

This syllabus is tentative and subject to change.

Spring 2015—21:512:392

Urban Sexualities in U.S. History

Class meeting times: Mon & Wed 4-5:20

Class location: Conklin 348

Professor Timothy Stewart-Winter

Office: 314 Conklin Hall

Office Hours: TBA

Email: timsw@andromeda.rutgers.edu

Course description: This course surveys the changing relationship between urban space, sexual identities, and everyday life in the United States since the early nineteenth century. We will examine how sexuality intersected with a variety of forms of cultural diversity and economic inequality, the social consequences of a changing built environment, and the cultural meanings of gender, race, and region throughout U.S. history. The readings will cover the period from the early 19th century to the late twentieth century.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance and Punctuality. Attendance is mandatory. This means attending every class from start to finish. Please only take this class if your schedule allows you to meet this obligation. Your overall course grade may be lowered by one half letter for each unexcused absence beginning with the fourth one; eight unexcused absences will result in a failing grade. Only documented emergencies and medical occasions, or officially school-sanctioned activities, will qualify as excused absences.

Participation. TBA

Questions. TBA

Grading: You must complete all assignments in order to pass this class. Grading will be as follows:

Attendance and Participation – 10%

Questions – 35%

Test #1 – 15%

Test #2 – 15%

Final Exam – 25%

Course Ethics:

- No phone usage in class; laptops must be used for course-related work only. If your phone rings in class, silence it immediately. Answering a phone call in class will be considered a serious breach of course ethics.
- Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any use of the ideas or words of another person without proper acknowledgment of credit, or cheating on an exam, will result in serious penalties up to and including a failing course grade.
- Students are required to review and accept the Plagiarism Agreement accessible through the course Blackboard site under “Academic Integrity” before any written work will be accepted.

- All students *must* maintain an active, functioning email account *linked to the course Blackboard site*, and are responsible for keeping up-to-date with emails from the instructor sent via Blackboard.
- Remain respectful *at all times* of one another and of the opinions of those with whom you may disagree. Repeated violations will result in a lowered course grade and/or removal from the classroom.

Accommodations: Students with disabilities, including learning disabilities, requiring assistance and/or accommodation should contact the Office of Disability Services and discuss its recommendations with me as soon as possible. Information can be found at <http://robeson.rutgers.edu/studentlife/disability.html>.

Office Hours: If you have questions about the syllabus or any aspect of this class, please feel free to email me or come to my office hours. My office hours are for you; stop by with any questions you have about assignments, readings, classroom discussions, other pertinent topics, or just to say hello. If you need to cover material from a missed class, however, please consult a classmate instead. If your schedule conflicts with my office hours, we can set up an appointment at a mutually agreeable time.

Required Texts: There are three required books for this class, which you may purchase from the Rutgers Bookstore on the first floor of Bradley Hall, or from elsewhere online:

- 1) Valerie Taylor, *The Girls in 3-B* (rpt. ed., Feminist Press, 2003), ISBN 9781558614567
- 2) Kathy Peiss, *Cheap Amusements: Working Women and Leisure in Turn-of-the-Century New York* (Temple, 1987), ISBN 9780877225003
- 3) Samuel R. Delany, *Times Square Red, Times Square Blue* (NYU, 2001), ISBN 9780814719206

Copies of each book will be placed on reserve at Dana Library. *All other course readings will be posted on the course Blackboard site.* It is your responsibility to make sure you have access to, and complete, all course readings.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Wed, Jan 21: Introduction
 Mon, Jan 26: Taylor, *The Girls in 3-B*, 1-56
 Wed, Jan 28: Taylor, *The Girls in 3-B*, 56-107
 Mon, Feb 2: Taylor, *The Girls in 3-B*, 107-162
 Wed, Feb 4: Taylor, *The Girls in 3-B*, 163-206
 Mon, Feb 9: **Remaining schedule is TBA**
 Wed, Feb 11:
 Mon, Feb 16:
 Wed, Feb 18:
 Mon, Feb 23:
 Wed, Feb 25:
 Mon, Mar 2: TEST #1
 Wed, Mar 4:
 Mon, Mar 9: Chauncey, *Gay New York*, Introduction
 Wed, Mar 11:
 SPRING BREAK
 Mon, Mar 23:
 Wed, Mar 25:
 Mon, Mar 30:
 Wed, Apr 1:

Mon, Apr 6:
Wed, Apr 8: TEST #2
Mon, Apr 13:
Wed, Apr 15:
Mon, Apr 20:
Wed, Apr 22:
Mon, Apr 27:
Wed, Apr 29:
Mon, May 4: Review

Wed, May 13, 11:45AM-2:45PM: FINAL EXAM (short answer and essay)