Keep in mind that PLAGIARISM (WHETHER DONE INTENTIONALLY OR NOT) WILL BE REPORTED, WILL MOST LIKELY RESULT IN FAILURE OF THE COURSE, AND COULD LEAD TO DISMISSAL FROM THE UNIVERSITY. If you have any questions about academic integrity, plagiarism, or if you have any questions or doubts about how to properly cite a source, see your Teaching Assistant, drop by the Writing Center (Taper Hall 310) or consult the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards Guide - <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/forms/tig.pdf>.

Course Exam, Project and Paper Retention Policy

It is the responsibility of all students in Critical Studies courses to retrieve all papers, projects, assignments and/or exams within one academic year of completion of a course. These records may be essential in resolving grade disputes and incompletes as well as assist in verifying that course requirements have been met. The Critical Studies Division will dispose of all records from the previous academic year in May of the current academic year. No exceptions. Please be in contact with your TAs about collecting these documents while you are taking the course.

CTCS 673: Topics in Theory - Theories of Gender & Sexuality

Required Readings:

Butler, Judith. 2001. Doing Justice to Someone: Sex Reassignment and Allegories of Transsexuality. *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies* 7, no. 4 (January 1): 621-636.

. 2002. Is Kinship Always Already Heterosexual? *differences* 13, no. 1 (January 1): 14-44.

Doane, Mary Ann. 1999. Dark Continents: Epistemologies of Racial and Sexual Difference in Psychoanalysis and the Cinema. In *Visual Culture: The Reader*, ed. Jessica Evans and Stuart Hall. 1st ed. Sage Publications Ltd.,.

Foucault, Michel. 1990. *The History of Sexuality; Vol. 1: An Introduction*. Vintage.

Freud, Sigmund. 1997. *Dora: An Analysis of a Case of Hysteria*. Touchstone.

Gopinath, Gayatri. 2005. Local Sites/ Global Contexts: The Transnational Trajectories of Deepa Mehta's Fire. In *Impossible Desires: Queer Diasporas and South Asian Public Cultures*. Duke University Press.

Grewal, Inderpal, and Caren Kaplan. 2001. Global Identities: Theorizing Transnational Studies of Sexuality. *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies* 7, no. 4 (January 1): 663-679.

Hammer, Barbara. 2010. *HAMMER!: Making Movies Out of Sex and Life*. The Feminist Press at CUNY

Joyrich, Lynne. 1988. All that Television Allows: TV Melodrama, Postmodernism and Consumer Culture. *Camera Obscura* 6, no. 1_16 (January 1): 128-153.

Lacan, Jacques. 1998. *The Four Fundamental Concepts of Psychoanalysis*. W.W. Norton & Company.

. 2007. *Ecrits: The First Complete Edition in English*. 1st ed. W.W. Norton & Company.

Lauretis, Teresa de. 2007. *Figures of Resistance: Essays in Feminist Theory*. annotated edition. University of Illinois Press.

Lorde, Audre. 2007. *Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches*. Crossing Press.

McCarthy, Anna. 2001. Ellen: Making Queer Television History. *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies* 7, no. 4 (January 1): 593-620.

Mohanty, Chandra. 2003. *Feminism without Borders: Decolonizing Theory; Practicing Solidarity*. Duke University Press.

Nicholson, Linda. 1997. *The Second Wave: A Reader in Feminist Theory*. 1st ed. Routledge.

CTCS 673: Topics in Theory - Theories of Gender & Sexuality

Petro, Patrice. 1986. Mass Culture and the Feminine: The "Place" of Television in Film Studies. *Cinema Journal* 25, no. 3 (Spring): 5-21.

Rich, Adrienne. 1980. Compulsory Heterosexuality and Lesbian Existence. *Signs* 5, no. 4 (Summer): 631-660.

Riley, Denise. 2003. *Am I That Name: Feminism And The Category Of Women In History*. Univ Of Minnesota Press.

Schor, Naomi, and Elizabeth Weed. 1997. *Feminism Meets Queer Theory*. Indiana University Press.

Spillers, Hortense J. 1996. "All the things you could be by now, if Sigmund Freud's wife was your mother": Psychoanalysis and race. *Boundary 2* 23, no. 3 (Fall): 75.

Recommended Readings (Some of these Will Be Required for Certain Groups of Students)

Anon. "Maedchen in Uniform" by B. Ruby Rich. <http://www.ejumpcut.org/archive/onlinessays/JC24-25folder/MaedchenUniform.html>.

Bersani, Leo, and Adam Phillips. 2008. *Intimacies*. 1st ed. University Of Chicago Press.

Ferguson, Roderick A. 2003. *Aberrations in Black: Toward a Queer of Color Critique*. University of Minnesota Press.

Keeling, Kara. 2007. *The Witch's Flight: The Cinematic, the Black Femme, and the Image of Common Sense*. Duke University Press.

Lorde, Audre. 2007. *Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches*. Crossing Press.

Love, Heather. 2009. *Feeling Backward: Loss and the Politics of Queer History*. Harvard University Press.

Munoz, Jose Esteban. 2009. *Cruising Utopia: The Then and There of Queer Futurity*. NYU Press.

Sedgwick, Eve Kosofsky. 2003. *Touching Feeling: Affect, Pedagogy, Performativity*. Duke University Press.

Stryker, Susan, and Stephen Whittle. 2006. *The Transgender Studies Reader*. 1st ed. Routledge.

Warner, Michael. 1993. *Fear Of A Queer Planet: Queer Politics and Social Theory*. 1st ed. Univ Of Minnesota Press.

CTCS 673: Topics in Theory - Theories of Gender & Sexuality

UPDATED August 24, 2010 11:37 AM (SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS)

Date	Topic	Reading	Screening	Due
August 24	Freud	Freud, <u>Dora</u> (REC)	Dodge and Howard, <i>By Hook or By Crook</i>	
August 31	Anti- Essentialism and Political Agency	Riley, <u>Am I That Name</u>	Borden, <i>Born in Flames</i>	
September 7	The Second Wave	See Attached Reading Schedule	Maya Deren Selections and Mulvey and Wollen, <i>Riddle of the Sphinx</i>	
September 14	Lacanian Psychoanalysis	Lacan, Selections from <u>Ecrits</u>	Yvonne Rainer, <i>Film About A Woman Who</i>	

CTCS 673: Topics in Theory - Theories of Gender & Sexuality

Date	Topic	Reading	Screening	Due
September 21		Lacan, Selections from <u>The Four Fundament al Concepts of Psychoanal ysis</u>	Barbara Hammer Selections , including <i>Dyketactics</i>	
September 28	Psychoanalysis and Feminisms	See Attached Reading Schedule	Selected Music Videos	
October 5		Doane, “Dark Continents” Spillers, “All the Things You Could Be By Now If Sigmund Freud’s Wife Were Your Mother”	Parmar, <i>Warrior Marks</i> and Heredia, <i>Africa Rising</i>	

CTCS 673: Topics in Theory - Theories of Gender & Sexuality

Date	Topic	Reading	Screening	Due
October 12	Transnational Feminisms 1	Selections from Mohanty, <u>Feminism Without Borders</u>	Van Sant, <i>My Own Private Idaho</i>	
October 19	Foucault and Queer Theory	Foucault, <u>History of Sexuality</u> , Volume 1	Anger, <i>Scorpio Rising</i> Sagan, <i>Maedchen in Uniform</i>	
October 26	Queer Theory 1	See Attached Reading Schedule	Selected videos by Sadie Benning	
November 2	Feminism and Queer Theory	Schor and Weed, <u>Feminism Meets Queer Theory</u>	<i>The Watermelon Woman</i>	

CTCS 673: Topics in Theory - Theories of Gender & Sexuality

Date	Topic	Reading	Screening	Due
November 9	Queer Theory 2	See Attached Reading Schedule	<i>Ellen</i> (Coming Out Episode 30 April 1997) <i>Glee</i>	
November 16	Television and Feminist Critique	See Attached Reading Schedule	<i>Fire</i> <i>Khush</i>	
November 23	Transnational Feminisms 2	Gopinath, "Local Sites/ Global Contexts" Grewal and Kaplan, "Global Identities: Theorizing Transnational Studies of Sexuality."	Recent feminist Media	

CTCS 673: Topics in Theory - Theories of Gender & Sexuality

Date	Topic	Reading	Screening	Due
November 30	Feminist Media Making	Hammer, <u>HAMMER!</u>		
Papers Due on Date TBD				

Readings Schedule Supplement

September 7

Selections from Lorde. Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches

From The Second Wave: A Reader in Feminist Theory: Combahee River Collective Statement, Collins, “Defining Black Feminist Thought”, Rubin, “The Traffic in Women,” Wittig, “One Is Not Born a Woman,” Chodorow, “The Pyschodynamics of the Family,” REC: Radicalesbians, “The Woman Identified Woman”

September 28

Butler, “Imitation and Gender Insubordination,” “Is Kinship Always Already Heterosexual,” “Doing Justice to Someone”

deLauretis, “Rethinking Women’s Cinema,” “Sexual Indifference and Lesbian Representation,” “Upping the Anti (sic) in Feminist Theory,” “Figures of Resistance”

CTCS 673: Topics in Theory - Theories of Gender & Sexuality

October 26

Presentations on Queer Theory

Choose from:

Sedgwick, Touching Feeling

Bersani and Phillips, Intimacies

Ferguson, Aberrations in Black

Warner, Fear of A Queer Planet

REC: "Maedchen in Uniform" by B. Ruby Rich." Web. 2 Apr. 2010

November 9

Presentations on Queer Theory

Choose from:

Munoz, Cruising Utopia

Love, Feeling Backward

Keeling, The Witch's Flight

Selections from Stryker and Whittle, Eds. The Transgender Studies Reader

November 16

McCarthy. "Ellen: Making Queer Television History"

Joyrich. "All that Television Allows: TV Melodrama, Postmodernism and Consumer Culture"

Petro. "Mass Culture and the Feminine: The "Place" of Television in Film Studies."