

GSWS and GSWS Cross-Listed Graduate Courses for

Fall 2024

These courses fulfill various GSWS graduate certificate requirements. For more info:
<https://www.gsws.pitt.edu/academics/graduate-studies>

GSWS SEMINARS

These courses fulfill GSWS certificate requirements: GSWS 2252 is required for every certificate student and also operates as an overview of the field for any grad student interested; GSWS 2240 fulfills the requirement of taking an additional seminar in GSWS (not cross-listed).

Course: GSWS 2252-1210: Theories of Gender and Sexuality

Instructor: Laura Lovett

Meets: Monday 2:30-5, 402E Cathedral of Learning

CRN: 29758

Description:

This course provides an overview of important topics and controversies in gender and sexuality studies, emphasizing emerging directions in scholarship and the foundational readings that have prepared the way for them. Gender and sexuality studies are interdisciplinary fields in conversation with feminist theory and queer theory as well as a host of academic disciplines. Drawing on readings from a variety of disciplines and sampling a range of methodologies, this course works through some of the key moments, movements and problems that shape contemporary thinking about gender and sexuality. The course invites students to think through materials and ideas in relation to their own research, interests and commitments.

Course: GSWS [2240-1010](#): Special Topics: Queer and Disability History

Instructor: Patrick McKelvey

Meets: Tuesday, 1-3:30, 402 E Cathedral of Learning

CRN: 21703

Description:

This seminar foregrounds two related developments in critical disability studies' ongoing field formation: 1) the indispensability of queer and trans thought to contemporary disability theory, activism, and critique and 2) revitalized efforts to think disability historically, including the emergence of

crip historicism, crip historiography, and invitations to “crip the archive.” We will read recent monographs in the field in conversation with field-defining essays and recent writing on disability and method to explore the dynamic relationship among disability studies’ queer, trans, and historiographic commitments in and beyond the United States. Topics will include the disability history of homosexuality; trans medicine in and beyond the clinic; queer and trans health care movements; the racial histories of disability; care labor and the ongoing AIDS crisis; and the queer history of disability arts. Potential authors will include Jules Gill-Peterson, Marty Fink, Katie Batza, Mel Chen, Jess Whatcott, Camille Owens, Patrick McKelvey, Regina Kunzel, Jenifer Barclay, Stefanie Hunt-Kennedy, and Julie Minich.

GSWS CROSS-LISTED COURSES

These courses count toward GSWS graduate certificate requirements as cross-listed courses (which really means courses that have the GSWS attribute in PeopleSoft). If you know of a course coming up that seems to be significantly GSWS-related and isn’t on this list, please contact Laura Lovett (LLL49@pitt.edu)

COURSE: EFOP 3809: Gender, Sexuality and Women’s Studies in Higher Education

Instructor: Linda DeAngelo

Meets:

CRN: 31652

Description:

This course explores contemporary theories and perspective of gender and sexuality and the ways in which these theories can be applied to scholarship aimed at creating inclusive and justice-oriented programs, policies, advising strategies, and environments in higher education. Adopting a critical perspective, possible areas to be addressed in the course may include advanced gender and sexuality identity development for college students, LGBTQ+ topics, trans* and gender non-binary topics, gender inequities in higher education, gender and sexuality policy issues, and/or intersectionality.

COURSE: ENGFLM 2452/FMST2152 Film History/Theory 2

Instructor: Neepa Majumdar

Meets: Monday 6-9:50 407 Cathedral of Learning

CRN: 31387

This seminar will focus on the history and theory of cinema from 1960 to the present. While we will discuss individual theorists and historians, we also will pay special attention to historical and theoretical debates within film studies. We will explore these debates through major film journals, theorists, filmmakers, and film movements. The focus will be three-fold: (1) formal analysis of film texts in their historical context; (2) the technological and sociocultural history of cinema; and (3) philosophical questions pertaining to cinema as a medium and its relation to technological change, ideology, perception, and gender, sexual, and racial identities and practices. Each week's readings will be designed to stimulate discussion in more than one of these three areas. One of the goals of the course is to catch up on the major theoretical interventions of the past two decades and to this end, we will spend the last quarter of the semester with books and articles that students will choose from a list of award-winning or otherwise influential recent work.

COURSE: PIA 2507 Human Rights and Social Change

Instructor: Lisa Alfredson

Meets: Friday 12-3, Posvar 3431

Description:

This course explores the special nature of rights-based change and provides students with the theoretical foundations and the analytical and practical skills to pursue human rights work internationally. Human rights are anchored in core values of individual dignity, empowerment, and social responsibility. We engage with human rights through an interdisciplinary approach, learning how civil society actors promote rights-based social change by utilizing and adapting international human rights laws and norms within diverse socio-cultural contexts, and through local to transnational political processes. Students learn to apply rights-based analysis to social and policy problems in international contexts, including rights violations by states, the private sector, and society; to propose human rights solutions; to assess processes of rights-based social change; and to make recommendations about how to move the process forward, focusing on the role of individuals and civil society actors including NGOs, INGOs, and transnational networks. Questions we consider include: In what ways can individual human rights help to solve chronic domestic problems worldwide? To what extent can international human rights be adapted to suit diverse cultural contexts and developing countries? How do domestic and international civil society actors claim and even shape human rights? Though what mechanisms can they change social norms and behaviors and persuade states and violators to comply with human rights laws? To what extent does civil society strength explain compliance gaps? What are the obstacles to achieving human rights, and how can they be overcome? Human rights topics we consider include poverty and hunger, gender violence, health and disability, forced migration, rights of dependent populations, indigenous and environmental rights. Expertise in human rights and pathways for rights-based change is valuable for careers in NGOs and other social change organizations, and in public service careers more generally.

classes on gender topics:

Sept. 15. Establishing Cross-cultural Legitimacy & Efficacy. Case study: FGM.

Sept. 22. Supporting, conflicting, & emerging rights. Case study: Reproductive rights & abortion.

Sept. 29. Protecting the vulnerable: intersectional identities and conflicting rights-holders. Case Study:
Health/Disability - The Ashely Treatment

Oct 20. Human Rights Compliance and Domestic Human Rights Change in Theory: The Spiral Model.

Case Study: Sexual politics and human rights.