



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of Philosophy

GSXS 305 Lec 01
Topics in Gender and Sexuality: 2SLGBTQ+ Social Change History
Fall 2021
Tuesdays, 5:00 to 7:45 p.m.
Online

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor Name: Joe Kadi

Email: jkadi@ucalgary.ca (please review student-instruction communication guidelines)

Office hours: By appointment.

COURSE DELIVERY INFORMATION FOR THIS ONLINE COURSE

We will meet online and synchronously, 5 to 7:45 p.m. each Tuesday.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of Calgary resides upon the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III. The University of Calgary is situated on land adjacent to where the Bow River meets the Elbow River; the traditional Blackfoot name of this place is "Moh'kins'tsis", which we now call the City of Calgary.

ii' taa'poh'to'p, the Blackfoot name of the University of Calgary's Indigenous Strategy, was bestowed and transferred in ceremony by Kainai Elder Andy Black Water on June 21, 2017. The name signifies a place to rejuvenate and re-energize while on a journey. Traditionally, these places are recognized as safe, caring, restful – and offer renewed energy for an impending journey. In a traditional naming ceremony, transitioning into the new name is a journey of transformation towards self-actualization.

COURSE INFORMATION

Students can find the official course description here:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/womens-studies.html>

Course Description

Members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community have been working for positive social change, in large and small ways, for many decades. This term we will gain insight into some key moments in that social change history, and gain understanding of the ways that oppressed communities work to alter systems and structures. Focusing on Canada and the US from the 1960s onward, we will take some time to study the Stonewall Rebellion of 1969, a

central marker in the collective 2SLGBTQIA+ movement. This three-day Rebellion in New York City's Greenwich Village, in which queer folks fought back against police brutality, is a clear and identifiable moment in social change history.

We will consider questions of history, identity, social change, oppression, and conflict, as we attempt to understand the context during that time; we will examine the hatred and violence faced by 2SLGBTQIA+ people, and the ways this violence was expressed through families, police brutality, the legal system, and homophobic/transphobic perpetrators. We will ask the question: what does it take to bring together an isolated, frightened community, which then organizes, mobilizes, and ends up changing the world?

While understanding what happened decades ago is important, it is equally important to recognize that such social change work did not happen only in the past. To this end, we will learn about present-day social change work happening here in Calgary, in order to gain an appreciation of the kind of activities 2SLGBTQIA+ folks and their allies are engaging in on a regular basis.

PREREQUISITE(S)

There are no prerequisites for this course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

- To understand key issues in the lives of 2SLGBTQIA+ folks, and the lives of marginalized communities.
- To understand history as a contested site.
- To gain knowledge of important historical forces and events.
- To consider gender, race, and sexuality, in both social terms and personal terms.
- To develop critical thinking skills.
- To become a more conscious, self-reflective person.
- To create a vibrant online learning community based on participation and respect.
- To understand what social change is, and how it has impacted, and continues to impact, our world and our lives.

PARTICIPATORY CLASSROOM PHILOSOPHY

Gender and Sexuality Studies courses (GSXS) operate according to a participatory classroom philosophy. Students will be expected to engage with each other and the instructor in a number of ways, whether working synchronously, asynchronously, or in person. Students need to be prepared for an intense learning environment, which may result in feelings of discomfort and vulnerability. In addition, all students are expected to work from our braver space model.

We recognize that these are extraordinary times, with additional stress upon everyone. We ask that communication be done in a timely, detailed, and respectful fashion. We also ask that students familiarize themselves with the details outlined in this course outline, including university regulations governing academic and non-academic misconduct. Lastly, GSXS instructors rely on students to follow our guidelines, and respect our policies.

CITATIONS

It is essential that students read the Citations information in the Content section of D2L.

CONTENT WARNING

Some of the materials and topics in this class may include explicit written or audio-visual content (violence, sexuality, objectionable or illegal conduct). If these materials make you uncomfortable, you are encouraged to speak with the instructor. You will not be exempt from any assigned work but we will work together to accommodate your concerns. This class respects difference and diversity while welcoming thoughtful, critical debate and discussion.

REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS, READINGS AND MATERIALS

Two textbooks are required, and are available at the U of C bookstore:

The Stonewall Reader, edited by The New York Public Library.

Our Past Matters: Stories of Gay Calgary, by Kevin Allen.

Other readings are posted online, on our D2L site. Due to licensing issues, a reading may not be available to you when you want it.

COURSE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

All assignments will be uploaded onto the D2L dropbox. Students must keep electronic copies of their assignments.

****Student Agreement and Participation Pact***, due September 9.

****Queer Cinema Assignment***, due October 15, worth 20 percent.

****Letter Writing Assignment***, due November 5, worth 25 percent.

****Report on Community Activities Assignment***, due November 26, worth 25 percent.

****Final creative project***, due December 14, worth 30 percent.

Queer cinema assignment: 20 percent. Students will view two queer films, and create a blog post that provides relevant information about the two films, and how they connect to our course readings. Queer films can be found in any number of streaming services, in University of Calgary Video Databases, on youtube, and in many other places. Two free streaming services are CBC Gem, and Kanopy, which provides access to several free films each month to anyone who has a Calgary Public Library card. Students will answer these key questions in their blog post:

****Why did you decide to watch the two films you chose?***

****What important pieces of queer social change history do they include?***

****In what ways are these films connected?***

****Connect our course readings to the films, by drawing from three of the authors from our course readings.***

****State your personal response to the films.***

****End your blog with a question that these films, and this piece of writing, has brought up for you.***

Due on or before October 15, 11:59 p.m.

Letter writing assignment: 25 percent. Students will choose to write a letter to one of the people whose stories we study this term. Thus, students may choose to write to any of the individuals or groups who contributed to *The Stonewall Reader*, or from the other authors we read, including Beth Brant, Joshua Whitehead, Samra Habib, Sidrah Ahmed-Chan, Kevin Allen. In this letter students will analyze the impact this person has had on their life. Key questions to consider before writing the letter: What did you learn from studying the life of this person? How was your own life impacted by studying the life of this person? Did you appreciate what this person did, in terms of social change work, or did you have major disagreements with what this person did? Why? Were there connections between this person's experiences and your own experiences? How did this person's life help you make sense of your own identity regarding issues of gender and/or sexuality? The letter gives you the chance to engage directly with the person in question. This letter falls into the category of a personal reflection assignment. This means that it combines the strength of good academic writing (well-organized, well-written work that draws extensively on course material and shows the reader that you are able to cite course material properly and explain it in your own words) with reflections on your own life and your ability to make connections. It is written in the form of a personal letter (Dear Sidrah, I am writing to you to talk about what I have learned about your life after reading your essay about being a Muslim person who is also part of the 2SLGBTQ+ community.....). The letter will show the depth of your critical thinking skills and the ways that you have grasped the depths of our course material. The essay will be five to seven double-spaced pages.

Due on or before November 5, 11:59 p.m.

Community Activities Assignment: 25 percent. Students will attend (either in-person, or online) two community activities during fall term. We are fortunate to have a number of queer social change groups in Calgary, which regularly offer events, as do the Q Centre and the Women's Resource Centre on campus. Online events – from different parts of Canada, or from other countries – are another option. Look for talks, panel discussions, films, musical events, and so forth: students will attend two events of their own choosing, and write up a report (see report template on D2L) describing the events and explaining how their understanding of queer social change history, and queer social change generally, was deepened. *Due on or before November 26, 11:59 p.m.*

Final project: 35 percent. This final project gives each student a chance to reflect on what they have learned, what insights they have gained, and what they will take with them as the course ends. It will be done in a creative format, such as a video, a 'zine, a song, a visual art project, a children's book, a series of blogs.

Final project due on or before December 14, 11:59 p.m.

More detailed information for each assignment can be found on our D2L site, under 'Content,' and then 'Assignments'.

Exams

There is no registrar-scheduled final exam for this course.

GRADING SYSTEM:

This course uses a combination of letter and number grades, according to the chart below. The university's Undergraduate Grading System is available here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>.

In most cases where the final letter grade for the course is less than 1% from the next higher grade, the instructor will round-up. This course does not use a bell curve – whatever mark you get is it.

Percentage	Letter	Usually Graded	Point	Description
96 + %	A+	97	4.0	Outstanding
90 – 95.9 %	A	92	4.0	Excellent
85 – 89.9 %	A–	87	3.7	Approaching Excellent
80 – 84.9 %	B+	82	3.3	Exceeding Good
75 – 79.9 %	B	77	3.0	Good
70 – 74.9 %	B–	72	2.7	Approaching Good
65 – 69.9 %	C+	67	2.3	Exceeding Satisfactory
60 – 64.9 %	C	62	2.0	Satisfactory
55 – 59.9 %	C–	57	1.7	Approaching Satisfactory
53 – 54.9 %	D+	54	1.3	Marginal Pass
50 – 52.9 %	D	52	1.0	Minimal Pass
0 – 49.9 %	F	0	0	Did Not Meet Requirements

Policy for In-Person and/or Synchronous Assessments and Absences

As per the University of Calgary Calendar G.1.1., a student who is absent from an in-person assessment in a course will receive a grade of zero on the assessment. This policy will remain the same for synchronous assessments scheduled to happen during a zoom meeting, such as a class presentation. If a student communicates with the instructor and explains the circumstances around the absence, the instructor may transfer the percentage weight for the assessment to another component of the course (such as the final examination), set another assessment, or make other alternative arrangements. An instructor will normally make this decision based on the information provided by the student. The instructor may ask for supporting documentation to confirm an absence. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note. For more information on Supporting Documentation, see <https://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

If you complete less than 30% of all assignments, you may receive a final grade of F. If you complete all assignments but receive more than two Fs, you may receive a final grade of F.

It is the student’s responsibility to keep a copy of all assignments and to follow all instructions for completion and submission in case of loss by any cause.

GSXS PROGRAM COURSE POLICIES

Student Conduct

A Student Code of Conduct Agreement, available on D2L, is part of this course. It is a required component of the class (see “Engagement”). Expectations for online course engagement are detailed in D2L, which monitors student use.

Responsibility for fulfilling the requirements for all aspects of the course resides with the student. The instructor will not give out lecture notes, repeat information, nor provide replacement copies of material provided during regular class meetings.

Group work is a necessary component of a participatory classroom because it develops critical thinking and social skills. There will be a variety of assignments and engagement requirements that will demand your time and consideration of others.

Students must adhere to the Principles of Conduct, both Academic and Non-Academic, as outlined in the University of Calgary Calendar: ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html

Course Technology

Students are responsible for their own technological equipment (hardware, software, and connectivity) and must feel confident using a variety of programs and portals. The instructor does not provide technical support. If you are experiencing any technical issues, you must go through ucalgary.ca/it. All work must be completed using the online technologies designated by the instructor. Failure to complete any assignments by the deadline and according to the instructions due to technological error on the student’s part is not sufficient grounds for an extension or re-take, and may result in a grade of F (0).

Students are eligible for an Office 365 subscription with their U of C IT account/email with which they may install and activate the Microsoft Office program suite on up to 5 devices. They may download the Microsoft Office installation file by signing into their email online at <https://office365.ucalgary.ca> and selecting "Install Office Apps" from their main Office 365 portal page. Once the Microsoft Office suite is installed, they may activate the license by signing in with their @ucalgary.ca email.

A D2L portal has been set up for this course that allows for group correspondence, course announcements, class materials, assignment submissions and grading, and other forms of communication. Students are expected to check D2L at least once a week for any updates. D2L only uses @ucalgary email addresses.

Other platforms, portals, and programs may be required to complete course work. Students must have the capability to stream video.

During synchronous meetings, we encourage students to turn on their video interface, and avoid distractions (including technologies and screens that are not relevant to the course) in order to facilitate group connections. At the same time, we are aware that there are circumstances that do not always make this possible. We trust students to make the right decision for themselves in keeping with the Braver Space Guidelines.

Student-Instructor Communication

Appropriate communication procedures are described in detail in the Student Code of Conduct Agreement. The instructor’s preferred means of communication is first by

scheduled office hours (Zoom), then by a pre-arranged meeting time (only if the professor's office hours conflict with another course), and then by email.

The instructor will endeavor to respond to emails within five business days of receiving the message. *If the student emails a question that is fully addressed by the syllabus, Student Code of Conduct, or posted on D2L, the instructor will not reply.* If you don't receive a response within five business days, it means you can find the answer yourself and are expected to do so.

The instructor may respond to your email query with the request that you meet in person.

Please note, that the university's regular business hours are 8:30-4:30, Monday through Friday and excludes recognized holidays. See the Academic Schedule for more details: [ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html](https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html)

If you have concerns about a received grade, before contacting the instructor, you must do the following:

- Review all rubrics, assignment instructions, and supporting documentation
- Be prepared to answer why you received the grade you did based on the materials listed above
- Review the university's policy on reassessment:
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Grade reassessment needs to be discussed in a meeting with the instructor (not over email). Lastly, keep in mind that the reappraisal of graded term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same.

Braver Space Guidelines

"Braver Space" principles recognize that everyone brings different resiliencies and capacities to a group setting. We must all bring our personal bravery into the course space, and be mindful of what that means specifically to us. This does not mean sharing or participating in a way that violates personal boundaries (yours or another person's), nor cajoling others into participating in ways that are not conducive to their personal bravery. It means *being respectful, self-aware, and mindful of the classroom dynamic and your place in it.*

Respect difference and diversity while welcoming thoughtful, critical debate and discussion. No one person's right to their beliefs may supersede another person's right to security and dignity.

When in a course dedicated to social justice education, conflict will happen. That is part of a healthy, dynamic, questioning space of learning and discovery. You are encouraged to hold on to your own personal beliefs, but recognize that there will be differences of opinion and experience.

A university course holds high standards of research, evidence, and analytical proof. Students need to engage attentively, respectfully, and critically to the evidence provided in class lectures, readings, discussions, and other materials.

Some of the materials and topics may include explicit content (violence; sexuality; profanity; blasphemy; objectionable or illegal conduct). If you feel any materials may cause you distress or severe discomfort, you are encouraged to speak with the professor and/or to take measures to ensure that you feel braver in the course. You will not be exempt from any assigned work, but we will work together to accommodate your concerns.

Do not make assumptions about other people's identities and life experiences. That includes (but is not limited to) race, gender, sexuality, physical ability, mental and emotional well-being, spirituality or religiosity, age, citizenship status, and reproductive capabilities.

Recognize that language is a powerful tool in social justice education. It also changes as new issues and greater clarity develop. If you need to correct language use, do so respectfully; if you are corrected, accept that correction respectfully.

Becoming self-aware is a continual process, and everyone is at a different point on their personal journey. Individuals make mistakes. Our assumption in this course is that we are all moving forward with our best intentions. If someone says something that may be construed to be problematic, we will raise questions and/or concerns about the language, not about the person.

Make an effort to speak from the position of "I" (not the generalized "you" or "people") and to clarify any statements you make, using verifiable evidence and experience. Making a sweeping judgment on a class or group of people is unacceptable.

Address people without assuming their gender. Some ways to do this:

- Don't refer to groups as guys, ladies, women, men, etc. Instead, use gender-neutral terms like "folks," "all," "everyone," etc.
- Refer to individuals whose gender has not been disclosed to you in gender-neutral ways such as "the person who said..."

Address people using the gender pronouns they have indicated for themselves. Offer your gender pronouns to others to make it a braver space to talk about gender pronouns. Some gender pronouns include, but are not limited to:

- they/them/theirs
- she/her/hers
- ze/hir/hirs
- he/him/his
- ey/em/eirs

Similarly, if you are unsure about any aspect of a person's identity and how they would prefer to be addressed, ask respectfully. This can apply to Indigeneity, race or ethnicity, faith or spirituality, physical or mental ability, or other vectors of their identity. When speaking in more general terms, if you are corrected, accept the correction graciously. If you are questioned about your choice of general or self-identification, provide a succinct and respectful explanation.

Provide discrete and succinct content warnings if you will be talking about topics that may be traumatic for some and the content is not already apparent. Examples of such topics include abuse, violence, addiction, suicide, mental health, transphobia/homophobia/other

forms of discriminatory behaviours. An example of wording could be, “Please note that there will be (x) content in my discussion.”

Respect your own and others’ physical, mental, and emotional boundaries. Please speak up in a respectful way if you are uncomfortable, seek support if you want/need it, and engage in self-care as required, while still maintaining your commitment to the participatory classroom.

Review and adhere to guidelines for online communication in both synchronous and asynchronous settings as provided by the instructor.

If you feel that you need more support than can be provided by the course or the instructor, you are encouraged to take advantage of some of these resources:

- *SU Student Wellness Services*
ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre 403-210-9355 / 403-266-4357
- *Alberta Mental Health Help Line*
albertahealthservices.ca/findhealth/Service.aspx?id=6810&serviceAtFacilityID=1047134 1-877-303-2642
- *Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse Hotline*
calgarycasa.com 403-237-5888

Trained peer supporters are also available on campus

- *Women’s Resource Centre*
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/womens-centre/home>
4th Floor, MacEwan Student Centre, in The Loft
- *Q Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity*
su.ucalgary.ca/programs-services/student-services/the-q-centre
2nd Floor, MacEwan Hall, near The Den
- *Faith and Spirituality Centre*
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/faith-spirituality>
3rd Floor, MacEwan Student Centre
- *Writing Symbols Lodge*
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/writing-symbols/home>
3rd Floor, MacEwan Student Centre

For more resources, you are encouraged to consult the Campus Mental Health Strategy:
ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth

If you have a serious concern about the instructor’s conduct, you may speak in full confidence to the Department of Philosophy phildept@ucalgary.ca. Please note, the Women’s Studies program is administered by the Department of Philosophy.

About the GSXS Program

The Program offers Major, Minor, and Honours undergraduate degrees. Housed in the Department of Philosophy, the program is dedicated to offering students a feminist social justice classroom where we can bravely explore issues relating to gender and sexual equity and diversity from many perspectives. For more information, contact the program

coordinator (gsxsprog@ucalgary.ca) and check out our listing on the Faculty of Arts website: arts.ucalgary.ca/womens-studies.

The University of Calgary has a number of student clubs and campus centres dedicated to issues of gender and sexual equity and diversity. Here are links to their Facebook sites (please note that the instructors are often members of these social media sites):

Consent Awareness and Sexual Education Club
Faith and Spirituality Centre
Writing Symbols Lodge
Queers on Campus
Q: The SU Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity
Women in Leadership Club
Women's Resource Centre
Women's Studies and Feminism Club

The Gender and Sexuality Studies program is administered by the Department of Philosophy. The GSXS Program Coordinator is Joe Kadi, and the Head of the Department of Philosophy is Nicole Wyatt (nicole.wyatt@ucalgary.ca).

Effective July 1, 2021, the program's name will be changed to Gender and Sexuality Studies, under the course designation of GSXT. Over this curricular year, we will be adjusting to this change. It will not affect your degree or course standing. If you have any questions, ask your instructor or the program coordinator.

DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY, AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Academic Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures. The student accommodation policy can be found at ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

Time limit and extended deadline accommodations can be set by D2L. Therefore it is imperative that students provide instructors with the appropriate documentation at the beginning of term.

Absence or Missed Course Assessments

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms

other than make-up tests or assignments. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/n-1.html

Student Support and Resources

Full details and information about the following resources can be found at ucalgary.ca/Registrar/registration/course-outlines

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

Academic Advising

If you are a student in the Faculty of Arts, you can speak to an academic advisor in the Arts Students' Centre about course planning, course selection, registration, program progression and more. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for contact details and information regarding common academic concerns.

If you have questions regarding registration, please email Rebecca Lesser (Undergraduate Program Administrator phildept@ucalgary.ca).

Writing Assessment and Support

The assessment of all written assignments—and, to a lesser extent, written exam responses—is based in part on writing skills. This includes correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.), as well as general clarity and organization. Research papers must include a thorough and accurate citation of sources. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services for assistance. For more information, and other services offered by the Student Success Centre, please visit ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Responsible Use of D2L

Important information and communication about this course will be posted on D2L (Desire2Learn), UCalgary's online learning management system. Visit ucalgary.service-now.com/it for how-to information and technical assistance.

All users of D2L are bound by the guidelines on the responsible use of D2L posted here: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/commitment-to-the-responsible-use-of-d2l/>.

The instructor may establish additional specific course policies for D2L, Zoom, and any other technologies used to support remote learning. Instructional materials, including audio or video recordings of lectures, may not be posted outside of the course D2L site. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the [University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy](#).

Academic Misconduct/Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is as an extremely serious academic offense, the penalty for which will be an F on the assignment or an F in the course, and possibly a disciplinary sanction such as probation, suspension, or expulsion. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about referencing, please consult your instructor.

University Policies

The Instructor Intellectual Property Policy is available at ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/Intellectual%20Property%20Policy.pdf

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, as outlined at ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip. The instructor (or TA) must return graded assignments *directly* to the student UNLESS written permission to do otherwise has been provided.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html).