**QUEER ANTHROPOLOGY: THEORY AND METHOD**  
ANTH 515 MM  
**QUEER THEORY AND ETHNOGRAPHY**  
GWS 581 MM  
Thursdays, 12-2:50 pm  
Noyes Laboratory 162

Professor Martin F. Manalansan IV  
Office: Davenport Hall 387  
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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1-3 pm

**Course Description:**

This seminar examines the history and continuing legacy of LGBT studies and queer theory in the anthropological imagination. Ethnographic studies and theoretical essays are read to engage with enduring questions and new inquiries about issues of sex and gender in relation to race, class, ethnicity, nationalism and globalization. This class will explore the limits and possibilities of Queer Anthropology in terms of research and activism, as well as the tensions between disciplinarity and inter-disciplinarity.

Part of the intellectual strains and pressures that may arise from the readings and discussions will be from the seemingly antipodal nodes of theory and method. What does it mean “to queer ethnography”? Is queerness and the professional stranger an inevitable tandem? What is the relationship of method to theory and vice versa? We will explore the grounded queer experiences of ethnographic fieldwork, savor the sensorial delights of the texts, and engage with the various spatial and temporal attunements in the various works of contemporary queer ethnographic scholarship in the 21st century and reflect on its future.

**Requirements:**

1. **Seminar Paper** (15 + pages approximately)  
   Topic and format to be discussed with the professor through a scheduled tutorial (see #2).  
   50%

2. **Seminar participation**  
   Including a class presentation on a specific week’s readings and a scheduled tutorial. Seminars are meant to be arenas for active engagements and debate about ideas. While the practice reading is instrumental in graduate education, the commensal aspect of seminar provide numerous skills and opportunities such as creating social and intellectual collegiality and camaraderie and promote skills in verbal presentation and professional composure. The scheduled tutorial is a 20-30 minute individual discussion with the professor about the seminar project topic as well as topics of interest.  
   25%

3. **Weekly Reading Notes**  
   These are exercises in synthesizing your thoughts about the week’s readings. You can use you notes as prompts for you own participation in the seminar discussions. These notes are due on the day of the seminar during the class period. A sheet containing suggestions on how to format and organize your reading notes will be passed around the class and will also be posted on the compass course website.  
   25%
Required Books:

Books are available in the bookstores. Individual essays from journals and anthologies will be available on the compass course website.


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SEMINAR SCHEDULE:

**August 28**  
*Orientations*

**September 4**

*Exploring the House of Queer Anthropology: Queries about History and the re-making of Ethnography*


September 11  
(Musser and Sanya)

More Queer Excursions: Ethnographic Method – Erotics, Techniques, Contingencies

   e. Boellstorff, Tom. “Queer Techno: Two Theses on Methodology and Queer Studies.”
   f. Gorman-Murray, Andrew et. al. “Queering Communication in Research Relationships: A conversation about Subjectivities, Methods and Ethics.”


September 18  
(Easterday and Fields)


September 25  
(Atienza)


October 8  
(Arjona and Trajanyi)

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES CONFERENCE ROOM, 6-9 PM

October 9  (Linear)


October 16  (Rose and Sauls)


October 23  (Coyle and Aristizabal)


October 30  (Groundwater)


November 6  TUTORIALS AND MEETINGS (to be scheduled with professor)

November 13  (Leone and Prutzer)


November 20  TUTORIALS AND MEETINGS (to be scheduled with professor)

November 25 – 28  Thanksgiving Break

December 10  ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES CONFERENCE ROOM, 6-9 PM

2. Manalansan, Martin IV F. (n.d.) “Queer Metrics: Towards an Anthropology of Small Things.” (manuscript)