Summer 2018 Courses

Recommended Courses in LGBTQ Studies (Summer 2018)

The following list is designed to help students identify courses in LGBTQ Studies that would be useful both for those pursuing the LGBTQ Certificate and Minors and for those with a general interest in the area.

WGS F335 • Beyonce Feminism/Rihanna Womanism (first session)
85434 • Tinsley, Natasha
Meets MTWTHF 10:00AM-11:30AM PAR 308
(also listed as AFR F372C)

Description: "Texas. Texas. Texas." In her musical film Lemonade, Beyoncé—costumed in a spectacularly African-print dress—sings these opening words to “Daddy Lessons” while swaying to a single guitar at Fort Macomb, New Orleans. Departing from the wide-ranging locations of her self-titled album, this shot encapsulates the vision of her current work: an unapologetically black feminism that situates itself in the historical and political landscape of the U.S. South in general, and Texas and Louisiana in particular. In this course, we follow Beyoncé’s invitation to consider the U.S. South as a fertile site for black feminist imaginations and projects. Beginning with close readings of Lemonade and Beyoncé, we enter into conversation with other black feminist texts that engage black women’s aesthetic, spiritual, erotic, and political traditions in Louisiana, Texas, and Alabama. The course provides students with an introduction to media studies methodology as well as black feminist theory, and challenges us to imagine what gender politics look like when black women, and the U.S. South, become central rather than peripheral to our worldviews.

WGS F355 • Transgender Feminisms (first session)
85433 • Hunt, Grayson
Meets MTWTHF 11:30AM-1:00PM CMA 5.190

Description: This course will introduce students to the burgeoning field of Transgender Studies and examine how contemporary feminisms understand the relationship between women and gender equality. If transgender means to cross-over or change one’s gender as it was assigned at birth, how does it work alongside or against feminisms that depend on a stable category of woman for their political efficacy? What makes feminisms trans-inclusive? We will examine a range of theories provoked by these questions, including liberal feminisms, postmodern feminism, black feminisms, queer theories, and trans feminisms in order to explore which feminisms can serve the experiential, material, and political realities of transgender and gender non-conforming people.
Description: This course surveys the recent success of Black Film in, around, and beyond Oscar contention: Get Out, Moonlight, and Black Panther. It will seek to explore the recent controversies about race in American cinema and the Hollywood system, as well as its historical precedents. Students will be expected to watch and discuss films as well as read scholarly articles on race theory and cultural criticism.