This graduate reading course surveys the cultural and social history of race and sexuality as intersecting categories that have organized life and politics in the United States since the early twentieth century. Readings analyze the development of racial and sexual classifications, their place in American culture, and how Americans embraced, resisted, and transformed their normative meanings. The course is organized chronologically, beginning roughly at the turn of the twentieth century, when millions of African Americans began moving from the rural South to Northern cities and an expanding world of commercial entertainment allowed some city-dwellers to experiment with new configurations of sex and gender. Topics include the politics of respectability in communities of color and among whites; definitions of sexual health; reproductive and marital norms; the changing status of sex and marriage across the color line; sexual harassment and violence; HIV/AIDS; and the sexual politics of social movements.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

I. Participation (25% of final grade)
   As a graduate seminar, this course depends on your willingness to come to class having completed the assigned readings and ready to discuss them thoughtfully. Each week, all students are required to submit to the instructor three discussion questions on that week’s readings via e-mail (due no later than noon of the day we meet), demonstrating that you have grappled with the authors’ major arguments and evidence. Please put your questions in the body of your e-mail and use the subject line “Questions.”

II. Book Review and Presentation (25%)
   Selecting from the supplemental readings below, students will write a book review of approximately 1000 words and present a condensed version of the review orally to the class. For examples of appropriate style for this book review, sample those in the *Journal of American History*. Due in class the week of your presentation.

III. Final Historiographical Essay (50%)
   Students will write a historiographical paper of approximately 15-20 pages on one of several topics that will be distributed later in the semester. The paper should analyze and synthesize several texts of your choice, and is due on Monday, May 9, at noon.
REQUIRED TEXTS

The following books are available for purchase at NJ Books and the Rutgers Bookstore. Assigned articles will be posted on Blackboard.

- Siobhan Somerville, Queering the Color Line: Race and the Invention of Homosexuality in American Culture (Duke, 2001)
- Chad Heap, Slumming: Sexual and Racial Encounters in American Nightlife, 1885-1940 (Chicago, 2009)
- Alexandra Minna Stern, Eugenic Nation: Faults and Frontiers of Better Breeding in Modern America (California, 2005)
- Katherine H.S. Moon, Sex Among Allies: Military Prostitution in U.S.-Korea Relations (Columbia, 1997)
- Danielle L. McGuire, At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance, A New History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power (Knopf, 2010)
- Regina Kunzel, Criminal Intimacy: Prison and the Uneven History of Modern American Sexuality (Chicago, 2008)
- Jennifer Brier, Infectious Ideas: U.S. Political Responses to the AIDS Crisis (North Carolina, 2009)
- Jasbir Puar, Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times (Duke, 2007)

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 – Tue, Jan 18 – Introduction

WEEK 2 – Tue, Jan 25 – Reproduction and Racial Destiny
“AHR Forum: Amalgamation and the Historical Distinctiveness of the United States,” American Historical Review 108 (December 2003), 1362-1414

Supplemental:
Martha Hodes, White Women, Black Men: Illicit Sex in the Nineteenth-Century South (Yale, 1997)
Hazel V. Carby, Race Men (Harvard, 2000)
WEEK 3 – Tue, Feb 1 – Defining Normal
Siobhan Somerville, *Queering the Color Line: Race and the Invention of Homosexuality in American Culture* (Duke, 2001)
*Supplemental:*
Tavia Nyong’o, *The Amalgamation Waltz: Race, Performance, and the Ruses of Memory* (Minnesota, 2009)

WEEK 4 – Tue, Feb 8 – Urban Subcultures
*Supplemental:*
Monica L. Miller, *Slaves to Fashion: Black Dandyism and the Styling of Black Diasporic Identity* (Duke, 2009)
Shane Vogel, *The Scene of Harlem Cabaret: Race, Sexuality, Performance* (Chicago, 2009)

WEEK 5 – Tue, Feb 15 – Science and Public Health
*Supplemental:*
Nayan Shah, *Contagious Divides: Epidemics and Race in San Francisco’s Chinatown* (California, 2001)

WEEK 6 – Tue, Feb 22 – The Cold War Era and U.S. Empire
Katherine H.S. Moon, *Sex Among Allies: Military Prostitution in U.S.-Korea Relations* (Columbia, 1997)
*Supplemental:*

WEEK 7 – Tue, Mar 1 – Marriage
Siobhan B. Somerville, “Queer Loving,” *GLQ* 11:3 (2005), 335-370
*Supplemental:*
WEEK 8 – Tue, Mar 8 – Borderlands and Border Crossings
Supplemental:
Ramon Gutierrez, When Jesus Came, the Corn Mothers Went Away: Marriage, Sexuality, and Power in New Mexico, 1500-1846 (Stanford, 1991)
Pablo Mitchell, Coyote Nation: Sexuality, Race, and Conquest in Modernizing New Mexico, 1880-1920 (Chicago, 2005)
Lionel Cantú, Jr., The Sexuality of Migration: Border Crossings and Mexican Immigrant Men (NYU, 2009)

SPRING BREAK

WEEK 9 – Tue, Mar 22 – The Politics of Reproduction
Supplemental:
Marc Stein, Sexual Injustice: Supreme Court Decisions from Griswold to Roe (North Carolina, 2010)

WEEK 10 – Tue, Mar 29 – Civil Rights and Public Space
Danielle L. McGuire, At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance, A New History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power (Knopf, 2010)
Whitney Strub, “Black and White and Banned All Over: Race, Censorship, and Obscenity in Postwar Memphis,” Journal of Social History 40:3 (Spring 2007), 685-715
Supplemental:
John Howard, Men Like That: A Southern Queer History (Chicago, 1999)
Anne Enke, Finding the Movement: Sexuality, Contested Space, and Feminist Activism (Duke, 2007)
Martin Meeker, Contacts Desired: Gay and Lesbian Communications and Community, 1940s-1970s (Chicago, 2006)
WEEK 11 – Tue, Apr 5 – The Carceral State
*Supplemental:*

WEEK 13 – Tue, Apr 12 – Theorizing Intersections
David Valentine, *Imagining Transgender: An Ethnography of a Category* (Duke, 2007), Chap. 3
*Supplemental:*
José Esteban Muñoz, *Disidentifications: Queers of Color and the Performance of Politics* (Minnesota, 1999)
Lawrence LaFountain-Stokes, *Queer Ricans: Cultures and Sexualities in the Diaspora* (Minnesota, 2009)

WEEK 14 – Tue, Apr 19 – The Late Twentieth Century
*Supplemental:*

WEEK 15 - Tue Apr 26 – The Present as History
*Supplemental:*
Judith Halberstam, *In a Queer Time and Place: Transgender Bodies, Subcultural Lives* (NYU, 2005)