

A decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping, wavy, horizontal bands in various shades of blue, ranging from a deep navy to a bright cyan. The bands flow from the top left towards the right, creating a sense of movement and depth.

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ANG 2461 - Sexuality and Representation

Descriptif

What is sex? What is gender? How do they inform sexuality? How do men and women talk about/experience sex and sexuality? What do they say? Are their actual corporeal or psychological experiences distinctive? What happens if an individual doesn't fit into an assigned sexual category based on gender binaries? Or self-identifies outside of a heteronormative sexual orientation—or a clearly defined gay or lesbian identity? In fact, what is now the “normal”? In “Sexuality and Representation” (ANG2461), we will examine how writers use the page or screen to engage these and many other sometimes fraught issues. Through fiction, memoir/biography, journalism, scholarship, and film, we will explore the role of the sociocultural in the development of individual and sexual identity. Concurrently, we will investigate how individual sexual identities influence larger social systems and the revision of sexual/gender categories. By creating a trajectory—from the historical revision of the archive to the surrealism of science fiction/fantasy—this course will interrogate the impact of sex and sexuality, personal affiliation and social contestation, desire and the taboo in the construction of human identity.