This course will examine the creation, maintenance, and reproduction of sexual differences and identities over a broad time span in North American history, beginning with colonial American sexual practices and social formations, and stretching through the "modernization" of sex. Major topics will include marriage, changing gender roles, the intersection of sexuality with race and ethnicity, commercialized sex, reproduction, same sex sexual practices, contraception, sexual violence, heterosexism, danger, desire, and pleasure. **Note: This course counts toward the GSFS major.**

**Required Texts:**
John D'Emilio, Estelle Freedman, *Intimate Matters*
Lisa Duggan, *Sapphic Slashers*
Pippa Holloway, *Sexuality, Politics, and Social Control in Virginia, 1920-1945*

Textbooks are available at the college bookstore. Readings are available on reserve at Mudd Library and through Blackboard.

**Grading:**

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation/Attendance</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper #1</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper #2</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper #3</td>
<td>50</td>
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Final Grade will be out of 200 total points.

**Class Participation:**
Regular attendance and thoughtful, prepared, respectful participation in classroom discussion are required features of the class. Discussions will alternate between small groups and the entire class. Please be prepared to discuss the readings on the assigned date. For certain discussion sections (see syllabus), students will also be required to turn in book or essay reviews (1-2 pages in length) describing the assigned readings at the beginning of the scheduled discussion section.

Attendance will be considered in determining your final grade. Students will be allowed one absence, excused or unexcused, over the course of the semester without affecting the final grade for the course. The second absence will result in a loss of two points from the participation grade. Students missing three or more classes can receive no higher than a B+ for the course. Students who miss five or more classes will not receive credit for the course. Under special circumstances (prolonged illness, death in the family, etc), exceptions can be arranged through consultation with the instructor and the Dean of Students’ office.

**Quizzes**
Scheduled reading quizzes (see below for dates) covering the readings and lecture material will focus on critical events, individuals, and locations in the history of American sexualities.

**Written Assignments:**
The major written assignments for the course will consist of three 5 page papers based on selected primary and secondary sources. Papers must be legibly typed or word-processed, with reasonable fonts, double-spacing, and 1 inch margins. Please attempt to stay within the assigned page limits. Late papers will be penalized 2 points for every 24 hour period the papers are late. Papers more than ten days late will not be accepted. Students must complete all written assignments (including book reviews) in order to receive credit for the course.

**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:

**WEEK 1**

9/5  Introduction

9/7  Frameworks for the Course

**WEEK 2**

9/10  Colonial America, 1500-1780
D'Emilio, Freedman, Introduction-Chapter 1

9/12  Colonial America, 1500-1780
D'Emilio, Freedman, Chapter 2

9/14  Discussion Sections: Please bring 1-2 page review of either Reis or Myles essay to class
Reis, “Hermaphrodites and ‘Same-Sex Sex’ in Early America” (available on Blackboard)
Myles, “Border Crossings” (available on Blackboard)

**WEEK 3**

9/17  Revolutionary America, 1780-1820
D'Emilio, Freedman, Chapter 3

9/19  Revolutionary America, 1780-1820
D'Emilio, Freedman, Chapters 4-5

9/21  Introduction to Research: Jennifer Starkey, Mudd Library

**WEEK 4**

9/24  Antebellum America, 1820-1860
D’Emilio, Freedman, Chapters 6-7

9/26  Quiz #1: D’Emilio/Freedman Parts I,II; Myles, Reis

9/28  Discussion Sections
D’Emilio, Freedman, Chapters 1-7

**WEEK 5**

10/1  Civil War America

10/3  Writing Workshop
*Bring Introductory Paragraph of Paper #1 to Class*

10/5  Gilded Age America, 1880-1900

*1st paper due Friday, October 5, 2012 by 5pm.*
WEEK 6

10/8  Gilded Age America, 1880-1900
Duggan, Introduction-Chapter 1

10/10  Gilded Age America, 1880-1900
Duggan, Chapters 2-3

10/12  Birth of Modern America, 1900-1930
Duggan, Chapter 4

WEEK 7

10/15  Birth of Modern America, 1900-1930
Duggan, Chapters 5-6

10/17  Birth of Modern America, 1900-1930
Duggan, Chapter 7-end

10/19  Discussion Sections
Bring 1-2 page Duggan Book Review to Discussion Section

WEEK 8  FALL RECESS: NO CLASS

WEEK 9

10/29  Birth of Modern America, 1900-1930
D’Emilio, Freedman, Chapter 10
Holloway, Introduction, Chapters 1-3

10/31  New Deal America, 1930-1945
Holloway, Chapter 4

11/2  Quiz #2: Duggan, D’Emilio/Freedman Part III, Holloway

WEEK 10

11/5  New Deal America, 1930-1945
Holloway, Chapter 5-end

11/7  Cold War America, 1945-1960

11/9  Discussion Sections
Bring 1-2 page Holloway Book Review to Discussion Section

WEEK 11

11/12  Cold War America, 1945-1960

11/14  Writing Workshop
Bring Introductory Paragraph of 2nd Paper to Class
11/16     No Class

2nd paper due Friday, November 16, 2012 by 5pm.

WEEK 12

11/19     Cold War America, 1945-1960
D’Emilio, Freedman, Chapters 11-12

11/21     Cold War America, 1945-1960
Joanne Meyerowitz, “Sex Research at the Borders of Gender” (available on Blackboard)

11/23     Thanksgiving Recess: No Class

WEEK 13

11/26     1960s America
D’Emilio, Freedman, Chapter 13

11/28     1960s America
Whitney Strub, “Perversion for Profit” (available on Blackboard)

11/30     1960s America
D’Emilio, Freedman, Chapter 14

WEEK 14

12/3      Quiz #3: Meyerowitz; Strub; D’Emilio/Freedman Part IV

12/5      The 70s and beyond
Gillian Frank, “Discophobia” (available on Blackboard)

12/7      Discussion Sections: Please bring 1-2 page review of either Strub or Frank essay to class

WEEK 15

12/10     The 70s and beyond
D’Emilio, Freedman, Chapter 15

12/12     Writing Workshop
Bring Introductory Paragraph of 3rd Paper to Class

12/14     Class summary

Final Paper due Friday, December 14, 2012 by 9am.