In this course we will explore historical and contemporary scholarship that addresses the discursive construction of sexuality. The focus is on thinking through disciplinarity via an engagement with queer anthropology, but we will engage as well with queer studies work in other disciplines (e.g., history and literary criticism), as well as ethnographic work in other disciplines (e.g., sociology). We will also examine how the discipline of anthropology has been constitutively shaped by engagements with questions of sexuality. Readings and course discussions will address questions of intersectionality and sexuality, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, labor, religion, colonialism, and globalization. There is extensive attention to contexts outside the United States.

The course is meant to be focused on reading and discussion, rather than writing. There is what appears to be a heavy reading load, but I will provide guidance on how to improve your ability to engage productively with large amounts of reading and the amount of writing you must do is reduced. Note: I will not allow any student to take an incomplete for this course under any circumstances. The seminar discussions will follow three basic guidelines:

**Generosity.** With a ten-week course there simply is not time for substandard texts. All readings selected for the syllabus are insightful and theoretically innovative. Critiquing aspects of the readings is fine, but if you find yourself rejecting an argument in toto, this indicates your reading is insufficiently generous.

**Provisionality.** You are allowed (indeed, encouraged) to think out loud, say something and then take it back, and generally speak in a provisional manner, knowing that those around you will be patient, supportive, and slow to take offense.

**Community.** Some individuals are quite comfortable speaking at length: this is desirable, but the instructor reserves the right to ask persons to wrap up their comments, or to solicit comments from persons who have not yet participated in any particular course meeting.
Course Requirements

1) Seven two-page precis
The primary requirement of the course is that you do seven (7) two-page precis. This means you can choose three weeks in which you do not have to do a precis. Each precis should take the form of critical questions, commentary and analysis about at least two of the readings for that week. They can link the readings to earlier readings from the course or readings from outside the course, but particularly the latter of these is discouraged due to limits of space. I discourage negative critiques; you should focus on generous engagement, linking the readings to our discussions. NOTE: You may do a precis for the first day of class if you wish.

A precis must be turned in within the first five (5) minutes of class in triplicate, with the two pages stapled together (not paper-clipped or folded). They can never be turned in late. You must be in attendance for any day in which you turn in a precis (someone else can not turn it in for you). If you leave class early on the day you turn in a precis, that precis will not be counted. Each precis counts for 10 percent of your overall grade, so the seven precis together constitute 70 percent of the overall grade. Please note that falling even one precis short will thus severely impact your grade.

2) The final paper
You must write a course paper. It must be emailed by the deadline as a single Word document (not pdf) to tboellst@uci.edu. Due to the emphasis on reading and precis, the final paper is relatively short. It should be 4,000-5,000 words long, inclusive of title, endnotes, and references (I will use the word count function of Word to confirm this). The paper can be on any topic that relates to the course, so long as you obtain my approval and so long as you cite and draw upon course texts and discussions in an extensive manner. I encourage you to engage in some way with your own research interests. You must use either American Anthropological Association formatting (see http://www.aaanet.org/publications/guidelines.cfm) or some other style you prefer (e.g., MLA style), so long as you are consistent. You must include full bibliographic references to course texts as they are used. You may bring in outside readings, but it is not necessary to do so and they should not overwhelm or substitute for course readings.

The final paper will constitute 30 percent of the overall grade. The course grade will thus be calculated as follows:

| Seven precis times ten points per precis | = 70 points |
| Final paper | = 30 points |
| **Total** | **= 100 points** |

You will then be assigned a letter grade as follows: A+ 96.7-100; A 93.4-96.6; A- 90-93.3; B+ 86.7-89.9; B 83.4-86.6; B- 80-83.3; C+ 76.7-79.9; C 73.4-76.6; C- 70-73.3; D 65-69.9; F 64.9 and below.

Students with Disabilities: it is the policy of the University of California, Irvine to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students, however, are responsible for registering with the Disabilities Services Center, in addition to making requests known to me in a timely manner. If you require accommodations in this class, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The procedures for registering with Disabilities Services Center can be found at http://www.disability.uci.edu/.
The following books are available at the bookstore, online, or on reserve. I will explain how to access the other readings during the first course meeting.


**REQUIRED & RECOMMENDED ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS**


Course Schedule

week one, 1/10. beginnings.
2) Tom Boellstorff, Queer Studies in the House of Anthropology.

week two, 1/17.
1) Kath Weston, The Bubble, the Burn, and the Simmer (SA, Ch. 1).
2) Zine Magubane, Which Bodies Matter? (SA, Ch. 2).
3) Friedrich Engels, Origins of the Family (SA, Ch. 3).
4) Richard Burton, Pederasty (SA, Ch. 7).
5) Edward Westermarck, Homosexual Love (SA, Ch. 8).

Recommended:
A. Lyons and H. Lyons, The Reconstruction of Primitive Sexuality (SA, Ch. 4).
Havelock Ellis, The Sexual Instinct in Savages (SA, Ch. 5).
Bronislaw Malinowski, Ignorance of Physiological Paternity (SA, Ch. 15).

week three, 1/24.
1) Esther Newton, Mother Camp.
2) Gayle Rubin, Studying Sexual Subcultures.
3) Elisabeth Sheff, Polyamorous Families.
4) Tom Boellstorff, When Marriage Falls.

Recommended:
Edward Carpenter, Hermaphrodism Among Gods and Mortals (SA, Ch. 9).
Elsie Clews Parsons, The Zuni Lamana (SA, Ch. 10).
E. E. Evans-Pritchard, Sexual Inversion among the Azande.
Edmund Leach, Virgin Birth (SA, Ch. 17).
Carol Delaney, The Meaning of Paternity.

week four, 1/31.
1) Mignon Moore, Invisible Families.
2) Tom Boellstorff, But Do Not Identify As Gay.
3) Cymene Howe, The Legible Lesbian.
4) Scott Morgensen, Settler Homonationalism.

Recommended:
Tom Boellstorff, Queer Techne.
Margot Weiss, The Epistemology of Ethnography.
week five, 2/7.
2) Kimberle Crenshaw, Mapping the Margins.
3) Sylvia Yanagisako and Carol Delaney, Naturalizing Power.
4) Margot Canaday, Building a Straight State.

week six, 2/14.
2) Robert Lorway, Defiant Desire in Namibia.
3) Tom Boellstorff, The Emergence of Political Homophobia.
4) Ashley Currier, Political Homophobia in Postcolonial Namibia.

week seven, 2/21.
1) Gayle Rubin, Thinking Sex.
2) Stephen Epstein, Thinking Sex Ethnographically.
3) Sharon Holland, The Beached Whale.
4) Laura Bellows, The Aroused Public.
5) Mark Carrigan, There is More to Life than Sex?

Recommended:
Gayle Rubin with Judith Butler, Sexual Traffic.

week eight, 2/28.
1) Rudolf Gaudio, *Allah Made Us.*
2) Naisargi Dave, Indian and Lesbian and What Came Next.
3) Tom Boellstorff, Between Religion and Desire (SA, Ch. 25).

week nine, 3/6.
2) Judith Butler, Bodies that Matter (excerpt from Introduction).
3) Don Kulick, A Man in the House.
4) David Valentine, The Categories Themselves (SA, Ch. 27).

week ten, 3/13.
1) Megan Sinnott, *Toms and Dees.*
2) Sasha Newell, Godrap Girls, Draou Boys.
3) Tom Boellstorff, Playing Back the Nation.

*Course paper due Friday 3/23, 5pm, emailed to tboellst@uci.edu.*