The transnational movement of bodies, images, and capital has transformed modern conceptualizations of gender and sexuality. Sexual practices, identities, and subcultural formations have been altered through processes of migration and tourism, as well as by the advent of new media technologies and the global circulation of categories such as “gay,” “lesbian,” and “transgender.” In this class, we will examine the varied ways local histories and geographies interact with the forces of political, economic, and cultural globalization, focusing especially on the experiences of sexual minorities in the Global South and of queer diasporas in the Global North. Drawing on material from Anthropology, Geography, Literary Studies, Media Studies, and Ethnic Studies, among others, we will investigate non-normative gender and sexual formations in relation to emerging discourses on race and class and to anti-colonial theories of modernity and global capitalism. We will tackle questions such as: How have queer subjects been incorporated into nationalist projects and consumer culture? How has the liberal framework of human rights reshaped the struggles of “queer” movements outside the “West”? In what ways have transnational labor flows and discourses on multiculturalism reshaped notions of queer community and belonging in global cities and in postcolonial metropolitan spaces? What role have media technologies and various forms of visual culture played in the reconstitution of gender and sexual identities and of representations of queer desire, affect, and kinship? In addressing these questions, we will situate categories of gender, class, and racial difference within specific cultural and political contexts. We will draw on examples from different geographical regions in order to investigate how sexual minorities negotiate the borders between and within nation-states.

Requirements
Participation 10%
Seminar Facilitation/Presentation 20%
Final Essay Proposal 20%
Final Essay (5000-6000 words) 50%

Participation

Your participation mark will be based on (1) your regular contribution to seminar discussions and (2) your ability to demonstrate that you have carefully read the required materials. This means that you must come to
class prepared to raise questions and comments about the primary arguments and theoretical claims of the required texts, as well as relevant examples and counter examples. Debate and disagreement are encouraged during discussions; note, however, that discriminatory language will not be tolerated.

Seminar Facilitation

Each student will be asked to lead one seminar. Your task is not to present a summary of the readings, but to encourage a deeper discussion of the required texts. Seminar leaders should:

1. Select 2-4 key passages from the required texts to be used as springboards for seminar discussions. Passages may be key lines that point to the core arguments raised by the text. They may also be difficult and/or controversial passages which the seminar leader would like to explore further in the seminar.

2. Present other examples/materials that can be related to the readings for the week. You are especially encouraged to use materials from visual culture/s, including film and television clips, art objects, and images from the Internet, news media, and advertising, etc.

Note that you are free to be creative when facilitating the seminars and are encouraged to discuss other ideas (apart from 1 and 2 above) with the lecturer.

Assessment criteria for seminar facilitation:

- Did the seminar leader demonstrate a critical understanding of the required texts and of the week’s topic more broadly (i.e. by reading supplemental material)?
- Was the seminar leader able to effectively generate discussion?
- Did the seminar leader provide relevant materials for discussion?

Essay Proposal

Due Date: October 8 (at the start of class)
Word Limit: 1500-2000 words (excluding bibliography)

The essay proposal should include:

- a brief abstract (approximately 300-500 words) that includes a concise statement of the research question and your preliminary argument/s;
- a critical summary and analysis of relevant literature (at least 3 relevant academic sources). (Note that it is not enough to summarize the sources; you must explain how they are relevant to your essay);
- an explanation of the conceptual framework and methods to be used;
• an additional preliminary bibliography containing 5-10 other sources that you will likely engage in your essay

Final Essay

Due Date: December 2 (at the start of the final seminar)
Word Limit (excluding notes and references):
  5000 words for undergraduate students;
  6000 words for graduate students

You must devise your own topic for the final essay. You are advised to think early about what topics relating to the course material you are interested in and to consult regularly with the lecturer about the direction and progress of your essay. Essays can take the form of textual analysis of theoretical, literary, historical, televisual, or cinematic texts (or of other materials from visual culture). For examples of academic essays that address the issues to be examined in this subject, you should consult journals such as GLQ, Sexualities, and Social Text.

A more complete set of instructions for the final essay will be distributed in class.

Policies

Language

In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded. (Approved by Senate on 21 January 2009.)

Academic Honesty

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/integrity for more information).

Content and Evaluation Changes

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University’s control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

Late Submissions

Late submissions will not be accepted without prior permission from the lecturer (or in the case of a documented medical emergency).
## Course Schedule

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<th>Week 1 / Sep 9</th>
<th>Course Introduction</th>
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<th>Week 2 / Sep 16</th>
<th>Thinking Sex, Transnationally</th>
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| Recommended Readings |                                |

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<th>Week 3 / Sep 23</th>
<th>Queer Diasporas I</th>
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<td>Screening:</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Bubot Niyar (Paper Dolls)</em> (2006, dir. Heymann)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Required Readings


Recommended Readings


Neferti Xina M. Tadiar, Fantasy-production: Sexual Economies and Other Philippine Consequences for the New World Order (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2004), esp. Chapter Three.


Eithne Luibhéid, Entry Denied: Controlling Sexuality at the Border (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2002).

Roderick A. Ferguson, Aberrations in Black: Toward a Queer of Color Critique (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2004).

Week 4 / Sep 30

Queer Diasporas II

Required Readings


**Recommended Readings**


**Week 5 / Oct 7**  
**Orientalism and Queer Travel/Tourism I**

**Required Readings**


**Recommended Readings**


Week 6 / Oct 14  
No Classes

Week 7 / Oct 21  
Orientalism and Queer Travel/Tourism II

Required Readings


Recommend Readings


Week 8 / Oct 28  
Race, Sex, Desire

Required Readings


Recommended Readings


Week 9 / Nov 4

**War, Gay Imperialism, Homonationalism I**

Required Readings


Recommended Readings


Week 10 / Nov 11

**War, Gay Imperialism, Homonationalism II**

Required Readings


**Recommend Readings**


Scott Lauria Morgensen, Spaces Between Us: Queer Settler Colonialism and Indigenous Decolonization (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2011).

**Week 11 / Nov 18 Modernity, Tradition, and Global Queering**

**Required Readings**


**Recommended Readings**


Chris Berry, Fran Martin, and Audrey Yue, eds., Mobile Cultures: New Media in Queer Asia (Durham and London: Duke University Press,
2003).


**Week 12 / Nov 25**  
**The Postcolonial City/State**

**Required Readings**


**Recommended Readings**


**Week 13 / Dec 2**  
**Course Closing/Queer Diasporas, Revisited**

**Screening**

*Happy Together* (1997, dir. Wong Kar Wai)

**Required Readings**

GLOBAL SEXUALITIES

FINAL ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS

Length 5000 words for undergraduates; 6000 words for graduate students. Includes all notes and references. Put the final word count at the end of the essay.

Deadline December 2, at the start of class

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

You must devise your own topic for the final essay. You are advised to think early about what topics relating to the course material you are interested in and to consult regularly with the lecturer about the direction and progress of your essay. Essays can analyze theoretical, literary, historical, televisual or cinematic texts, as well as art objects and other materials from visual culture. For examples of academic essays/articles that address the issues to be examined in this subject, you should consult journals such as GLQ, Sexualities, and Social Text.

You are expected to find references related to your topic, read these materials, and come to your own conclusions in response to your set question/s.

FORMAT

Use footnotes (not endnotes, not in-text citations) following the Chicago Manual of Style 15th or 16th edition (Humanities Style). The first citation to a work should be a full citation. Subsequent citations of the same work should be shortened (last name, short title, page number).

Marking Criteria for Essays:

Argument and Structure

• Is the argument structured in a logical, focussed and well-organized manner?
• Has the essay topic been addressed effectively?
• Are the main texts (e.g. film/s, case studies, etc.) clearly identified?
• Is a clear, progressive and well-supported argument evident?
• Is the link from one paragraph to the next clear and logical?
• Does your essay use research and analysis effectively to support the argument?
• Is each paragraph effectively linked to the overall topic?
• Is the length of each paragraph appropriate?

Research Quality

• Is the argument well researched? Please note that the minimum satisfactory level of research for a research essay is 4 academic sources per 1000 words. You must actually use the written sources in the body of your essay and not just have them listed in your bibliography. You must demonstrate sound research by including written academic sources that have not been provided in the reader.
• Does the essay bear evidence of an effective and well targeted research strategy?
• Does the essay clearly demonstrate an understanding of the complexities of the issue being addressed and of the theoretical material used?
• Is research material used effectively to support your argument?
• Is there evidence in the essay that secondary material has been evaluated?
• Is secondary material appropriately integrated?

Expression and Literary Merit

• Is the writing style clear and comprehensible?
• Is the argument expressed in appropriate language?
• Is the language non-discriminatory?
• Are the tone of the essay and the writer’s ‘voice’ engaging? (Admittedly this is a rather vague concept, but it is part of reaching a balance between your research and your argument)
• Are figures of speech (e.g. metaphor) used effectively?
• Have you checked and corrected your grammar and spelling?

Originality

• Do conclusions extend or modify prevailing understandings, showing independent and original thought?
• Does the essay demonstrate an effective engagement with and criticism of research material?
• Does the essay demonstrate an original engagement with and analysis of chosen texts?

Quality of Analysis

• Does the argument demonstrate a clear understanding of the issues surrounding the conduct of research?
• Is the analysis reflective, detailed, clear, and appropriate?

Presentation & Documentation

• Is the beginning of each paragraph clearly indented or separated by a line break?
• Have you presented your work clearly?
• Have you included page numbers and are your pages ordered correctly?
• Are citations of all sources consistent and appropriate?
• Are the footnotes effectively presented?
• Have all sources been referenced (with footnotes)?
• Is the overall length of the essay satisfactory?