The main goal of this course is to produce a 20-25 page research paper on some aspect of the history of American sexualities. Students will identify a paper topic, survey relevant secondary material, and conduct basic primary research. The course will emphasize research methods, effective writing strategies for long papers, peer critique and support, and oral presentations skills. 

Note: This course counts toward the GSFS major.

Grading:
Class Participation/Attendance 20
Secondary Source Review 15
Final In-Class Presentation 15
Final Paper 50
Final Grade will be out of 100 points

Class Participation:
Regular attendance and thoughtful, prepared, courteous participation in classroom discussion are required features of the course. Due to the small size of the class and because it meets only once a week, attendance and preparation are very important, as is the careful reading of classmates’ writings. Attendance (and absences) will be considered in determining your final grade.

Written Assignments:
As an upper-level History seminar, this course seeks to provide students with an introduction of sorts to graduate work. Book reviews, original research, and peer evaluation are basic aspects of many academic disciplines, including History, and will play a central role in this course. The papers, including drafts of the final paper, should be legibly typed or word-processed, with reasonable fonts, double-spacing, and 1 inch margins (double-sided printing is encouraged). Please attempt to stay within the assigned page limits.
Note: With very few exceptions, late papers will not be accepted.

In-Class Presentations:
Students will be required to make in-class presentations covering the status of their research and writing during the semester. There will also be a required final, 15-20 minute presentation, including slides, drawn from the final research paper at the end of the semester.

Honor Code
All work in this class is governed by the Honor Code of Oberlin College. The honor code is available at: http://new.oberlin.edu/students/policies/2011-2012/11-Policies-Honor.pdf. If you have questions about how the code applies to any assignment or work done for the class, please feel free to consult the instructor.
Schedule and Reading Assignments:

September 5
Class introduction
Introduction to Research: Jennifer Starkey, Mudd Library

September 12
Museum Visit (Please meet at 12:55pm at main office of museum)
Paragraph (250-300) on topic circulated to class by beginning of class period

September 19
5-page review of two books that plan to use in paper due in class
5 minute presentation on two books.
Please also bring list of additional four books that plan to use in paper to class

September 26
Bring list of 6 primary sources that plan to use in paper to class
5 minute presentation on primary sources

October 3
Research update

October 10
NO CLASS

October 17
5 minute presentation on state of paper
State of research questions:
what is the topic, what else has been written on this topic, what is your argument, how much have you done on the paper so far, what else do you still have to do

October 24
Fall Break, no class.

October 31
15 page draft of paper due, exchange with partner in class

November 7
5 minute research update presentation, with 5 powerpoint slides

November 14
20 page rough draft of paper due in class

November 21
5 minute report on status of paper, what still needs to be done

Rough Draft of Final Paper Due by 5pm, November 27, 2013

November 28
No Class--Thanksgiving

December 5
Research Presentations

December 12
Research Presentations

Final Paper (20-25 pages) due Wednesday December 18, 2013 by 4pm.