

URBAN SEXUALITIES IN UNITED STATES HISTORY

MW 4:00-5:20pm
21:512:406
Conklin 346

Professor Timothy Stewart-Winter
Office: 314 Conklin Hall
Office Hours: Wed, 2-3PM & by appointment
Phone: 973-353-1914
Email: tmsw@andromeda.rutgers.edu

TA: Julian Gill-Peterson
Office: Conklin 247
Office hours: Mondays 2:30-4

This course surveys the changing relationship between urban space, sexual identities, and everyday life in the United States since the early nineteenth century. We will examine how sexuality intersected with a variety of forms of cultural diversity and economic inequality, the social consequences of a changing built environment, and the cultural meanings of gender, race, and region throughout U.S. history. The readings will cover the period from the early 19th century to the late twentieth century.

EXPECTATIONS

Attendance and Punctuality. Attendance is required. You are expected to attend every class, arrive on time, and stay for the duration of the class. Your overall course grade will be lowered by one half letter for each unexcused absence beginning with the fourth one. Seven unexcused absences will result in an automatic failing grade. You may be excused for illness, family emergency, and similar extreme situations, with appropriate documentation (such as a doctor's note).

Participation. While much of our time will be taken up with lecture, we will also have discussions about course readings, and all students are expected to participate. As a result, you must arrive at class having completed that day's reading assignment and prepared to talk about it. A valuable part of discussions is the posing of questions; no one is expected to grasp perfectly the significance of all the readings. Intelligent questions are just as important as comments. Your participation grade will reflect both the frequency of your participation and the quality of your comments and questions.

Questions. Students are required to submit, at the beginning of each WEDNESDAY class (except Wed, Mar 2, when there will be a guest lecture, and Wed, Apr 6, when there will be a test), a set of 4-5 questions on the class readings for that week. Questions should show evidence that you have done the reading, and may be of two general types: questions for discussion based on the substance of the readings, and questions of clarification regarding aspects of the reading that you did not understand or about which you would like more information. Questions will be graded as credit/partial credit/no credit, and may be used in class discussions. There are a total of 11 classes for which you may submit questions; you are required to submit questions for at least 8 classes to have the potential of receiving full credit for this assignment.

Grading Breakdown. You must complete all assignments in order to pass this class.

- Attendance and Participation – 10%
- Questions – 35%
- Test #1 – 15%
- Test #2 – 15%
- Final Exam – 25%

CLASSROOM POLICIES

- Be respectful, recognizing that others may disagree with you about controversial issues.
- Keep an open mind. Some of the material in the class will be familiar to some of you; for others much of the material will present new ideas. Be prepared to think about ideas that are different from your own, regardless of your eventual conclusions about these ideas.

- Complete the assigned reading *before* class.
- Take notes on the main points of the assigned readings.
- Arrive to class on time every day.
- Turn off all electronic devices throughout the class period.
- Actively participate in the class discussion.
- Ask questions about the material.
- Take thorough notes in class.
- Review the readings after class if necessary.
- Turn in assignments on time.
- Be familiar with and adhere to the Rutgers Academic Integrity Policy, available at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu>
- Call, email, or stop by our office hours if you have any questions or concerns.

REQUIRED TEXTS

The four required books are available for purchase at the Rutgers Bookstore on the first floor of Bradley Hall, and at NJ Books. You may also buy them from online sources.

- Valerie Taylor, *The Girls in 3-B* (rpt. ed., New York: Feminist Press at CUNY, 2003)
- Christine Stansell, *City of Women: Sex and Class in New York, 1789-1860* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1987) [or hardcover edition, New York: Knopf, 1982]
- George Chauncey, *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Making of the Gay Male World, 1890-1940* (New York: Basic, 1994)
- David Carter, *Stonewall: The Riots that Sparked the Gay Revolution* (New York: St. Martin's, 2004)

COURSE SCHEDULE

Wed, Jan 19: Introduction

Mon, Jan 24: Taylor, *The Girls in 3-B*, 1-56

Wed, Jan 26: Taylor, *The Girls in 3-B*, 56-107

Mon, Jan 31: Taylor, *The Girls in 3-B*, 107-162

Wed, Feb 2: Taylor, *The Girls in 3-B*, 163-206

Mon, Feb 7: Stansell, *City of Women*, Introduction and Chapter 1

Wed, Feb 9: Stansell, *City of Women*, Chapter 2

Mon, Feb 14: Stansell, *City of Women*, Chapter 3-4

Wed, Feb 16: Stansell, *City of Women*, Chapter 5

Mon, Feb 21: Stansell, *City of Women*, Chapters 7 and 9

Wed, Feb 23: Stansell, *City of Women*, Chapter 10 & Conclusion

Mon, Feb 28: TEST #1

Wed, Mar 2: Guest lecture by Whitney Strub

Mon, Mar 7: Chauncey, *Gay New York*, Introduction & Chapter 1

Wed, Mar 9: Chauncey, *Gay New York*, Chapter 2

SPRING BREAK

Mon, Mar 21: Chauncey, *Gay New York*, Chapters 3-4

Wed, Mar 23: Chauncey, *Gay New York*, Chapter 5

Mon, Mar 28: Chauncey, *Gay New York*, Chapters 6-7

Wed, Mar 30: Chauncey, *Gay New York*, Chapter 8

Mon, Apr 4: Chauncey, *Gay New York*, Chapter 12 & Epilogue

Wed, Apr 6: TEST #2

Mon, Apr 11: Guest lecture by Julian Gill-Peterson

Wed, Apr 13: Carter, *Stonewall*, Chapter 1

Mon, Apr 18: Carter, *Stonewall*, Chapters 2-5

Wed, Apr 20: Carter, *Stonewall*, Chapters 6-8

Mon, Apr 25: Carter, *Stonewall*, Chapters 10-12

Wed, Apr 27: Carter, *Stonewall*, Chapters 13-14

Mon, May 2: Review

Final exam: Wednesday, May 11, 11:45AM-2:45PM