

CA 191J GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN LATIN AMERICA

INSTRUCTOR: Diane Nelson

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Please note: I check email once a day on most weekdays

Office Hours: Mondays 3:15-5:15
Thursdays 4:30 - 5:30
And by appointment

Protocol: Hours will be posted on my door. I strongly urge you to stop by and sign up for a slot to be sure we see each other and to minimize waiting.

"Anthropology strives to make the strange familiar and the familiar strange."

Folk wisdom

People make gender, but not as they choose.

Karl Marx meets Madonna

Gender and sexuality: are they made or born? Do we "have" "one"? What do "they" have? Are there only two? Is gender political or personal? Is gender the size of certain bodily protuberances? Is it what you do? Is sexuality who or what you sleep with or the names people call you on the street (or behind your back)? Why do Latin Americans dance so much? Are they more sexual and passionate than frigid North Americans? (t.hee!) Why do such stereotypes exist? What do they do? Where is Latin America, anyway? Does it stop at the Rio Grande? Are gender and sexuality in Latin America really different than they are elsewhere? If so, is there anything natural about them?

Acknowledging that it's impossible to deal with all of "Latin America" or all the permutations of gender and sexuality in a one semester class, we nonetheless will make a valiant effort to grapple with such questions by taking a peek at relations among men, women, *cochones*, *machos*, *virgenes*, *Malinches*, *mujeres Mayas*, *travestis*, *Sandinistas*, *gring@s*, *militares*, and other strange and exotic natives of Abya Yala (an indigenous term for these continents we live on and with). Gender and sexuality are strands within complex fabrics of identification and we need to account for national, global, racial, ethnic, economic, colonial, imperial, and political struggles if we are to understand them.

Requirement: An open mind to talking about these issues - realizing that as US anthropologists-in-training we're not just voyeuristically exploring other people's perversions (swerves from what is considered "normal"), but that our own genders and sexualities may start to

feel unfixed, our own notions of "normal" should begin to swerve. Gender and sexuality are potent sites where all kinds of power work. Colonialism and Empire have often justified themselves through "othering" their victims on the basis of their "unnatural" gender or sex practices (where do you think the term missionary position came from?!). The exotic erotic, the noble savage, carry the mirror image of the wild man, the dangerous sexual tropics that must be tamed by the Puritan northerners. We must take care with our own fantasy structures. I hope this class will be dialectical - whenever we look out, making the strange familiar, we must also look in, making the familiar strange. A willingness to play outside the comfort zone and realize what fun it is will be a tremendous asset!



I want every student in this class to feel safe to express yourself (you know you know you got to...), regardless of your point of view, background, physiological makeup or the general popularity or mass media appeal of your stance. To do this however, we need to pledge to each other (this includes me to you) complete respect for each others' viewpoints and the willingness to tell each other when a comment or incident makes us uncomfortable. Please let me know if there's something that's bothering you about the class!

Required Books (in order of appearance)

Eduardo Galeano Century of the Wind

Vanessa Baird The No-Nonsense Guide to Sexual Diversity

Roger Lancaster Life is Hard

Paco Ignacio Taibo II Guevara also known as Che OUT OF PRINT- SEE BELOW

Don Kulick Travesti: Sex, Gender and Culture among Brazilian Transgendered Prostitutes

Except for the Taibo Guevara all these books are available at **The Regulator Bookshop** **720 Ninth St. Durham, NC tel. 919 286-2700 email mail@regbook.com**. I order books through The Regulator because I believe independent bookstores are necessary to democracy (so it's a chance to use your position as consumers for the good of the community). Sadly, Guevara is out of print, but there are plenty of used copies at Abe books or (ick!) Amazon but do plan ahead to make sure you have it. **All of these readings will also be on reserve.**

All other readings are on Blackboard under Course Documents



Required Films

Lucia VC 7617 cass.1 & 2

Father Roy: Inside the School of the Assassins DVD 17308 (please see at Lilly)

Blossoms of Fire VC 9896

Salt of the Earth DVD 3322

Bananas is my Business DVD 264

El Che: Investigating a Legend DVD 2476

Latino VC 11706

Strawberry and Chocolate DVD 2839

Frida Naturaleza Viva (director: Paul Leduc) DVD 3263

(In addition you can also see the Salma Hayek one, it's more narrative DVD 2915)



We will schedule out of class film viewings together because it's a more powerful way to see the film (esp. Lucia, an epic that sets up many of the themes of the class). They will be followed by a short discussion (except for Father Roy, 55 minutes, which I ask you to see on your own at Lilly). All films will be shown in Languages 320. I strongly encourage you to come to the screenings, however, I realize you have busy schedules. If you can't make the communal viewing these will also be on reserve at Lilly library. Please view them in a timely manner for class discussion

Writing Requirements

1. READING NOTES

These are an integral part of the class. **You will write 10 (ten) over the course of the term** that respond to books, articles, or films (except for two required notes you choose what you want to respond to, although only two can deal with films - the rest must be on readings). **THE NOTE MUST COVER ALL THE READINGS ASSIGNED FOR THAT DAY FOR FULL CREDIT.** These notes

READING, WRITING AND PRESENTING CALENDAR

January 13 Introduction - bienvenidos - chu'akch'ik

What are we Talking About when we say Gender and Sexuality in Latin America???

Jan. 18 Galeano selections from Genesis (E-reserve)
Galeano Century of the Wind Class will be divided and each half will read 1/2 of the book. Please choose your three favorite entries with a gender and sexuality theme (remember boys "have" gender too) and be prepared to share them in class
Start 'working' on your GAT

Jan. 20 Bornstein "Gender Aptitude Test" (class hand out)
Steinem "If Men Could Menstruate"
Baird No Nonsense Guide to Sexual Diversity Chapters 1-3, and 8
COSPLAY DAY (come to class dressed as a gender you don't 'normally' identify with)

FILM: LUCIA

Jan. 25 Meisch "Gringas and Otavaleños"
Adams, "Gringas, Ghouls, and Guatemala"
OPTIONAL Nelson "Gringa Self-Fashioning"

Jan. 27 Paz Selections from Labrynth of Solitude
Stolcke "Conquered Women"

REQUIRED READING NOTE DUE TODAY



FILM: FATHER ROY: INSIDE THE SCHOOL OF THE ASSASSINS

Feb 1

Lancaster Life is Hard Chapters:

"The Book and its Title" and

"Subject:Honor, Object: Shame"

Review Galeano pp 19, 62, 68-71, 92, 94-96, 119, 158, 182,

210-212, 235-237, 244-245, 247-250, 269, 275, 278

REQUIRED READING NOTE DUE TODAY

Feb. 3

King, "'There Are No Lesbians Here:' Lesbians, Feminisms, and
Global Gay Formations"

Baird No Nonsense Guide Chapters 4 & 5

Moraga, Selections from Loving in the War Years

Zavella, "Playing with Fire"

OPTIONAL Franco: "La Malinche"

**Gender and Sexuality as Warp to the Weft of Other Strands of Identification: Religion,
Labor, Kinship, Race, Nation, Globalization, War**

DURING THIS WEEK PERFORM THE PRACTICUUM: FLOWING WITH EMBODI/MEANT, "EL PESO DEL
AGUA"

FILM: BLOSSOMS OF FIRE

Feb. 8

Paul "Mastery of Work, Mystery of Sex"

Maynard "Living Under Two Patriarchies"

Village Voice "Pulling the Plug"

Feb. 10

Strongman "Syncretic Religion and Dissident Sexualities"

Chibram-Dernersesian, "I Throw Punches for my Race But I Don't Want
To Be a Man: Writing Us - Chica-nos (Girls, us/Chicanas - Into the
Movement Script" (partial)

Baird No Nonsense Guide Chapter 6

YOU SHOULD HAVE TURNED IN 3 READING NOTES BY TODAY

FILM: SALT OF THE EARTH

Feb. 15 Wilson Selections from Maya Resurgence in Guatemala
Review Galeano pp 104, 149-154, 157, 218-220, 251-252,
255-256, 273

REFLECTION ON THE WEIGHT OF WATER DUE

Feb. 17 Scheper-Hughes Selections from Death Without Weeping

Feb. 22 Stepan Selections from The Hour of Eugenics : Race, Gender, and
Nation in Latin America

DRAFT OF FIRST PAPER DUE IN CLASS FOR PEER REVIEW

Feb. 24 Lancaster Life is Hard Chapters:
"Introduction" and
"The Negro of the Family"

RETURN PEER-REVIEWED PAPERS TO AUTHORS

MONDAY FEBRUARY 28 5:00 PAPERS DUE AT MY OFFICE

March 1 Nelson "Stumped Identities: Body Image, Bodies Politic, and the
Mujer Maya as Prosthetic"

FILM: BANANAS ARE MY BUSINESS

March 3 Sawyer "Bobbitizing Texaco: Dis-membering Corporate Capital
and Re-membering the Nation in Ecuador"
Enloe "Carmen Miranda on my Mind"

HAVE A **GREAT SPRING BREAK!!!**



AAAHHH! You Say You Wanna Revolution...

March 15 Taibo Guevara also known as Che pp 1-110
Galeano 147-149, 159-160, 163, 165-168. 170-171, 173-
177. 180, 191

March 17 Taibo Che pp 110-178 and 251-270
CLASS WILL MEET AT WEST CAMPUS BUS STOP RAIN OR SHINE

FILM: EL CHE: INVESTIGATING A LEGEND

March 22 Chapters 24, 29-30, 32, 35, 40-41, 46-47 and 54-56 & 59
(they're short)

March 24 Randall, Selections from Daughters of Sandino
!st M-26 DECLARATION DUE

Mach 29 Lancaster Life is Hard Chapters
1-4 and read 4 of the pieces in "Some Lives" (you choose)
Conclusion
Chomsky Selections from 9/11

FILM: LATINO

March 31 Castañeda "Guatemalan Macho Oratory"
Espada "The Puerto Rican Dummy and the Merciful Son"
Díaz Selection from Latino Gay Men and HIV

STUDENT PRESENTATION ON READING

April 5 Bunster-Burotto, "Surviving Beyond Fear: Women and Torture in Latin
America"
Lozada "Puerto Rican *Independentistas*: US Citizens or Political
Prisoners?"

Shall we Dance? The Arts and Play of Gender and Sexuality

April-7 Parker Selections from Bodies, Pleasures, Passions
Savigliano "Fragments for a story of tango bodies"
Archetti "Multiple Masculinities: The Worlds of Tango and
Football in Argentina"

STUDENT PRESENTATION ON READING

FILM: FRIDA (PAUL LEDUC)

April 12 Mulvey "Friday Kahlo and Tina Modotti"
Galeano 59-60, 76-77

STUDENT PRESENTATION ON READING

April 14 Kulick Travesti Intro, Ch 1 pp 1-44

April 19 Kulick Travesti pp 44- 134

April 21 Kulick Travesti to end
2nd M-26 DECLARATION DUE

FILM: STRAWBERRY AND CHOCOLATE

April 26 Last class, wrap up

DRAFT OF SECOND PAPER DUE IN CLASS FOR PEER REVIEW

THURSDAY APRIL 28 READING PERIOD EXAM REVIEW

RETURN PEER-REVIEWED PAPERS TO AUTHORS (at the latest)

FINAL EXAM MONDAY MAY 2 7-10 pm

SECOND PAPER DUE during exam