Instructor: Dr. Lara Karaian
Office: C578 Loeb Building
Office Phone: 613-520-2600 x 1458
E-mail: Please direct all e-mail contact through cuLearn e-mail
Class Meets: Tuesdays, 11:35am-2:25pm
Class Location: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 2:30pm-3:30pm, or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This seminar will provide students with a strong theoretical and doctrinal analysis of the criminalization and governance of sex, as well as the critical tools required to evaluate legislators’ and the criminal justice system’s regulation of sexuality. Consensual sexual activity is one of the most persistently policed and harshly punished aspects of our interpersonal relationships. As such, we will ask the following questions: How, and on what basis is sex policed? What place does the law have in the private sex lives of individuals, if any? What constitutes “normal”, “consensual”, “healthy”, “harmful”, “autonomous”, “positive”, “liberating”, and “criminal”, sex and sexual practices? What are the effects of policing sex and for whom? Topics to be explored include consensual sex and sexual expression that is considered obscene, indecent, drunk, commercial, intergenerational, incestuous, kinky, public, queer, “sick” and “diseased”. What legal frameworks and normative assumptions underlie and inform criminal statutes, case law, legal briefings and academic scholarship on these issues? This course is theoretically rigorous and requires students to engage with a range of frameworks including those of legal moralism, queer, feminist, critical race, post-structural, neo-liberal, risk, spatial, and governance theory. Recurring themes to be considered throughout the course include: the meaning and boundaries of sexual consent, danger, harm, liberation, and agency.

Prerequisites: Fourth-year standing in the B.A Honours program in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

REQUIRED TEXTS:


Links to additional articles and excerpts will be made available electronically via Ares and cuLearn.

WEB SITE:

Course PowerPoints, announcements, grades, discussion groups, and weblinks will be posted on cuLearn.

EVALUATION:
(All components must be completed in order to get a passing grade)

- Class participation: 20% (Ongoing)
- Critical Summaries: 20% (4 X 5% each) (approx. 3 double spaced pages each)
- Discussion Facilitation: 20% (Dates to be determined)
- Final Research Paper: 40% (13-15 pgs) Due: March 27, 2018

Please note: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.
Class Participation:
The seminar format relies on students taking an active role in generating, sharing, and learning knowledge. Attendance is taken for every class and your participation is evaluated at the end of each seminar. You are allowed to miss one class without repercussion. After this, a penalty applies for every class missed unless a doctor’s note is provided that specifically attests to your inability to attend class. To ensure that a range of students participate I will call on people to canvass their analysis of the readings and the issues if need be. Your participation grade is reflective of: your attendance; your ability to discuss the specifics of the assigned texts and themes directly related to the texts; your ability to make connections between readings, earlier class discussions, as well as comments made during class; and, the quality of the insights you bring to the discussion.

Critical Summaries:
Each week of our course has a theme (ex: “Public Sex”). You are required to pick 4 weeks/themes and summarize 2 assigned readings from that week/theme (for a grand total of 8 critical summaries). Each set of critical summaries is worth 5% (for a total of 20% of the course grade). You do not need to tell me in advance which week/theme you’ll be writing critical summaries for. Pick weeks that really interest you and when you don’t have much else due. At least one set of summaries needs to be submitted by the 4th week of class so that you will have the benefit of my comments for improving future summaries. Each article’s summary should be approximately 3 double spaced pages (for a total of 6 double spaced pages per week/theme). Summaries are due at the start of class on the weeks you have chosen. Late summaries will not be accepted. Please note that if you do poorly on a summary you will not be given the opportunity to make it up on another week. Why write weekly summaries? Summarizing helps you to fully engage with and understand the reading. Your summary will demonstrate your comprehension of the complexities of the issues. The summaries will also better prepare you to engage in our class discussions.

The summary should include the following:
1. A concise and specific explanation of the author’s main goals. (Avoid generalized descriptions (ex: the author’s goal is to theorize sadomasochism).
2. All scholarship has a theoretical framework. What theoretical framework is used by the author(s) to help them achieve their stated goal?
3. Summarize the specific arguments the author makes the text
4. Reflect on the article and, if possible, relate it to course themes and previous weeks’ readings/discussions.
5. Come up with 1 original and thoughtful question per article that you would like to discuss with the class.

Discussion Facilitation:
In week 1 of the term you will choose one reading and be responsible for helping me facilitate a discussion of that reading. You’re not required to prepare a formal presentation, however, you should be very familiar with the author’s central questions, key arguments and their take-away message. In addition, you should have a good sense of what you’re contributes to our course (how it fits in with, develops, broadens, complicates our understanding of the policing of sex).

To facilitate a discussion of your reading you should come to class with discussion questions, some sort of facilitation exercise (brainstorming session, small group discussions, imaginative exercises, structured debates, contemporary news issue that helps ground a discussion, video). Your discussion questions/activities should be carefully considered and original. Please feel free to discuss with me any ideas you might want to try out. All class facilitation documentation (PowerPoint presentations, written notes) should be submitted to me in hard and electronic copy at the end of the facilitation.
Final Research Paper:

Final Research Paper (13-15 pgs) due **March 27th at 4:00 pm** on a topic that addresses the policing of sexual practices. The paper *must* draw upon at least 2 of the readings in class as well as at least 6 other readings or materials not studied in class. The paper should be submitted electronically via cuLearn **and** in hard copy to the Criminology drop box (C562 Loeb) by 4:00 pm. Further details will be distributed in class on **Feb. 13th**.

**STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM**

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course.

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

- A+ = 90-100
- A  = 85-89
- A - = 80-84
- B+ = 77-79
- B  = 73-76
- B - = 70-72
- C+ = 67-69
- C  = 63-66
- C - = 60-62
- D+ = 57-59
- D  = 53-56
- D - = 50-52
- F    = Below 50

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s).

Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).
POLICIES:

(i) Contact with Instructor
I will be available for consultation with students during my office hours or by appointment. Please e-mail me using the cuLearn e-mail system should you want to set up an appointment outside of regularly scheduled office hours.

(ii) E-mail Policy
Every student is expected to have a Carleton e-mail address and to check it regularly. University policy dictates that Professors will not send e-mails to students at any other addresses. If a class has to be cancelled, or if there is any other matter that you should know about prior to class, you may be sent an email on your Carleton account. E-mails will generally be returned within two business days. Please note that I read and respond to email between 9:00am-6:00pm on weekdays. Emails received late on Friday may not be responded to until the following Tuesday.

(iii) Late Penalties
All assignments must be completed for you to receive a passing grade in this course. Late assignments will be deducted a penalty of 5% for each day submitted after the due date (including weekend days) except under exceptional circumstances, i.e. grave illness. I require third party documentation in order to get an extension; Assignments submitted more than one week after the due date will receive an F. Computer failure, conflicts with work schedules or similar problems are not a valid excuse for failing to submit an assignment on time. Students submitting late assignments must submit a hard copy of the assignment to the Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice drop-box and an electronic version via cuLearn. The Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice drop-box is located on the wall outside the Institute’s door at C562 Loeb Building. Students are responsible to keep an extra copy of any assignment that is submitted for evaluation.

REQUESTS FOR ACCOMMODATION:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).
Course Schedule & Readings
Please note that this schedule and course readings are subject to change.

WEEK 1
January 9: Introduction to the Course

***Sign up for Discussion Facilitation***

WEEK 2
January 16: The Sex Wars: Debating Danger, Pleasure, and (The Many Faces of) Consent


WEEK 3
January 23: Sex Positive (Legal) Interventions: Destabilizing Deviance and the Rise of Queer Criminology


WEEK 4
January 30: “Paying for it”: Commercial Sex

Guest Presenter: TBD


WEEK 5
February 6: “Representing it” Part 1: Pornography and/as Obscenity


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**WEEK 6**

**February 13: “Representing it” Part 2: Child Pornography/‘Sexting’**


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**February 20: *****NO CLASS-WINTER READING WEEK*****

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**WEEK 7**

**February 27: “Asking for it?”: Non/Consensual Drunk Sex**


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**WEEK 8**

**March 6: “Jail bait”: Age, Ability, Cognition and Consent**

***Guidelines for final research paper distributed***


WEEK 9
March 13: “Hurting for it”: Kinky Sex


WEEK 10
March 20: “Flaunting it”: Public Sex


WEEK 11
March 27: “Hating it”: HIV, Hate Crime, and Criminalization

****FINAL RESEARCH PAPER DUE****


WEEK 12
April 3: “Medicalizing it”: Necrophiles, Pedophiles, and Voyeurs


END OF TERM! ENJOY YOUR SUMMER BREAK!