SEXUALITY STUDIES

College of Health and Social Sciences
Dean: Alvin Alvarez

Department of Sociology
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Sexuality Studies Program
HSS 370
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Program Scope
Sexuality Studies provides students with knowledge about the processes and variations in sexual functions and reproduction, intimate relationships, sexual and gender role development and behavior, and the social, cultural, historical and moral contexts of sex and love. This interdisciplinary field relies primarily on faculty from the Colleges of Health and Social Sciences, Liberal & Creative Arts, and Science and Engineering, who serve as advisors to students wishing information or assistance in making curricular choices. Students can use the minor in human sexuality studies to complement their majors. The program provides an opportunity to gain basic knowledge, develop an awareness of attitudes, and to acquire skills for counseling, teaching, and conducting research.

The minor program in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender studies intends to delineate and analyze meanings that have been associated with homosexuality in various artistic, biological, cultural, educational, ethical, historical, and literary contexts, and to examine the related issues of mixed-gender and cross-gender roles and practices. The minor is broadly interdisciplinary. It draws from courses in anthropology, biology, cinema, counseling, English, history, human sexuality studies, psychology, social sciences, communication studies, and women and gender studies.

Professors
Herdt, Hoff, LeBlanc, McCaughan, Sueyoshi

Associate Professors
Carrington, Clay, Fields, Hossfeld, Martinez, Melendez, Sears

Assistant Professor
Bost

Associated Faculty
Abdulhadi, Alamilla Boyd, Almaguer, Belkin, Cohler, Elia, DeVries, Johnson, Jolivette, Martel, Mamo, Mann, Moffatt, Moore, Rueda Esquibel, Savci, Tate, Van Damm, Yep

Lecturers
Chen, O’Neal, Reck, Vallin

Masters

• Master of Arts in Human Sexuality Studies (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/health-social-sciences/sexuality-studies/ma-human-sexuality-studies)

SXS 110 Sexuality in Society (Units: 3)
Introductory exploration of sexuality in its social context. Critical reflection on conventional and individualizing understandings of sexuality. Includes research articles, documentary films, and mainstream television and magazines. (This course is offered as SXS 110 and SOC 110. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
• D1: Social Sciences
• Social Justice

SXS 300 Introduction to Human Sexuality (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

SXS 301 Perspectives in Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214.

SXS 314 Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual History (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing; ENG 214 or equivalent; or consent of instructor.

SXS 314 Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual History (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing; ENG 214 or equivalent; or consent of instructor.

History of gays, lesbians, and bisexuals

SXS 320 Sex and Relationships (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Explodes the role of sexuality in traditional and emerging forms of intimate relationships. (This course is offered as PSY 320 and SXS 320. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
• E1: Lifelong Learning Develop
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Global Perspectives

Minors

• Minor in Human Sexuality Studies (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/health-social-sciences/sexuality-studies/minor-human-sexuality-studies)
SXS 332 Understanding the Representation and Narration of Sexuality in Cinema (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing; ENG 214 or equivalent; or consent of instructor.
Examination of the representation and narration of sexuality in cinema with an emphasis on Hollywood. Employs critical and cultural theory, including critical race, queer, and feminist theory, as means to uncover the social and political significance of sexuality in cinema. Explores ways in which cinema reflects and refracts ideologies associated with sexual identity and expression.
(This course is offered as CINE 332 and SXS 332. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

SXS 350 Selected Issues in Human Sexuality (Unit: 1)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.
Topic to be specified in Class Schedule. Examination and analysis of selected topics in human sexuality. May be repeated when topics vary.

SXS 369 Philosophical Issues in Sexuality (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Sophomore or higher standing; one lower-division composition course; or consent of instructor.
Legal, moral, and conceptual issues concerning human sexuality. Rape, pornography, abortion, prostitution, homosexuality, marriage, promiscuity, perversion, sexual politics, sex and religion, and the language of sex. (This course is offered as PHIL 369 and SXS 369. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Social Justice

SXS 380 Coloring Queer: Imagining Communities (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.
Interdisciplinary examination of the experience of queers of color in the U.S. through anthropology, sociology, history, literature, and cultural studies. Specific focus on racism, homophobia, transphobia, and intersectionality. [Formerly ETHS 380]
(This course is offered as RRS 380 and SXS 380. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Social Justice

SXS 382 Advanced Topics in Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing, SXS 301, or consent of instructor.
Social, cultural, economic, historical, and political patterns concerning the contemporary social lives and intimate relationships of bisexual, gay and lesbian people.

SXS 402 Advanced Topics in Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing, SXS 301, or consent of instructor.
Social, cultural, economic, historical, and political patterns concerning the contemporary social lives and intimate relationships of bisexual, gay and lesbian people.

SXS 405 Queer Art History (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: ART 201 or ART 202 or equivalent, consent of instructor.
Case studies, primarily of Western art. Homophobia, censorship, reconstructing gay and lesbian history, major artists, visual codes, eroticism, lesbian feminism, families and communities, racial diversity, AIDS, other issues.
(This course is offered as ART 403 and SXS 405. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

SXS 421 Homophobia and Coming Out (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Sources, forms, and history of homophobia; processes and consequences of coming out as related to gender, ethnicity, religion, age, socio-economic background, and physical ability.

SXS 436 The Development of Femaleness and Maleness (Units: 4)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing, PSY 371; or consent of instructor.
Integration of biological, psychological, social, and cultural knowledge toward an understanding of the development of maleness and femaleness. A critical look at theories of sex-typing and sex differences in behavior, with attention to sex-role stereotypes and social issues.
(This course is offered as PSY 436 and SXS 436. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

SXS 438 Culture and Sex in East Asia (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing, ANTH 120, or consent of instructor.
Examines from the perspective of critical anthropology on the role of culture in sex/gender power relations in East Asian societies.
(This course is offered as ANTH 415 and SXS 438. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

SXS 440 Native Sexualities and Queer Discourse (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.
A comparative, interdisciplinary, socio-historical analysis of Native sexualities and gender constructions from indigenous centered perspectives; examination of the complexity of Native sexualities, gender formations, and queer indigenous identity movements.
(This course is offered as AIS 440, SXS 440, and WGS 440. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Global Perspectives
- Social Justice
SXS 455 Sex, Power and Politics (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Examines how the state and social institutions define gender roles, regulate sexual practices, and police sex as a means of social control. Issues include morality campaigns, AIDS/STD’s, pedophilia, pornography, sodomy, abortion, etc.

Course Attributes:
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Social Justice

SXS 456 Psychology of Human Sexual Behavior (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Psychological aspects of human sexual functioning particularly pertaining to gender identity, pairing, sexual orientation, sexual intercourse, self-stimulation, reproduction, contraception, and abortion. Related social issues such as alternative lifestyles, changing sex roles, and recreational sex.

(This course is offered as PSY 456 and SXS 456. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

SXS 458 Introduction to Transgender Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Examines transsexuality, drag, transvestitism, and butch-femme lesbianism to explore highly variable relationships between sexuality, gender, desire, and identity.

SXS 460 AIDS and People of Color in the U.S. (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

The political, psychological, social, and economic impact of AIDS/HIV infection on diverse cultural backgrounds. Prevention and educational strategies.

(This course is offered as COUN 450, RRS 460, and SXS 460. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Social Justice

SXS 469 Sex and Morality (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Sophomore or higher standing; one lower-division composition course; or consent of instructor.

Ethical theory and its applications to sexual conduct, therapy, and research. Fundamentals of moral augmentation; complicated, morality-laden issues associated with sexuality.

(This course is offered as PHIL 445 and SXS 469. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
• E1: Lifelong Learning Develop
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

SXS 470 Sex and the Net (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: SXS 300 or consent of instructor.

Social, psychological, and educational aspects of sexuality and the Internet.

SXS 530 Gender and Sexuality in Ancient Greece and Rome (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Role of gender and sexuality in the ancient world. Areas of inquiry: women’s bodies and social roles; homosexuality; and the socialization of adolescents into adult gender/sex roles.

(This course is offered as CLAS 530 and SXS 530. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities

SXS 550 Field Service in Human Sexuality Studies (Units: 1-3)
Prerequisites: Nine units of SXS courses or consent of instructor.

Supervised field service performed in on-campus research, instructional, or service units or off-campus agencies involved in human sexuality medical, social, and psychological services. May be repeated.

SXS 551 Queer Literatures and Media (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent or consent of instructor.

Queer literature and media productions from a feminist and transnational perspective; intersectional analysis of gender, race, class, sexuality, and citizenship to examine fiction, film, cultural, and historical texts.

(This course is offered as WGS 551 and SXS 551. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
• E1: Lifelong Learning Develop
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

SXS 567 Cross-Cultural Aspects of Sex and Gender (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Sex, sexuality, and gender; the control of sexuality, cultural components of gender role and gender identity, and symbolic aspects of sex and gender.

(This course is offered as ANTH 569 and SXS 567. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Social Justice

SXS 569 Sex and the Law (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 114 or equivalent.

Philosophical investigation of legal issues pertaining to sexuality. Legal enforcement of morals and of specific cases and statutes regarding marriage, sex discrimination, abortion, rape, homosexuality, pedophilia, and other sex related activities.

(This course is offered as PHIL 455 and SXS 569. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Social Justice
SXS 601 Sexuality, Ethnicity, and Health (Units: 2-3)
Prerequisite: SXS 300 or consent of instructor.
Overview of the relationships between sexuality, ethnicity, and health. Ethnic and cultural differences that affect sexuality, behavior, risk and resiliency, and result in health disparities.

SXS 605 Sexual Violence (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for 705: Graduate standing or consent of instructor. Prerequisite for 605: Upper division standing.
Covers a breadth of topics relating to sexual violence, concentrating on understanding the origins and consequences of various forms of sexual violence through the life course, and exploring how sex and sexuality can be used as tools to control individuals, groups of people, communities and states. (SXS 705/SXS 605 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

SXS 620 Sex, Inequality and Health (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for SXS 820: Graduate standing or consent of instructor. Prerequisites for SXS 620: Consent of instructor and enrollment in summer institute.
Overview of major theories and findings in sexuality studies to help advanced undergraduate and graduate students integrate various disciplinary approaches to sexuality in one theoretical framework. (SXS 820/SXS 620 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

SXS 633 Gay Love in Literature (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent or consent of instructor.
Themes of gay love in fiction, poetry, and biography, beginning with Ancient Greece and extending to the present. (This course is offered as ENG 633 and SXS 633. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

SXS 635 Queer Masterpieces (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender issues in the context of the Western tradition. Examination of how these issues shape and are in turn shaped by poets, novelists, and visual/performing artists.

SXS 651 Fieldwork in Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Community Service (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214.
Intern or supervised volunteer in religious, health, communications, political, recreation agencies in gay/lesbian/bisexual communities. May be repeated for a total of 6 units. (CR/NC grading only)

SXS 667 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Cultures and Society (Units: 4)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing; completion of GE Areas A and B4 requirements [formerly GE Segment I].
Sociological analysis of the character and development of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer communities and cultures in the context of broader social inequalities and social transformations. Special attention to the historical and social antecedents of the contemporary U.S. Focus on empirical and theoretical work within sociology. (This course is offered as SOC 467 and SXS 667. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

SXS 678 Disability and Sexuality (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: SXS 300 or consent of instructor.
Disability and sexuality through individual, societal, cultural, and political lenses.

SXS 680 Colloquium in Human Sexuality (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Completion of the human sexuality minor core or consent of instructor.
Human sexuality from an interdisciplinary perspective presented by faculty, advanced students, and scholars outside the program. Forum for sharing ideas, exploring original concepts, and debating issues.

SXS 685 Projects in the Teaching of Human Sexuality Studies (Units: 1-4)
Prerequisites: Completion of relevant course or equivalent with a grade of B or better; consent of instructor.
Students serve as instructional aides in order to enrich their knowledge of the subject and the general processes of learning and teaching. Will help develop course materials, plan and review course structure and activities, and provide assistance to students in class projects and fieldwork. (Students may earn a maximum of 4 units toward the baccalaureate degree for any course(s) numbered 685 regardless of discipline.)

SXS 699 Independent Study (Units: 1-3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and program director.
Supervised study of a particular issue selected by the student.

SXS 701 Sexual Cultures, Sexual Identities (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Human Sexualities Studies or consent of instructor.
Concepts of "sexual culture" and "sexual identity" in history and across cultures. (This course is offered as SXS 701 and ANTH 701. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

SXS 702 Sexuality in Historical Perspective (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Human Sexualities or consent of instructor.
Traces the growing scholarship on the historical study of sexuality primarily in the U.S. Introduces students to a variety of historical studies on sexuality and assesses the validity and value of the work. (Plus-minus AB/NC grading only) (This course is offered as SXS 702 and HIST 702. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

SXS 703 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Sexuality and Health (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.
Relationships between lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) sexuality and health: cultural differences that affect sexuality, behavior, risk, and resiliency, and contribute to health disparities.

SXS 704 Human Sexuality and Language (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.
Research on sexuality and language with emphasis on the role of language in the social construction of sexual meanings, sexual identities and sexual relationships in diverse cultures and linguistic communities. (Plus-minus letter grade only)
SXS 705 Sexual Violence (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for 705: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.
Prerequisite for 605: Upper division standing.

Covers a breadth of topics relating to sexual violence, concentrating on understanding the origins and consequences of various forms of sexual violence through the life course, and exploring how sex and sexuality can be used as tools to control individuals, groups of people, communities and states.
(SXS 705/SXS 605 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

SXS 723 Teaching Internship in Human Sexuality Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Graduate standing; completion of 15 units minimum; consent of instructor.

Individual projects under faculty supervision undertaken in conjunction with teaching assignments in undergraduate courses. Research and reports on the aims and methods of teaching human sexuality studies to undergraduates. May be repeated for a total of 6 units. (Plus-minus AB/NC grading only)

SXS 724 Research Internship in Human Sexuality Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Graduate standing and consent of instructor.

Study, discussion, and evaluation of principles of human sexuality research, theory, and method. May be repeated for a total of 6 units. (Plus-minus AB/NC grading only)

SXS 750 Seminar in Graduate Human Sexuality Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

Topic to be specified in Class Schedule. Examines trends, data, methodology, and current research in human sexuality studies. May be repeated when topics vary.

SXS 770 Sexuality and Public Policy (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

Examination of the development of sexuality-related policy in the United States. The framework of historical debates and their impact on current policy will be discussed. Legal, ethical, political, fiscal, and other structural considerations will be addressed. The role of academic theory and research in the creation of public policy will be considered.

SXS 771 Research Seminar in Sexuality and Public Policy (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

Focus on the historical, theoretical and institutional frameworks of sexuality policy in the United States. The concept of "sexual citizenship" will be examined; who possesses it, who does not, and who defines it, as well as examining the processes by which that definition is challenged and changed. Issues of scale (local, regional, national), ethics and strategies in policy-making will be discussed.

SXS 772 Sexuality, Visual Culture, and the Arts (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

Examination of the cultural politics of representations of sexuality in visual culture and the arts, with emphasis on how such representations are produced in relationship to race, class, gender, and nation. (Plus-minus letter grade only)
(This course is offered as SXS 772 and WGS 772, and may not be repeated under the alternate prefix.)
Sexuality Studies

SXS 820 Sex, Inequality and Health (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for SXS 820: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.
Prerequisites for SXS 620: Consent of instructor and enrollment in summer institute.

Overview of major theories and findings in sexuality studies to help advanced undergraduate and graduate students integrate various disciplinary approaches to sexuality in one theoretical framework.
(SXS 820/SXS 620 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

SXS 881 Research Methods in Human Sexuality Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Human Sexualities Studies or consent of instructor.

Interdisciplinary examination of multiple approaches to human sexuality research and social ethics.

SXS 882 Research Design in Human Sexuality Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Restricted to graduate students in Human Sexualities Studies; SXS 881; or consent of instructor.

Development, design, and implementation of the research project for completion of the master’s thesis. (ABC/NC grading; RP allowed)

SXS 883 Applied Quantitative Methods in Sexuality Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Human Sexualities Studies.

Introduction to quantitative methods as they are applied to the social scientific study of sexuality.

SXS 884 Advanced Methods in Sexuality Studies (Units: 1-3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

Practical and critical consideration of research methods and methodology in sexuality studies with a focus on specific strategies of data collection, interpretation, and analysis across disciplines and paradigms. May be repeated for a total of 3 units. (Plus/Minus Letter grade only)

SXS 890 Professional Development (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Restricted to graduate students in Human Sexualities Studies or consent of instructor.

Apply the multidisciplinary perspective of human sexuality studies to ongoing projects, and discuss ethical concerns with regard to research in human sexuality and how current work can further professional careers. (AB/NC grading only)

SXS 894 Creative Work Project (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Advancement to candidacy, approval of graduate advisor, and approval of Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Culminating Experience (CE) forms by Graduate Studies.

An original creative work project. Projects must be described in a written document that summarizes the project’s relation to other work in the area, its rationale, its significance, and its creative methodologies. Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms must be approved by the Graduate Division before registration. (CR/NC grading only)

SXS 895 Research Project in Human Sexuality Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: SXS 800, SXS 801, SXS 881, consent of graduate advisor, and approval of Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Culminating Experience (CE) forms by Graduate Studies.

Research methodology and supervised research into topics and problems in human sexuality studies culminating in oral and written presentations. Advancement to Candidacy and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms must be approved by the Graduate Division before registration. (ABC/NC grading; RP allowed)

SXS 896 Directed Reading (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Consent of graduate adviser.

Intensive directed reading in human sexuality studies under the supervision of a faculty member. (Plus-minus letter grade, CR/NC, RP)

SXS 898 Master’s Thesis (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Consent of graduate major advisor, and approval of Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Culminating Experience (CE) forms by Graduate Studies. ATC and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms must be approved by the Graduate Division before registration. (CR/NC grading only)

SXS 899 Independent Study (Units: 1-4)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

Study is planned, developed, and completed under the direction of a member of the program faculty. Open only to graduate students who have demonstrated the ability to do independent work. Enrollment by petition. May be repeated for a total of 12 units. (Plus-minus letter grade only)