CULS 5206 Gender, Love and Sexuality in Intercultural Studies

This course aims at enhancing consciousness of the variations among humans in their sexualities and more accepting of individuals with sexualities different than your own. To accomplish this we will examine a number of variations with a sympathetic perspective without regard to their acceptability within the current cultural perspectives of our society. Students are encouraged to examine their sexuality in both critical and sympathetic ways incorporating the insights gained in the course.

We will think critically about our conceptions of love and sexuality are shaped by gender beliefs, attitudes, behavior, relationships and ethical responsibilities rather than confined to a biological and universal essence of human nature. We will examine current norms relating to sexuality and their development and then critique them from a variety of perspectives including historical, philosophical, psychological and cultural. Several topics, such as sexual identity and the lesbian and gay movement, gender and the second wave feminist movement, pornography and sex work, and the body and its varieties of love and sexuality will be discussed.

Objectives:

- To question implicit assumptions about the nature and structure of certain kinds of gender, love and sexuality that are taken for granted as the norm.
- To understand how cultural critics analyze the institution of the hegemonic pattern of gender, love and sexuality.
- To examine the function of the love and sexuality as an institution by analyzing gender, family roles, divisions of labor, ethnicity, race and class.

Course Content:

1. Introduction

2. Motherhood and Citizenship
3. **Civilization and gender**

4. **Conflicts in Feminisms I: Pornography**

5. **Conflicts in Feminisms II: Feminist Theory**

6. **Body as a Battlefield I: Sexual Violence**

7. **Body as a Battlefield II: Sexual Liberation**

8. **Gender Performativity**

9. **Trans**
10. Thinking Straight

11. Always Neglected... Bisexuality

12. Sexuality as knowledge:

13. Wrap up

**Tutorial**


**Assessment Methods:**
Class Participation 10%
Tutorial presentation 40%
Essay Writing 50%

**Essay Writing:**
English: 4000 words
Chinese: 5000 words

**Due date:**
All assignments should be turned in promptly on the due dates. One full letter grade will be deducted for every day an assignment is late.
**Academic honesty and plagiarism**

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at [http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/](http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/).

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign on the declaration. For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via the plagiarism detection engine VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students’ uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Critical awareness related to issues pertaining to gender, racial, class, and national identities
- Ability in critically analyzing the diversity of values and interests in society
- Inter-cultural sensitivity and respect

**Contact:**

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