Course Description
This course explores historical and contemporary scholarship that employs ethnographic approaches to address the discursive construction of sexuality. It also examines how the discipline of anthropology has been constitutively shaped by engagements with questions of sexuality. Readings and course discussions will address questions of intersectionality and sexuality, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, labor, religion, colonialism, and globalization.

Course Requirements
1) You must attend the weekly seminar and have prepared for it by doing the assigned reading ahead of time. You must participate actively in the seminar discussions. Eighteen percent of your grade will be based on participation. If you cannot make a course meeting, please do not send an email explaining why: simply do not show up. (Normally, you should email professors when you are going to miss a class, but since this course has graded précises keyed to attendance, it is not necessary for this course.) The seminar discussions will follow three basic guidelines:

*Generosity.* With a ten-week course there simply is not time for substandard texts. All readings selected for the syllabus are insightful and theoretically innovative. Critiquing aspects of the readings is fine, but if you find yourself rejecting an argument in toto, this indicates your reading is insufficiently generous.

*Provisionality.* You are allowed (indeed, encouraged) to think out loud, say something and then take it back, and generally speak in a provisional manner, knowing that those around you will be patient, supportive, and slow to take offense.

*Community.* Some individuals are quite comfortable speaking at length: this is desirable, but the instructor reserves the right to ask persons to wrap up their comments, or to solicit comments from persons who have not yet participated in any particular course meeting.

2) You must do eight précises (every course meeting but the first meeting and one of your choosing). The précis will take the form of a one-page generous, engaged, and critical commentary on the readings for that week, and will be graded on a three-point scale. Précises will be circulated in class to learn how others are reacting to the texts. Please note the following rules, as there will be no exceptions:

Précises must be turned in within the first five minutes of class in triplicate.
Précis can never be turned in at a later date.

You must attend any course meeting in which you turn in a précis (someone else may not turn them in for you).

3) You must write a course paper, which is due on Friday, December 11, at 5pm. It must be emailed by this time as a single Word document (not pdf) to tboellst@uci.edu.

The paper must be between 5,000 and 8,000 words in length, inclusive of title, endnotes, and references (I will use the “word count” function of Word to confirm this).

The paper must cite and draw upon course texts and discussions in an extensive manner, and should also engage in some way with your own research interests. It must use American Anthropological Association formatting (see http://www.aaanet.org/publications/guidelines.cfm) and include full bibliographic references to course texts as they are used. You may bring in outside readings, but it is not necessary to do so. I recommend that you discuss your paper’s argument with me during the course meetings or in office hours.

Your course grade will be calculated as follows: participation 18 percent; each précis 4 percent (for a total of 32 percent); course paper 50 percent.

REQUIRED BOOKS (placed on reserve)


REQUIRED ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS


Course Schedule

week one, 9/29. introduction.

week two, 10/6.
1) Bronislaw Malinowski, *The Sexual Life of Savages in North-Western Melanesia.*

week three, 10/13.
1) E. E. Evans-Pritchard, *Sexual Inversion among the Azande.*
2) Edmund Leach, *Virgin Birth.*
4) Jane F. Collier, Michelle Z. Rosaldo, and Sylvia Yanagisako, *Is There a Family?*

week four, 10/20.
3) Gayle Rubin, *Studying Sexual Subcultures.*

week five, 10/27.
2) Deborah Elliston, *Erotic Anthropology.*
4) David Valentine, *I Went to Bed with My Own Kind Once.*

week six, 11/3.

week seven, 11/10.
2) Robert Lorway, *Defiant Desire in Namibia.*
3) Cymene Howe, *Spectacles of Sexuality.*

week eight, 11/17.
1) Martin Manalansan, *Global Divas.*

week nine, 11/24.
1) Megan Sinnott, *Toms and Dees.*
2) Naisargi Dave, *To Render Real the Imagined.*

week ten, 12/8. (NOTE DIFFERENT DAY)
1) Matti Bunzl, *Symptoms of Modernity.*
2) Tom Boellstorff, *Queer Studies Under Ethnography's Sign.*

Course paper due Friday 12/13, 5pm, emailed to tboellst@uci.edu.