

Globalization and Queer Theories

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Course Overview and Objectives:

This course will be an intensive study of the challenges that processes and critiques of globalization pose for the field of queer theorization. Students will be asked to probe the universalizing and homogenizing force of lesbian/gay/bi/trans/queer culture — and of queer theory — as they explore the tension between concepts such as “human rights” and the “right to cultural difference.” In reflecting on a variety of theoretical readings, students will be asked to weigh the differing truth claims of “culture,” “nationality/nationalism,” “gender,” “race,” “religion,” and “sexuality.” In a final paper, students will be expected to advance and defend a specific opinion regarding the positive potentials and conceptual limitations of queer theories in the analysis of global sexual, material, and cultural diversity.

Course Schedule and Readings
10:00-11:30 and 14:00-15:30 each day
May 6 – 14, 2008

Venue: Room 3302

Week One:

May 6: Queer Theories—An Overview
Morning: Hall, *Queer Theories*, Introduction and Chapter One
Afternoon: Hall, *Queer Theories*, Chapters Two and Three

May 7: Globalization, Culture, and Sexual Identity—How They Work
Morning: Tomlinson, *Globalization and Culture*, Chapter Three
Afternoon: Adam et al, “Gay and Lesbian Movements Beyond Borders”

May 8: Sexual Globalization and Its Discontents
Morning: Altman, *Global Sex*, Chapters One and Two
Afternoon: Katherine Gibson/Julie Graham, “Querying Globalization”

May 9: Sexual Globalization and Its Adherents
Morning: Jon Binnie, *Globalization of Sexuality*, Chapters Eight and Nine
Afternoon: Nayan Shah, “Sexuality, Identity, and the Uses of History”

Week Two:

May 13: Disoriented Rainbows
Morning: Drucker, *Different Rainbows*, “Introduction” and “Reinventing Liberation”
Afternoon: Ahmed, *Queer Phenomenology*, “Conclusion”

May 14: The UN Model
Morning: The Yogyakarta Principles, Wrap-up discussion
Afternoon: Professor Hall’s Lecture 12 am. ‘Reading Sexualities.