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  
**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 we will need on May 18, 2016.


**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 |
| Take Home Final Paper | 100 points |

TOTAL 500 Points
### Total Points | Grade
--- | ---
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](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/acd_integrity/student.html](http://undergraduate.ucsc.edu/acd_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 by 11:59 p.m.

Have a Great Summer!