Sociology of Sexuality
SOCIOL 476-0-20
GNDR_ST 490-0–20

Northwestern University
Fall 2015

Professor Héctor Carrillo
Room: Parkes Hall 222
Monday 1-3:50 PM
Office hours: Th 10:30-11:30 AM or by appointment; 1808 Chicago Ave., Room 101

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This graduate seminar asks the following questions: What do we learn about society by studying sexuality? What do we learn about sexuality by studying society? We will focus on sociological approaches to studying sexuality and link sexuality studies to broader sociological questions about culture, social interaction, social inequality, globalization, social movements, science, health, and public policy. We will explore various theoretical and methodological approaches that have been used in sociological studies of sexuality—including those that guide sexuality-related analyses of meanings and identities, practices and behaviors, politics, power, relationships, population movement, collective identities and social movements, and morality and social control.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
Students will be expected to:

• Do all required readings prior to each class session and participate in class discussion.

• Submit a term paper electronically and in hard copy (20-25 pages in length) by 1:00 PM on Monday, December 7. You must get my approval of your proposed topic by submitting a short written description electronically by no later than Friday, October 23 and meeting with me individually soon thereafter. Include an initial bibliography with your description. The bibliography for the term paper must expand beyond the readings for the seminar. The paper can be on a topic of your choice, but it is expected to be a sociological paper that relies on concepts and theories discussed in the seminar.

• Circulate discussion questions in advance of one or two seminar sessions during the quarter. These questions must be posted by 5:00 pm on the Sunday before class. A sign-up sheet will be circulated.

• Read weekly posted discussion questions before class and be prepared to discuss them.

• Make sure that your own submitted questions are addressed during our discussion of the readings.
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

Grading: You will earn a grade by completing the following assignments:

Term paper 75% of the final grade
Class participation and discussion questions 25% of the final grade

Attendance Policy: You are expected to attend class seminars on a regular basis.

Syllabus is Subject to Change: This syllabus and schedule are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to check whether any announcements were made while you were absent.

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is fundamental for this course and plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Please review the Graduate School’s policy on academic integrity at http://www.tgs.northwestern.edu/studentsvcs/ethics/.

Accessibility: Any student with a documented disability needing accommodations is requested to speak to the Accesible NU Center: http://www.northwestern.edu/accessiblenu/about-us/our-office/evanston-campus/index.html. Please also speak with me as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first two weeks of class). All discussions will remain confidential.

SCHEDULE AND READINGS:

I will post articles and individual book chapters on Canvas as PDFs. You will need to buy the books by Foucault, Ghaziani, Bernstein, Hoang, and Carrillo, all of which are also available at the NU library (the Ghaziani book is also available electronically at the NU library website).

Class 1 – September 21: Foundations


Class 2 – September 28: The Social Construction of Sexuality: Sexual Scripts and Sexual Fields


Also Recommended:

Class 3 – October 5: Foucault and Queer Theory in Sociology


Also recommended:

Class 4 – October 12: Sexual Rights, Collective Identities, and Social Movements


*Also Recommended:*


**Class 5 – October 19: Sexuality, Law, and Regulation**


*Also recommended:*


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**Class 6 – October 26: Sexuality, Place, and Space**


*Also recommended:*


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**Class 7 – November 2: The Political Economy of Sexuality**


*Also recommended:*


Class 8 – November 9: Sexuality, Global Capitalism, Class, and Race


*Also recommended:*


Class 9 – November 16: Globalization and Sexual Cultures


*Also recommended:*


Espiritu, Yen Le. 2001. “‘We Don't Sleep around Like White Girls Do’: Family, Culture, and Gender in Filipina American Lives.” *Signs* 26, no. 2: 415-440.

**Class 10 – November 23: The Forgotten Topics: Eroticism, Passion, and the Sexual Moment**


*Also Recommended:*


**December 7 – Term paper due by 1:00 PM**