

WMST 7100: GLBTQ Studies  
University of Georgia  
Institute for Women's Studies  
Spring 2007

“People are different from each other.” – Eve Sedgwick

Instructor: Dr. Blaise Astra Parker  
Office: Benson Building 101  
Course Information: Wednesday, 1:25PM-4:25PM, Benson Building 105  
Email: blaiseparkerphd@gmail.com  
Phone: 706-542-2846  
Office Hours: 10AM-1PM, Wednesdays

Required Books:

Foucault, M. (1978). *The History of Sexuality Volume 1: An Introduction* (R. Hurley, Trans.). New York: Pantheon Books.

Katz, J. N. (1995). *The Invention of Heterosexuality*. New York: Dutton.

Spargo, T. (1999). *Foucault and queer theory*. Oxford, Cambridge: Icon Books.

Sweasey, P. (1997). *From queer to eternity: Spirituality in the lives of lesbian, gay and bisexual people*. Washington DC: Cassell.

Course Description: Investigation of same-sex desire, heterosexuality, homosexuality, and the regulation of sexual identities across different racial/ethnic and class/regional communities. Focusing on Native American, African American, Latino, Asian American, and international studies, with texts from law, anthropology, history, film, fiction, and theory.

Course Objectives:

- Learn about the discipline of gay/lesbian studies, as well as the history of GLBTQ (gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender/queer) individuals and communities in the US.
- Discover the difference between essentialist and constructionist approaches to the study of sexuality, and clarify your own perspective.
- Engage with difficult theoretical texts that interrogate ideas about sexuality, identity, and difference.
- Understand the importance of multiple forms of oppression (e.g., sexism, racism, classism) with respect to sexuality and identity.

Academic Honesty Policy:

All work that you do for this class must come from you and you alone with the exception of specific group work as determined by the instructor. All cases of academic dishonesty will be dealt with as outlined by the University. For more information about this you may consult: [http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic\\_honesty/academic\\_honesty.htm](http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/academic_honesty.htm)

Topical Reading List:

Date	Topic	Readings	Weekly Facilitator	Notes/Coming Up
10-Jan	Introduction and Discussion		Blaise Parker	
17-Jan	Theoretical Foundations: Essentialism, Constructionism and Sexuality	<p>Foucault, M. (1978). <i>The History of Sexuality Volume 1: An Introduction</i> (R. Hurley, Trans.). New York: Pantheon Books.</p> <p>Bailey, J. M. (2003). Biological perspectives on sexual orientation. In L. D. Garnets &amp; D. C. Kimmel (Eds.), <i>Psychological perspectives on lesbian, gay, and bisexual experiences</i> (2nd ed., pp. 50-85). New York: Columbia.</p> <p>D’Emilio, J. (1993). Capitalism and gay identity. In H. Abelove, M. A. Barale &amp; D. M. Halperin (Eds.), <i>The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader</i> (pp. 467-476). New York: Routledge.</p> <p>Rubin, G. S. (1993). Thinking sex: Notes for a radical theory of the politics of sexuality. In H. Abelove, M. A. Barale &amp; D. M. Halperin (Eds.), <i>The Lesbian and gay studies reader</i> (pp. 3-44). New York: Routledge.</p>	Blaise Parker	Discussion question due.
24-Jan	Is there a GLBTQ epistemology?	<p>Sedgwick, E. (1993). Epistemology of the Closet. In H. Abelove, M. Barale &amp; D. Halperin (Eds.), <i>The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader</i> (pp. 45-61). New York: Routledge.</p> <p>Scott, J. (1993). The evidence of experience. In H. Abelove, M. Barale &amp; D. Halperin (Eds.), <i>The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader</i> (pp. 397-415). New York: Routledge.</p> <p>Stone-Mediatore, S. (1998). Chandra Mohanty and the re-valuing of “experience”. <i>Hypatia</i>, 13(2), 116-133.</p> <p>Hekman, S. (1997). Truth and method: Feminist standpoint epistemology revisited. <i>Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society</i>, 22(2), 341-365.</p>		Discussion question due.

Harding, S. (1997). Comment on Hekman's "Truth and method: Feminist standpoint epistemology revisited": Whose standpoint needs the regimes of truth and reality? *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 22(2), 382-391.

31-Jan Identity Politics:  
Gay Men

Seidman, S. (1993). Identity and Politics in a "Postmodern" Gay Culture: Some Historical and Conceptual Notes. In M. Warner (Ed.), *Fear of a queer planet: Queer politics and social theory* (pp. 105-142). Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota.

Discussion question due.

Butler, J. (1997). Excerpt from Introduction to *Bodies that Matter*. In R. N. Lancaster & M. di Leonardo (Eds.), *The gender sexuality reader* (1st ed., pp. 531-542). New York: Routledge.

Wittman, C. (2001). A gay manifesto. In C. Bull (Ed.), *Come out fighting: A century of essential writing on gay and lesbian liberation* (pp. 67-79). New York: Nation Books.

Shively, C. (2001). Indiscriminate promiscuity as an act of revolution. In C. Bull (Ed.), *Come out fighting: A century of essential writing on gay and lesbian liberation* (pp. 132-141). New York: Nation Books.

7-Feb Identity Politics:  
Lesbian Feminism  
and Bisexuality

Bunch, C. (2001). Lesbians in revolt. In C. Bull (Ed.), *Come out fighting: A century of essential writing on gay and lesbian liberation* (pp. 126-131). New York: Nation Books.

Discussion question due.

Stein, A. (1997). Sisters and queers: The decentering of lesbian feminism. In R. N. Lancaster & M. Di Leonardo (Eds.), *The gender sexuality reader* (pp. 378-391). New York: Routledge.

Layli Phillips (GSU) will speak on "Womanism on its own--The first quarter century of womanist thought. on 2/9/07 at 12:20PM, Ad kinkra Hall (407 Memorial)

Rust, P. C. (1996). Managing multiple identities: Diversity among bisexual

women and men. In B. A. Firestein (Ed.), *Bisexuality: The psychology and politics of an invisible minority*. (pp. 53-83): Sage Publications, Inc.

Fox, R. C. (2003). Bisexual identities. In L. D. Garnets & D. C. Kimmel (Eds.), *Psychological perspectives on lesbian, gay and bisexual experiences* (2nd ed., pp. 86-129). New York: Columbia University Press.

14-Feb Identity Politics:  
Transgender  
and Intersex.

Denny, D., Green, J., & Cole, S (2007). Gender variability: Transsexuals, crossdressers, and others. In A. F. Owens & M. S. Tepper (Eds.), *Sexual health: Volume 4* (Vol. 4, pp. 153-188). Westport, CT: Praeger.

Discussion question due.

Halberstam, J. (2003). The Brandon Teena archive. In R. J. Corber & S. Valocchi (Eds.), *Queer studies: An interdisciplinary reader* (pp. 159-169). Malden, MA: Blackwell.

Chase, C. (2003). Hermaphrodites with attitude: Mapping the emergence of intersex political activism. In R. J. Corber & S. Valocchi (Eds.), *Queer studies: An interdisciplinary reader* (pp. 31-45). Malden, MA: Blackwell.

Butler, J. (2004). Gender regulations. In *Undoing gender* (pp. 40-56). New York: Routledge.

21-Feb Difference:  
Ethnicity, Race,  
Nation and  
Culture

Cohen, C. J. (2003). Contested membership: Black gay identities and the politics of AIDS. In R. J. Corber & S. Valocchi (Eds.), *Queer studies: An interdisciplinary reader* (pp. 46-60). Malden, MA: Blackwell.

Discussion question due.

Phillips, L. (2005). Deconstructing "down low" discourse: The politics of sexuality, gender, race, AIDS, and anxiety. *Journal of African American Studies*, 9(2), 3-15.

Michael Shutt (UGA) will speak on "A queer history--UGA 1969-Today" on 2/23/07 at 12:20PM, SLC 148

Lorde, A. (2001). I am your sister: Black women organizing across sexualities. In C. Bull (Ed.), *Come out fighting: A century of essential writing on gay and lesbian liberation* (pp. 234-239). New York: Nation Books.

Gomez, J. (1999). Just imagine a lesbian, a Black lesbian. In L. Gross & J. D. Woods (Eds.), *The Columbia reader on lesbians and gay men in media, society, and politics* (pp. 262-269). New York: Columbia University Press.

28-Feb Difference:  
Ethnicity, Race,  
Nation and  
Culture

Almaguer, T. (1993). Chicano men: A cartography of homosexual identity and behavior. In H. Abelove, M. Barale & D. Halperin (Eds.), *The lesbian and gay studies reader* (pp. 255-273). New York: Routledge.

Discusson question due

Williams, W. (1999). The abominable sin: The Spanish campaign against 'sodomy' and its results in modern Latin America. In L. Gross & J. D. Woods (Eds.), *The Columbia reader on lesbians and gay men in media, society, and politics* (pp. 125-134). New York: Columbia University Press.

Midterm withdrawal point:  
3/1

Trujillo, C. (1999). Chicana lesbians: Fear and loathing in the Chicano community. In A. Kesselman, L. D. McNair & N. Schniedewind (Eds.), *Women: Images and Realities* (2nd ed., pp. 345-350). Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing Company.

Wright, T. (2005). Gay organizations, NGOs, and the globalization of sexual identity: The case of Bolivia. In J. Robertson (Ed.), *Same-sex cultures and sexualities: An anthropological reader* (pp. 279-294). Malden, MA: Blackwell.

7-Mar Difference:  
Ethnicity, Race,  
Nation and  
Culture

Whitehead, H. (1993). The bow and the burden strap: A new look at institutionalized homosexuality in Native North America. In H. Abelove, M. Barale

& D. Halperin (Eds.), *The lesbian and gay studies reader* (pp. 498-527). New York: Routledge.

Discusson question due.

Tafoya, T. (2003). Native gay and lesbian issues: The two-spirited. In L. D. Garnets & D. C. Kimmel (Eds.), *Psychological perspectives on lesbian, gay, and bisexual experiences* (2nd ed., pp. 401-409). New York: Columbia University Press.

Gopinath, G. (2003). Nostalgia, desire, diaspora: South Asian sexualities in motion. In R. J. Corber & S. Valocchi (Eds.), *Queer studies: An interdisciplinary reader* (pp. 206-217). Malden, MA: Blackwell.

Nanda, S. (1993). Hijras as neither man nor woman. In H. Abelove, M. Barale & D. Halperin (Eds.), *The lesbian and gay studies reader* (pp. 542-552). New York: Routledge.

14-Mar

No class: Spring Break

21-Mar Difference:  
Ethnicity, Race,  
Nation and  
Culture:

Fung, R. (1999). Looking for my penis: The eroticized Asian in gay video porn. In L. Gross & J. D. Woods (Eds.), *The Columbia reader on lesbians and gay men in media, society, and politics* (pp. 517-526). New York: Columbia Press.

Discusson question due.

Takagi, D. (1999). Maiden voyage: Excursions into sexuality and identity politics in Asian America. In L. Gross & J. D. Woods (Eds.), *The Columbia reader on lesbians and gay men in media, society, and politics* (pp. 96-104). New York: Columbia Press.

Blackwood, E. (2005). Tombois in West Sumatra: Constructing masculinity and erotic desire. In J. Robertson (Ed.), *Same-sex cultures and sexualities: An anthropological reader* (pp. 232-260). Malden, MA: Blackwell.

Boellstorff, T. (2003). The perfect path: Gay men, marriage, Indonesia. In R. J.

Corber & S. Valocchi (Eds.), *Queer studies: An interdisciplinary reader* (pp. 218-236). Malden, MA: Blackwell.

28-Mar Difference:  
Religion and  
Spirituality

Sweasey, P. (1997). *From queer to eternity: Spirituality in the lives of lesbian, gay and bisexual people*. Washington DC: Cassell.

Kim Parker

Discusson question due.

Wafer, J. (1997). Muhammad and male homosexuality. In S. O. Murray & W. Roscoe (Eds.), *Islamic homosexualities: Culture, history and literature* (pp. 87-96). New York: NYU Press.

Murray, S. O. (1997). Woman-woman love in Islamic societies. In S. O. Murray & W. Roscoe (Eds.), *Islamic homosexualities: Culture, history and literature* (pp. 97-106). New York: NYU Press.

4-Apr Homophobia,  
Heterosexism,  
and Wellness

Garnets, L. D., Herek, G. M., & Levy, B. (2003). Violence and victimization of lesbians and gay men: Mental health consequences. In L. D. Garnets & D. C. Kimmel (Eds.), *Psychological perspectives on lesbian, gay, and bisexual experiences* (2nd ed., pp. 188-206). New York: Columbia University Press.

Discusson question due.

Connolly, M. (2000). Issues for lesbian, gay, and bisexual students in traditional college classrooms. In V. A. Wall & N. J. Evans (Eds.), *Toward acceptance: Sexual orientation issues on campus* (pp. 109-130). Lanham, MD: University Press of America

Kaplan, C. N., & Colbs, S. L. (2000). Shattered pride: Resistance and intervention strategies in cases of sexual assault, relationship violence, and hate crimes against gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students. In V. A. Wall & N. J. Evans (Eds.), *Toward Acceptance: Sexual orientation issues on campus* (pp. 215-244). Lanham, MD: University Press of America.

Rust, P. C. (2003). Finding a sexual identity and community: Therapeutic implications and cultural assumptions in scientific models of coming out. In L. D. Garnets & D. C. Kimmel (Eds.), *Psychological perspectives on lesbian, gay, and bisexual experiences* (2nd ed.). (pp. 227-269): Columbia University Press.

11-Apr Heterosexual Studies?

Katz, J. N. (1995). *The Invention of Heterosexuality*. New York: Dutton.

Discusson question due.

Halley, J. E. (1993). The construction of heterosexuality. In M. Warner (Ed.), *Fear of a queer planet: Queer politics and social theory* (pp. 82-102). Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press.

Chris Cuomo (UGA) will give the annual Coley Lecture, "Religion and the right to be gay" on 4/13/07 at 12:30PM, Griffith Auditorium, Georgia Museum of Art

Butler, J. (1993). *Imitation and Gender Insubordination*. In H. Abelow, M. A. Barale & D. M. Halperin (Eds.), *The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader*. New York: Routledge.

18-Apr Queer Theories

Spargo, T. (1999). *Foucault and queer theory*. Oxford, Cambridge: Icon Books.

Discusson question due.

Epstein, S. (2005). A queer encounter. In T. L. Steele (Ed.), *Sex, self, and society: The social context of sexuality* (pp. 68-73). Belmont, CA: Thompson Wadsworth.

Cohen, C. J. (2000). Punks, bulldaggers, and welfare queens: The radical potential of queer politics? In L. Richardson, V. Taylor & N. Whittier (Eds.), *Feminist frontiers* (6th ed., pp. 495-511). New York: McGraw Hill.

25-Apr Is A Conclusion Possible?

Last day of class. Discuss papers or service-learning projects today. Final paper/project due by 5PM on 5/8/07.

14-May

Grades due

## Assignments:

### Weekly Integrative Discussion Questions

In an effort to focus our class discussions most effectively, each student will submit at least three integrative discussion questions (each week) based on that week's readings. Questions must span the entire scope of the readings. These questions must be posted to the course WebCT site no later than 24 hours before class. Those questions will then become part of the agenda for the facilitation leaders of that day's seminar. An integrative discussion question is like a well developed essay question on an exam. It should identify an intriguing issue from the readings and place that issue in front of us in a way that facilitates discussion and or exploration. For example:

*In "Variations on Sex and Gender," Butler explores the delineations between sex and gender by scrutinizing the notion of choice. Butler's conclusions point towards changing the discourse that places limitations on the options of individual identity. If this is true, how and where do we begin to confront the institutional discourse that prescribes categories of "acceptable" gender? If we factor in Foucault's ideas of power relations, what alternate forms of power can be actualized within the present social model?*

### Class Discussion Facilitation

Students will be assigned to lead our seminar discussions each week. When you are assigned to be a discussion leader I expect you will have a thorough grasp of the readings and a prepared plan for leading the discussion. The final task of the facilitator is to write one 3-4 page summary of the class discussion, including all viewpoints, noteworthy considerations, additional resources, along with the details of student presentations and post it to the WebCT Discussion Board by 11:59 p.m. the Sunday following the class session.

### Final Paper or Service-Learning Project

Full details to come.

### Grading Scale:

Weekly integrative discussion question	25%
Class discussion facilitation	25%
Final paper or service-learning project	25%
<u>Class participation</u>	<u>25%</u>
Total	100%

Percentage	Letter Grade
100-94	A
93-90	A-
89-86	B+
85-83	B
82-80	B-
79-76	C+
75-73	C
72-70	C-
69-60	D
<60	F