This course will examine the history and politics of LGBT communities in the United States during the twentieth century. No background in the subject is required, though a general knowledge of American history and politics during this period is helpful.

This course counts toward the Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies major.

All students must keep up with the reading and actively participate in class discussion; attendance and class discussion will comprise 40 per cent of your grade.

For each class session, one or two students will be responsible for leading discussion, and for preparing discussion questions about the reading (due the previous evening at 6 pm; distribution by email). This will comprise 20 per cent of your grade.

In addition, students will write three “reaction” papers on the assigned reading (3-5 pp); these are due as indicated. There will also be a final writing assignment, due at the time of the scheduled final exam; this will consist of a review essay covering one additional book, and an essay question. These writing assignments will together constitute 40 per cent of your grade.

Students are reminded to consult the College honor code, and any student with a documented disability should consult the instructor to arrange appropriate accommodation.

Feedback about the course is welcome throughout.

Schedule:

T 2/8. Introduction

Th 2/10. Chauncy, Gay New York, Ch 1-4; skim Ch 5-7.

T 2/15. Chauncy, Ch 8-12 (skim 8 and 9).

T 2/22. Film: “Before Stonewall”


T 3/1. D’Emilio, Ch 8-13.

Th 3/3. Reaction paper due


T 3/15. Duberman, Part 5-7, and Johnson, Ch 8.

Th 3/17. Film: “The Times of Harvey Milk”


Th 3/24. Vaid, Ch 7-12.

T 4/5. Sullivan, *Same-Sex Marriage* (selections)

Th 4/7. Sullivan, *Virtually Normal*

T 4/12. Reaction paper due.


T 4/26. Warner, remainder

Th 4/28. Film: “Paris is Burning”

T 5/3. Altman, *Global Sex*

Th 5/5. Reaction paper due

T 5/10. Yoshino, *Covering*

Th 5/12. Last class
Review essay will cover one of these three books:

Cohen, The Boundaries of Blackness

Phelan, Sexual Strangers

D'Emilio, The World Turned