**Sociology of Sexuality**

**SOCIOL 476-0-20**  
**GNDR_ST 490-0–20**  

Northwestern University  
Fall 2011

Professor Héctor Carrillo  
Room: Parkes Hall 222  
Wednesday 2:00 to 5:00 PM  
Office hours: T 11AM-12PM and Th 4-5 PM

**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 3:00 PM on Monday, December 5.

  You must get my approval of your proposed topic by submitting a short written description electronically by no later than Friday, October 21 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.

- Circulate discussion questions in advance of one or two seminar sessions during the semester. These questions must be posted by 5:00 pm on the Tuesday 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:
In this class 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 directly to the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) (847-467-5530) and the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first two weeks of class). All discussions will remain confidential.

Other Policies: Turn off your pager and cell phones during class.

SCHEDULE AND READINGS:

You must buy the following four books:


The rest of the required readings will be available in PDF format through Blackboard.
Class 1 – September 21: Foundations


Class 2 – September 28: The Social Construction of Sexuality


Also Recommended:


Class 3 – October 5: Eroticism, Intimacy, and the Sexual Moment


Also Recommended:


Class 4 – October 12: Foucault and Queer Theory in Sociology


Also recommended:


Class 5 – October 19: Adopting Individual Sexual Identities


Also Recommended:


**Class 6 – October 26: Sexual Rights, Collective Identities, and Social Movements**


*Also Recommended:*

Class 7 – November 2: Social Change through Politics, Policy, and Legislation


*Also recommended:*


Class 8 – November 9: The Political Economy of Sexuality


*Also recommended:*


Class 9 – November 16: Intersectionality: Gender, Race, Class, and Sexuality


Also recommended:


Bowleg, Lisa. 2008.“When Black + Lesbian + Woman ≠ Black Lesbian Woman: The Methodological Challenges of Qualitative and Quantitative Intersectionality Research.” *Sex Roles* 59:312–325

Class 10 – November 23: Sexual Globalization, Migration, 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.

December 5 – Term paper due by 3:00 PM