**COM 4094 – Media and Sexual Identities**

[Semester] [Day] [Time] [Room]

Dr. Fred Fejes, Professor

School of Communication & Multimedia Studies 206 CS

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Office Hours [Hours, Days]

**Course Objectives:** The objectives of this class:

To examine the history of the modern American LGBT community and movement

To examine the media representation of modern American LGBT community and movement in the context of both its own development of the modern LGBT movement and the changing American social/sexual/political environment.

To examine the shift in American public opinion of LGBT issues in the last fifteen years

To understand how media theories can be used to understand the changes

**Required Texts**

Gross, Larry (2001), *Up From Invisibility: Lesbians, Gay Men and the Media in America*. Columbia University Press, New York

Streitmatter, Rodger (2009), *From ‘Perverts” to the “Fab Five”: The Media’s Changing Depiction of Gay Men and Lesbians.* Routledge, New York.

BLACKBOARD READINGS AND VIEWINGS: Each Week a set of readings viewing material will be posted in the Blackboard Unit folder as a required part of that week’s assignment.

Some of these assignments will be viewed through Netflix, Amazon Prime or other commercial streaming sites. Students should acquire access to these sites for the viewing.

*iCLICKER*: We will be using the  *iClicker* is class. More information on this will follow.

If you are not familiar with the Blackboard system, there are a series of tutorials available at the red tutorial tab at the top of the Blackboard class site.

COURSE COMMUNICATION

YOUR INSTRUCTOR IS DR. FRED FEJES. MY OFFICE IS CULTURE AND SOCIETY BUILDING 206

MY OFFICE HOURS ARE THURSDAYS 2-4 (JUST BEFORE THIS CLASS). I INVITE YOU TO COME AND TALK ABOUT ANYTHING REGARDING THIS CLASS (THE SUBJECT, THE ASSIGNMENTS, YOUR GRADES, ETC). I ONLY ASK THAT YOU EMAIL ME FIRST TO LET ME KNOW YOU ARE COMING.  
  
YOU MAY CONTACT ME VIA MY EMAIL ADDRESS ([FEJES@FAU.EDU](mailto:FEJES@FAU.EDU)) OR MY PHONE NUMBER (954-465-3262) . I PREFER EMAIL CONTACT.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

PROFILE/SYLLABUS QUIZ 10%you must create a PROFILE. In order to receive FULL CREDIT students are required to post a web profile on the Blackboard site including INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF AND A PHOTO. Postings of web profiles are due by Tuesday January 13 9 pm

iCLICKER QUIZZES-QUESTIONS 15%

There will be weekly in-class iClicker graded quizzes based on the readings for that week. In addition there will be opinion/polling questions which are not graded but for which you will receive credit. The lowest weekly iClicker grade will be dropped

JOURNAL assignment 25% Each week there will be a journal assignment based on the readings, viewings and class discussion.

MID-TERM 20%

The Midterm will be given as an in-class Bluebook essay exams. The questions will be given out before the exams and students will be allowed to prepare the answers. You can to bring one 3x5' notecard for each question.

GRADE A-RESEARCH PAPER PROJECT OPTION/GRADE B-FINAL PAPER OPTION. 30% .Students will have the option of either doing a research paper project or taking the final

To be eligible to receive an “A” in the class, students will write a research paper and paper proposal.

Students who select to take the final on the Final Exam date (April 23) will be eligible to receive a “B” for the class.

RESEARCH PAPER PROJECT. (30%) This assignment is divided into two parts:

PAPER PROPOSAL (5% OF GRADE) . In this assignment you will 1) Select a research topic dealing with any topic involving sexuality and the media 2) Compile a bibliography of materials that relate to the topic. Of these AT LEAST THREE MUST BE ARTICLES FROM ACADEMIC JOURNALS. Paper proposals and bibliographies are due on SUNDAY MARCH 16th 6 pm. Citations must be in either MLA or Chicago format

RESEARCH PAPER (25% OF GRADE) 3,000 WORD MINIMUM (app 10 pages not including bibliography). Double spaced using either Chicago or MLA format. DUE ON APRIL 27 4 PM.

GRADING SCALE

ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE GRADED ON THE FOLLOWING GRADING SCALE:

A= Excellent

B= Above Satisfactory

C=Satisfactory

D= Below Satisfactory

F=Unstatisfactory/Non-completion

On Blackboard grades will be computed as:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| GRADES SCORED BETWEEN | **GRADE SCALE** | WILL  EQUAL |
| 97 | AND 100 | A+ |
| 94 | AND LESS THAN 97 | A |
| 90 | AND LESS THAN 94 | A- |
| 87 | AND LESS THAN 90 | B+ |
| 84 | AND LESS THAN 87 | B |
| 80 | AND LESS THAN 84 | B- |
| 77 | AND LESS THAN 80 | C+ |
| 74 | AND LESS THAN 77 | C |
| 70 | AND LESS THAN 74 | C- |
| 67 | AND LESS THAN 70 | D+ |
| 64 | AND LESS THAN 67 | D |
| 60 | AND LESS THAN 64 | D- |
| 0 | AND LESS THAN 60 | F |

**CLASS POLICIES**

ALL STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS, ASSIGNMENT CHANGES AND OTHER INFORMATION ANNOUNCED IN CLASS. PLEASE WATCH THE ANNOUNCEMENTS POSTED ON THE BLACKBOARD SITE.

MAKE-UP POLICY FOR TESTS AND EXAMS: As you will be allowed to drop the lowest of the iClicker grades , there will be no make up for the weekly quizzes/questions. There will be no make-ups for the journal assignments. For the midterm and final, unless there is a documented emergency situation, there will be no make-up. There will be no extra credit/work to make up for a low grade.

**Computer use in the class.** Students may only use laptop computers to take notes during the class. Any non-class related use of the computer (doing an assignment for another class, internet use, emailing, etc) is not allowed. Students who violate this rule will be asked to leave class.

**Cell-Phones**. Cell phones are not allowed in class. Any visible cell phone will be taken and returned to the student at the end of class. If you have to make or receive an urgent text of call, please leave the class to do so.

**NO EATING IN CLASS**

**Students with Disabilities:** *In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodation due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) -- in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-297-3880); in Davie, MOD 1 (954-236-1222); in Jupiter, SR 117 (561-799-8585); or at the Treasure Coast, CO 128 (772-873-3305) – and follow all OSD procedures.*

**Code of Academic Integrity:**  
  
Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see [University Regulation 4.001](http://wise.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/Reg_4.001_5-26-10_FINAL.pdf). If your college has particular policies relating to cheating and plagiarism, state so here or provide a link to the full policy.

**COM 4094 Media and Sexual Identities**

**SCHEDULE**

**Texts:**

**(RS)Rodger Streitmatter, *From ‘Pervert’ to ‘Fab Five’: The Media’s Changing Depiction of Gay Men and Lesbians,*Routledge, 2009.**

**(LG) Larry Gross, *Up From Invisibility: Lesbians, Gay Men and the Media in America*, Columbia, 2001**

**(BB) Readings posted on Blackboard**

**CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS**

***(ANY CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS OR EMAILED TO STUDENTS PRIOR TO CLASS)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***UNIT/DATE*** |  | ***READINGS*** | ***JOURNAL ASSIGNMENTS/QUIZZES/*** |
| ***BEFORE 1st***  ***MEETING*** |  | **CREATE CLASS PROFILE; READ SYLLABUS, CLASS SCHEDULE AND READINGS FOR 1ST MEETING (BELOW)** | **In class iClicker quiz on syllabus, schedule and readings.** |
| ***1-Jan 8*** | **CLASS INTRODUCTION**  **-WHAT IS IDENTITY** | **RS: “Introduction” pp 1-5**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on next week’s readings/viewings**  **-Web profile due by Tuesday January 13, 11 pm.**  **-Journal Assignment #1 due by Sunday 11 pm.** |
| ***2-Jan 15*** | **WHAT DOES MEDIA HAVE TO DO WITH IT?**  **MEDIA MODELS AND SEXUAL IDENTITY** | **LG: “The Mediated Society,” pp 1-20**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on next unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #2 due by Sunday 11 pm.** |
| ***3- Jan 22*** | **HOMOSEXUALITY PRE- 1969** | **LG: “Coming Out and Coming Together, ”pp 21-39**  **RS: “Perverts on the Potomac,” pp 6-16**  **RS: “Notes on Gay Visibility vs. Lesbian Visibility,” pp 146-148.**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on next unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #3 due by Sunday 11 pm.** |
| ***4-Jan29*** | **THE STONEWALL REBELLION** | **RS: “Stonewall Rebellion,” pp 17-25**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on next unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #4 due by Sunday 11 pm.** |
| ***5-Feb 5*** | **THE 1970S** | **LG:”Homo Nest Raided,” pp 40-55**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on next unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #5 due by Sunday 11 pm.** |
| ***6-Feb 12*** | **AIDS** | **LG: “AIDS and the Media,” pp. 94-109**  **RS: “AIDS Enters the News,” pp 50-56**  **RS: AIDS Becomes Major News,” pp 57-64.**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on next unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #6 due by Sunday 11 pm.** |
| ***7-Feb 19*** | **FILM** | **LG: “At The Movies,” pp 56-80**  **RS: “*The Boys in the Band,”* pp 26-36**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on next unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #7 due by Sunday 11 pm.** |
| ***8-Feb 26*** | **FILM II** | **RS: ”A New Gay Man in Town” pp. 93-103**  **RS:”*Brokeback Mountain*,” pp 169-178**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-Journal Assignment #8 due by Sunday 11 pm.**  **MIDTERM QUESTION HANDED OUT**  **PAPER PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE MONDAY**  **MARCH 15 11 pm** |
| ***Mar 5*** | **SPRING BREAK** |  |  |
| ***9-Mar 12*** | **MIDTERM** |  | **-In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **PAPER PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE SUNDAY**  **MARCH 15 11 pm** |
| ***10-Mar 19*** | **TELEVISION I** | **LG: “Television Takes Over,” pp. 81-93**  **LG: “Hollywood’s Gay Nineties,” pp. 156-183**  **RS: “*Soap”*, pp. 37-50**  **RS: “*Fleeting Images,”*pp 73-82**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #10 due by Sunday 11 pm.** |
| ***11-Mar26*** | **TELEVISION II** | **RS: “*Ellen*,” pp 104-115**  **RS:“*Will and Grace,”* pp 115-126**  **RS: “*Queer as Folks,´*pp. 127-137**  **RS: “*The L Word,”* pp. 149-158**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #11 due by Sunday 11 pm.** |
| ***12-Ap 2*** | **NEWS** | **LG: “Journalism’s Closet Opens,” pp 110-130**  **LG: Breaking the Code of Silence,” pp. 131-142**  **RS: “Gays in the Military,” pp 65-72**  **Times Magazine article**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #12 due by Sunday 11 pm.** |
| ***13-Ap 9*** | **ADVERTISING** | **LG: “Niche of Our Own”, pp233-242**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #13 due by Sunday 11 pm.** |
| ***14-Ap 16*** | **THE DIGITAL QUEER FUTURE** | **RS: “Same Sex Marriage,” pp. 159-168**  **LG: “Old Stories” pp 221-232**  **LG: “Facing the Future, pp. 252-259**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #14 by Sunday 11 pm.** |
| ***FINAL-April 23*** |  | **FINAL: April 23 400-6:50pm** | **RESEARCH PAPER PROJECT April 27 Due 4 pm** |