

# London Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership Advanced Research Methods in Social Sciences

| Course Code &<br>Title   | LISS202 Queer Theory  |                      |                              |   |   |
|--|---|----------------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| Convenor(s)  | Dr Sam Miles, <a href="mailto:s.miles@qmul.ac.uk">s.miles@qmul.ac.uk</a> , Queen Mary University of London  |                      |                              |   |   |
| Institution  | London School of<br>Hygiene & Tropical<br>Medicine  |                      | Department                   | LISS DTP  |   |
| Academic Year  | 2018-19   |                      | Term                         | Spring  |   |
| Number of sessions   | 4   | Research<br>Platform | Social Theory & Epistemology | Length of Session(s)  | 4 |
| Day, Date  |   |                      | Start : End                  | Room Location   |   |
| Friday 08 February 2019<br>Friday 15 February 2019<br>Friday 01 March 2019<br>Friday 08 March 2019 |   |                      | 1000 – 1200                  | 2.48 Franklin-Wilkins Building, SE1 9NH 2.42 Franklin-Wilkins Building, SE1 9NH G.72 Franklin-Wilkins Building, SE1 9NH 2.48 Franklin-Wilkins Building, SE1 9NH |   |
| Enrolment<br>Links:  | https://goo.gl/mtFW3q You may be prompted to log into SkillsForge  Details on when courses open for booking can be found here: https://liss-dtp.ac.uk/our-training-programme/ |                      |                              |   |   |

#### **Course Description:**

Queer theory emerged as both poststructuralist critique and radical activist politics in the early 1990s. This short course will place this theoretical and political development within a longer history of feminism, gay and lesbian studies, AIDS activism, and recent developments in sex and digital technology. We will deploy an interdisciplinary perspective to explore issues of identity and representation, queer space and time, and discuss some valuable critiques of queer studies. Methodologically, the course will highlight different approaches from both the humanities and social sciences and encourage discussion around the theme of how the radical political engagement associated with queer theory can be combined with academic scholarship. The workshops will consist of an informal lecture and an interactive student discussion. The four sessions will be loosely organised around the following themes:

**SESSION 1: Queer Foundations** 

SESSION 2: Queer Theory and the Social Sciences

SESSION 2: Queering Culture & Technology

**SESSION 4: Queer Limits** 

### **Reading List:**

#### **SESSION 1: QUEER FOUNDATIONS**

Bersani, L. (1987) 'Is the rectum a grave?' October, 43: 197-222.

D'Emilio, J. (1983) 'Capitalism and gay identity'. In Snitow, A., Stansell, C., Thompson, S. (eds.), *Powers of Desire: The Politics of Sexuality*, New York: Monthly Review Press.



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Book: Kosofsky Sedgwick, E. (1990) Epistemology of the Closet. London: Penguin Books.

**Book**: Butler, J. (1990) *Gender Trouble, Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. New York and London: Routledge.

(Further reading: Book: Foucault, M. (1979) *The Will to Knowledge: The History of Sexuality: 1*. Hurley, R. (transl.), London: Penguin.)

#### **SESSION 2: QUEER THEORY AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Berlant, L., Warner, M. (1998) 'Sex in public', Critical Inquiry, 24: 547-566.

Brown, G. 'Listening to Queer Maps of the City: Gay Men's Narratives of Pleasure and Danger in London's East End.' *Oral History* (spring 2001): 48–61.

**Book:** Delany, S. (1999) *Times Square Red, Times Square Blue*. New York and London: New York University Press.

Book: Halberstam, J. (2011) The Queer Art of Failure, Durham and London: Duke University Press.

(Further reading: Book: Chisholm, D. (2005) *Queer Constellations: Subcultural Space in the Wake of the City,* Minneapolis and London: University of Minnesota Press.)

#### **SESSION 3: QUEERING CULTURE & TECHNOLOGY**

Sontag, S. (1999) 'Notes on "Camp", Cleto, F. (ed.), Camp: Queer Aesthetics and the Performing Subject: A Reader, The University of Michigan Press.

2019. Gieseking, J., J. Lingel, & D. Cockayne. What's Queer about Internet Studies Now? First Monday, 23(7).

Miles, S. (2018) 'Still getting it on online: Thirty years of queer male spaces brokered through digital technologies. *Geography Compass*. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/gec3.12407

**Book:** Edelman, L. (2004) *No Future: Queer Theory and the Death Drive*, Durham and London: Duke University Press.

(Further reading: Book: Turner, M. (2003). Backward Glances. London: Reaktion.)

#### **SESSION 4: QUEER LIMITS**

Duggan, L. (2002) 'The new homonormativity: the sexual politics of neo-liberalism', Castronovo, R., Nelson, D.D., (eds.) Materializing Democracy: Toward a Revitalized Cultural Politics, Durham and London: Duke University Press.

Hoad, N.W. (2007) African Intimacies: Race, Homosexuality, and Globalization, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Massad, J.A. (2002) Re-Orienting Desire: The Gay International and the Arab World, Public Culture, 14, 2: 361-85.

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Nast, H. J. (2002) 'Queer patriarchies, queer racisms, international', Antipode, 34, 5: 874-909.

Puar, J.K. (2007) Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times, Duke University Press.

### **Eligibility**:

This course is only open to PhD students using social science methodologies in their research.

#### **Pre-course preparation:**

Readings will be given after each class.

#### Number of students:

20