GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER STUDIES (GLQS)

GLQS 100  Introduction to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (GLBTQ) Studies (3 credits)
The course introduces students to current research in the study of same-sex individuals, relationships and communities and the social construction framework for analyzing contemporary gendered identities, sexualities, and the discourses and practices that maintain them. Meets Gen Ed - Social Science Perspectives.

GLQS 201  Queer Identities in a Transforming World: The Trouble with Normal (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GLQS 100. Building on lessons from the required GLQS 100 course, this course will explore ‘trans’ and ‘queer’ as positions that allow for shifting identities. We will engage in a critical analysis of gender, sexuality, race, class, and ecology, and synthesize methodologies from various disciplines in the humanities to gain a broad intersectional, multicultural, and historical understanding of the term “queer”—and of queer and transgender studies. We will explore issues such as gender performance, the third sex, transgender issues, intersex issues, the political underpinnings and the transgressive nature of ‘queer’, the history of queer politics (from AIDS activism to the gay marriage issue), schisms within the LGBTQ political movements, queers and disability, and issues of representation within the queer community.

GLQS 301  Queer Theory (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GLQS 100 and GLQS 201. The political and academic appropriation of the term ‘queer’ over the last several years has marked a shift in the study of sexuality from a focus on supposedly essential categories as ‘gay’ and ‘lesbian’ to more fluid or non-heteronormative notions of sexual identity. Yet queer is a category still in the process of formation. This course provides a clear and concise explanation of queer theory, tracing it as part of an intriguing history of same-sex love over the last century. Blending insights from prominent theorists such as Judith Butler, Tim Dean, and David Halperin, among others, while incorporating provocative and highly contentious debates around sadomasochism, fetishism, and transgenderism, we argue that queer theory’s challenge is to create new ways of thinking, not only about fixed sexual identities such as heterosexual and homosexual, but also about other supposedly essential notions such as sexuality and gender.

GLQS 302  Special Topics in Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Studies (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): GLQS 201 or RELG 221 or EDFD 220 or HUMN 201 or HUMN 202 or HUMN 285. This special topics course examines topics, themes, issues, motifs, theories or critical approaches with an interdisciplinary orientation related to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Studies, and will explore a topic which is either not covered in the curriculum or which deserves more in-depth treatment than is possible in an existing course (such as Queer National Cinemas, Queer Science Fiction, Queering the Sciences, etc). The specific topic will be announced each time the course is offered. May be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits if topic is different.