

**Latin American Studies and Latino Studies**  
**University of California, Santa Cruz**  
**LALS 80S (62245)**  
**Sexualities and Genders in LALS**  
**Spring 2016**

**Class Time:** M/W 5:00 – 6:45 p.m.

**Instructor:** Dr. Shankari Patel

**Office Hours:** Fridays 10:00 – 12:00 p.m.

**Class Location:** Steven Acad 175

**Email:** [shankari@ucsc.edu](mailto:shankari@ucsc.edu)

**Office Location:** Social Sciences 1 Room 333

**COURSE THEME:** Gender and Sexuality in Central America from Pre-Columbian Times to the Present

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This survey course is an introduction to the issues and themes surrounding sexualities and genders within Latin American and Latina/o Studies but with a particular focus on pre-Columbian and colonial history. This class will provide an overview of the literature, basic theoretical frameworks, and a historical grounding of gendered processes and their relationship to sexuality and the way these concepts and categories changed over time. Our interdisciplinary study will examine how gender and sexuality are socially constructed and experienced through other social categories--such as race, class, and region--and how they circumscribe national and political identities, social movements, migration and diasporas, film and popular culture.

**COURSE GOALS:**

1. Students will examine how gender and sexual identities are socially constructed and circulated in and about Latin America.
2. Students will learn how to apply an intersectional analysis that is attuned to the hierarchies of power that privilege certain expressions over others.
3. Students will gain insights into how social constructions of gender and sexuality in Latin America changed over time.
4. Students will develop an understanding of structural inequalities, how they are maintained and reproduced and the political movements that seek to resist and challenge the status quo.
5. Students will develop analytical writing and critical thinking skills in an interdisciplinary context.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

All of the readings will be available on the eCommons site for this class except the following book of poetry that will we need on May 18, 2016.

*Secrets in the Sand: The Young Women of Juárez* by Marjorie Agosin (2006). White Pine Press, New York.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

**Attendance and Class Participation – 50 points:** Students are expected to attend every class, to arrive on time and participate through listening and engaging in class and group discussion. In addition, students are expected to discuss the readings and collaborate on worksheets in group discussions.

**Online Discussion Forums – 50 points:** Each student is expected to post ten short answer responses to ten different discussion topics (at any time throughout the quarter) located in the discussion forum tab on eCommons. The discussion topics will contain links to online articles and presentations and a straightforward question regarding the online links and materials. The forums will close at the end of the tenth week of classes. Don't wait until the last minute to post your ten responses!

**Take Home Midterm Paper – 150 points:** A midterm paper will provide an opportunity for demonstrating your understanding of salient issues covered in the course. The exam will be a take-home exam and will require you to write a 5 to 7-page paper on questions provided by the instructor two weeks before the exam is due. The midterm paper is due on **May 11, 2016** in class.

**Group Worksheets: - 150 points:** In order to facilitate discussion of the readings, students are expected to participate in permanent smaller group discussions. There will be numerous occasions where your permanent (all quarter long) group is expected to discuss the readings and lecture material and collaborate on responses to group worksheets provided by the instructor. It is expected that all students will actively participate in these group activities.

**Take Home Final Paper – 100 points:** Essay questions for the take-home final (based on readings and lectures) will be available on eCommons and in class on the Tuesday of the 9th week. The exam will be a take-home exam and will require you to write a 3 to 4-page paper on questions provided by the instructor two weeks before the exam is due. The final paper is due on **June 8, 2016** by email.

**Please note** Students will need to attend class to do well in the course. The text book material is related and complementary to lecture material.

**Your Grade: 500 points**

Attendance	50 points
Discussion Forums	50 points
Group Worksheets	150 points
Midterm	150 points
<u>Take Home Final Paper</u>	<u>100 points</u>
 TOTAL	 500 Points

<b>Total Points</b>	<b>Grade</b>
450 to 500	A
400 to 449	B
350 to 399	C
300 to 349	D
Below 300	F

**Online Resources:** Basic information about this course will be available on the LALS 80S eCommons page. This page includes: course syllabus, course readings, announcements, and a gradebook. To log into eCommons, you must obtain and use a CruzID Gold password. Once you have your CruzID Gold password, you can log into eCommons by visiting this site: <http://ecommons.ucsc.edu/>

**Academic Accommodations:** – Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Also, please contact the Disability Resource Center, 861-459-2089 or through email at [drc@ucsc.edu](mailto:drc@ucsc.edu) or go to 146 Hahn Student Services building to coordinate reasonable accommodations.

**Plagiarism and Cheating:** Students are expected to be familiar with the University’s policy on cheating and plagiarism. I have a no tolerance policy on academic dishonesty. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student with the exception of the group worksheets. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade, a report to Student Judicial Affairs, and possible further sanctions by the University. For more information on these matters, please consult the Student guide to academic integrity at [http://undergraduate.ucsc.edu/acad\\_integrity/student.html](http://undergraduate.ucsc.edu/acad_integrity/student.html).

**Participation and Discussion Protocol:** Participation and discussion in this class is necessary in order for you to be successful in the course, and your questions/comments during lecture are particularly welcome. Many of the topics in this course evoke strong responses and given the diversity in our academic community, it is imperative that these environments remain spaces where people are respectful of one another, their belief systems, and their opinions while engaging in academic discourse. This course is designed to provoke thoughtful, critical conversations – not to “convert,” “pressure,” dismiss, or insult the value systems of others.

## **LECTURE AND READING SCHEDULE:**

### **Weeks 1-3: Structural Inequalities: The Sociology of Race, Gender, and Sexuality**

**Monday, March 28, 2016** – Introduction; group formations, and exploration of the syllabus

**Wednesday, March 30, 2016** – *Constructing Gender and Sex Differences*

**Readings: Fausto-Sterling:** *Dueling Dualisms*

**Lorber:** *The Social Construction of Gender*

**Monday, April 4, 2016** – *Constructing Gender and Sexuality*

**Readings: Butler:** Subjects of Sex/Gender/Desire (optional)  
**Kimmel:** Masculinity as Homophobia: Fear, Shame and Silence in the Construction of Gender Identity  
**Katz:** The Invention of Heterosexuality  
**Film:** *Tough Guise 2*

**Wednesday, April 6, 2016** – *Constructing Gender Hierarchies*

**Readings: Gailey:** Evolutionary Perspectives on Gender Hierarchy  
**Johnson:** Patriarchy, the System: An It, Not a He, a Them, or a Us

**Monday, April 11, 2016** – *Constructing Race, Gender and Sexuality*

**Readings: Ferber:** The Construction of Black Masculinity  
**Somerville:** Scientific Racism and the Emergence of the Homosexual Body  
**Film:** *Race: The Differences Between Us*

**Wednesday, April 13, 2016** – *Intersectional Identities in a Global Economy*

**Readings: Anderson:** Seeing in 3D  
**McIntosh:** White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack  
**Allison:** A Question of Class  
**Film:** *Inequality for All*

#### **Weeks 4-7: Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica: The Archaeology of Gender and Sexuality**

**Monday, April 18, 2016** – *Sex, Gender and Archaeology*

**Readings: Joyce:** Introduction  
**Conkey:** The Archaeology of Gender Today

**Wednesday, April 20, 2016** – *Mesoamerica and Feminist Archaeology*

**Readings: Joyce:** Mesoamerica: A Working Model for Archaeology

**Monday, April 25, 2016** – *Mesoamerica and Feminist Archaeology*

**Readings: De Lucia:** Looking Beyond Gender Hierarchy: Rethinking Gender at Teotihuacan  
**Film:** *The Giant Stone Heads of the Olmec*

**Wednesday, April 27, 2016** – *The Classic Maya*

**Readings: Ashmore:** Classic Maya Landscapes and Settlement  
**Blackmore:** How to Queer the Past Without Sex  
**Robin:** Social diversity and Everyday Life within Classic Maya Settlements

**Monday, May 2, 2016** – *The Olmecs and Teotihuacan*

**Readings: Bruhns and Stothert:** Ancient American Women - Olmec Elites and Rulers

**De Lucia:** Looking Beyond Gender Hierarchy: Rethinking Gender at Teotihuacan

**Patel:** Pilgrimage and Gender in the Classic Period

**Wednesday, May 4, 2016** – *The Classic Maya*

**Readings: Looper:** Women-Men (and Men-Women) Classic Maya Rulers and the Third Gender

**Film:** *The Red Queen of Palenque*

**Monday, May 9, 2016** – *Veracruz, the Huasteca, and Oaxaca*

**Readings: Wyllie:** In Search of Tamazunchale: Place Where the Woman Governs

**Patel:** When Contemporary Notions of Gender Filter into the Mesoamerican Past

**Wednesday, May 11, 2016** – *The Aztecs*

**Readings: Brumfiel:** Cloth, Gender, Continuity and Change: Fabricating Unity in Anthropology

**Joyce:** Girling the Girl, and Boying the Boy

**Midterm Paper Due**

### **Week 9-10: Historical Legacies of Colonization and Contemporary Issues**

**Monday, May 16, 2016** – *From Midwife to Witch, From Priestess to Harlot*

**Readings: Arvey:** Women of Ill-Repute in the Florentine Codex

**Ehrenreich and English:** Witchcraft and Medicine in the Middle Ages

**Wednesday, May 18, 2016** – *The Poetry of Marjorie Agosín*

Special Class 3:30-5:30 p.m. in Humanities 1: Rm 210

**No Regular class**

**Monday, May 23, 2016** – *Colonial Sexualities*

**Film:** *The Other Conquest (La Otra Conquista)*

**Readings: Sigal:** Queer Nahuatl: Sahagun's Faggots and Sodomites, Lesbians and Hermaphrodites

**Marcos:** Beyond the Binary: Mesoamerican Religious Sexuality

**Wednesday, May 25, 2016** – *Introduction to the Politics of Representation*

**Readings: Mirande:** Contemporary Conceptions of Macho

**Vargas:** Representations of Latina Sexuality in Pop Culture

**Monday, May 30, 2016** - No class, Memorial Day Holiday

**Wednesday, June 1, 2016** - *Sexualities and Genders*

**Readings: Craske:** Gender and Sexuality in Latin American Studies

**Lorde:** Age, Race, Class, and Sex

**Marquardt et al: Living Illegal**

**Wednesday, June 8, 2016 – Final Paper Due**

Email paper to [shankari@ucsc.edu](mailto:shankari@ucsc.edu) by 11:59 p.m.

**Have a Great Summer!**