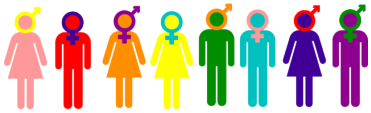
SEX, GENDER, AND CULTURE



ANT 3302
Spring 2018
Tuesday and Thursday: 1:30pm – 2:45pm
CB1 103
3 Credit Hours

Professor: Dr. Shana Harris
Department of Anthropology
Howard Phillips Hall 409N
shana.harris@ucf.edu
407-823-4963
Office Hours: Wednesday: 1:00 - 5:00

Teaching Assistant: Mackenzie Hager
Department of Anthropology
Howard Phillips Hall 309
maryh@knights.ucf.edu
407-823-2227
Office Hours: Tues & Thurs: 3:00 - 4:30

Course Description

Over the last century, anthropologists have demonstrated the pivotal role of socio-cultural factors in how sexuality and gender are lived and experienced around the world. While not discounting the importance of biological understandings of sex, cultural anthropologists stress how our ideas about sexuality and gender are culturally constructed. This course explores the ways in which various cultures and groups construct and provide meaning to sexuality and gender. It will also examine how cultural, political, and economic structures and systems contribute to these constructions and redefine biological distinctions between men and women. Engaging with anthropological theories, ethnographic texts, and films, we will explore these issues in several contexts, including Latin America, Asia, and the United States. This will allow us to learn about the theoretical frameworks used by cultural anthropologists to study sexuality and gender and to question seemingly universal gender and sexual binaries as well as our own understandings of sexuality and gender.

Course Goals

This course has three goals: 1) to provide you with an overview of main anthropological theories on sexuality and gender; 2) to help you identify and challenge taken-for-granted assumptions about sexuality and gender by analyzing different case studies; and 3) to create opportunities for you to think critically about issues surrounding the intersection of sex, gender, and culture.

Course Requirements

Reading and Participation

Reading course materials and active participation in the course are both required. You are expected to attend class having read the required readings for that day. The lectures will cover the readings,

but will be supplemented with additional material. Doing well in the course will depend on keeping up with readings and coming to class prepared to discuss them.

Attendance Policy

You are expected to attend all face-to-face classes, and attendance will be recorded. If you leave class early without letting Dr. Harris or the GTA know the reason before the class, you will be marked as absent for the entire class. Additionally, phone use during class will be noted in the grade roster, which will be used as a negative when calculating your final grade.

Midterm Exam (60 points)

There will be one midterm exam. The exam consists of 60 questions (multiple choice, true/false) and will cover concepts from all texts, videos, and lectures in the first half of the semester. There will be **no make-up exam** except for serious illness, personal/family tragedy, etc. You must let Dr. Harris or the GTA know in advance of any extenuating circumstance that would prevent you from taking the midterm exam as scheduled. Please bring a **brown** scantron and #2 pencil to the exam.

Final Exam (70 points)

The final exam will consist of 70 questions (multiple choice, true/false) and is cumulative. It is based on concepts from all texts, videos, and lectures, with an emphasis on the second half of the course. There will be **no make-up exam** except for serious illness, personal/family tragedy, etc. You must let Dr. Harris or the GTA know in advance of any extenuating circumstance that would prevent you from taking the final exam as scheduled. Please bring a **brown** scantron and #2 pencil to the exam.

Quizzes (5 points each, 70 points total)

There will be 16 quizzes over the course of the semester. Quizzes are based on assigned readings for that day, and will consist of 1-2 questions aimed at assessing whether or not you read and understood the material. The questions will be multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, or narrative. Quizzes will take 5-10 minutes at the beginning of class. There will be **no make-ups** for missed quizzes because your two lowest scores will be dropped.

Grading Structure

Midterm exam	60 points
Final exam	70 points
Quizzes	70 points
Total:	200 points

Attendance record and class participation will be used to help students in borderline cases.

Grading Scale

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
Total Points	186-200	180-185	174-179	166-173	160-165	154-159	146-153	140-145	134-139	126-133	120-125	119-0

Course Policies

Computer Policy

Research has shown that taking notes on a computer is less effective than taking notes with pen and paper. Computers are also often a distraction for the students using them and for their classmates. Therefore, computers are not allowed in class. Please come prepared to take notes by hand. Also, because you will not have access to electronic versions of the readings during class, please bring hard copies of the readings for use during class discussion. You can print 50 pages (front and back) per week for **free** at different locations on campus. If Student Accessibility Services has approved your use of a computer in class, please let Dr. Harris or the GTA know as soon as possible.

Academic Integrity

Cheating will not be tolerated in this course. You are expected to do your own work; cheating and will carry serious consequences. It must be understood that anyone who knowingly aids in cheating (i.e. allowing another student to copy an exam) is as guilty as the cheating student. In the event of academic dishonesty, a zero grade will be given for the exam or quiz, and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an F for the course. Dr. Harris may also assign a "Z" in front of your final course grade on your academic record. For further information regarding the addition, removal and appeals process of the Z designation, see http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade . An offense may be subject to appropriate referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. Please see the UCF Golden Rule for further information.

Punctuality

Arriving late to class is distracting to both Dr. Harris and your classmates. Make every effort to be on time. Tardiness will be noted and marked on attendance records.

Respectful Behavior

You are expected to have a respectful demeanor in all class discussions and interactions with Dr. Harris, the GTA, and classmates. Any inappropriate behavior will be reflected in your final grade.

Knights Email and Webcourses Communication

Given that there will be important email and Webcourses communications between Dr. Harris, the GTA, and the class, you are responsible for checking your "knights.ucf.edu" email and Webcourses inboxes regularly.

Make-up Assignments for Authorized University Events or Co-curricular Activities

Students are frequently asked to represent UCF in authorized events and activities. In some cases, this participation conflicts with the students' course assignments and requirements. It is UCF policy that faculty members offer a reasonable opportunity for such students to complete missed classroom deadlines or assignments. No penalty due to absence may be applied to these make-up assignments. It is your responsibility to present Dr. Harris with a **signed copy** of the Program Verification Form (listing your name) **prior** to the class in which the absence will occur. The

Program Verification Form is available online at: https://provost.ucf.edu/files/2012/03/PROGRAM-VERIFICATION-FORM2.pdf

Student Accessibility Services

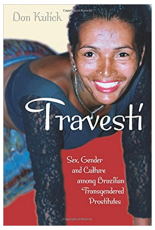
UCF has services available to students with disabilities that are meant to ensure that such students receive appropriate accommodations in their instructional activities. If you believe that you could benefit from the services, please contact Student Accessibility Services at sas@ucf.edu or 407-823-2371 as soon as possible. If you have already used these services and need accommodation to assist you with your learning for this course, please let Dr. Harris or the GTA know immediately.

Academic Activity Record

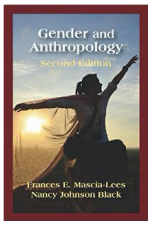
DO THIS ASAP! All students have to document academic activity at the beginning of each semester. To show that you began this course, complete the "Academic Activity" assignment by Friday, January 12, by answering a simple true/false question pertaining to this syllabus. The assignment can be found on the course Webcourses page. This Academic Activity assignment is **not** part of your course grade; it only documents your presence in this class. Failure to complete the assignment may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Required Texts

The required books for this course are:



- Kulick, Don. 1998. *Travesti: Sex, Gender, and Culture among Brazilian Transgendered Prostitutes*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.



- Mascia-Lees, Frances E., and Nancy Johnson Black. 2016. *Gender and Anthropology*. 2nd edition. Prospect Heights: Waveland Press.

The required books are available for purchase at the student bookstore. Several articles and book chapters are also required and are available electronically on the class Webcourses website under **Modules** tab. All assigned articles are listed in the class schedule below, which specifies when you are expected to read them. **Please download articles to your computers and print them** so you can make notes on them and have them available for review later in the semester. To access Webcourses: login on http://webcourses.ucf.edu, go to Courses, and select our class ANT3302-18Spring 0001. For Webcourses technical support, call 407-823-0407.

Course Schedule

Week 1

Tuesday, January 9

- TOPIC: Syllabus and course overview

Thursday, January 11

- TOPIC: Gender Theory – Evolution
- READING: Mascia-Lees and Black, pg. 1-26

Quiz #1

Week 2

Tuesday, January 16

- TOPIC: Gender Theory – Evolution
- READING: Mascia-Lees and Black, pg. 26-40

Quiz #2

Thursday, January 18

- TOPIC: Gender Theory – Materialism
- READING: Mascia-Lees and Black, pg. 41-52

Quiz #3

Week 3

Tuesday, January 23

- TOPIC: Gender Theory – Materialism
- READING: Mascia-Lees and Black, pg. 52-60

Thursday, January 25

- TOPIC: Gender Theory – Psychology
- READING: Mascia-Lees and Black, pg. 61-69

Quiz #4

Week 4

Tuesday, January 30

- TOPIC: Third Genders
- NO READING
- IN-CLASS FILM: The Third Gender

Thursday, February 1

Quiz #5

- TOPIC: Third Genders
- READING: Schmidt, Johanna. 2003. "Paradise Lost?: Social Change and Fa'afafine in Samoa." *Current Sociology* 51:417-432.

Week 5

Tuesday, February 6

- TOPIC: Third Genders
- NO READING
- IN-CLASS FILM: Paradise Bent: Boys Will Be Girls in Samoa

Thursday, February 8

Quiz #6

- TOPIC: Intersexuality
- READING: Preves, Sharon E. 2002. "Sexing the Intersexed: An Analysis of Sociocultural Responses to Intersexuality." *Signs* 27:523-556.

Week 6

Tuesday, February 13

- TOPIC: Intersexuality
- NO READING
- IN-CLASS FILM: Intersexion

Thursday, February 15

- TOPIC: Gender Theory – Structuralism
- READING: Mascia-Lees and Black, pg. 71-82

Quiz #7

Week 7

Tuesday, February 20

Quiz #8

- TOPIC: Gender Theory – Structuralism
- READING: Ortner, Sherry B. 1974. "Is Female To Male As Nature Is To Culture?" In *Woman, Culture & Society*, edited by Michelle Rosaldo and Louise Lamphere, 67-87. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Thursday, February 22

Quiz #9

- TOPIC: Gender Theory – Language
- READING: Mascia-Lees and Black, pg. 83-96

Week 8

Tuesday, February 27

Quiz #10

- TOPIC: Gender Theory – Language
- READING: Martin, Emily. 1991. "The Egg and the Sperm: How Science Has Constructed a Romance Based on Stereotypical Male-Female Roles." *Signs* 16:485-501.

Thursday, March 1

- TOPIC: Reproductive Justice and Intersectionality
- NO READING
- GUEST SPEAKER: Mackenzie Hager

Week 9

Tuesday, March 6

- TOPIC: Midterm Review
- NO READING

Thursday, March 8

Midterm Exam

Week 10

NO CLASS (SPRING BREAK)

Week 11

Tuesday, March 20

- TOPIC: Transgender Experiences
- NO READING
- IN-CLASS FILM: Boys from Brazil

Thursday, March 22

Quiz #11

- TOPIC: Transgender Experiences
- READING: Kulick, Intro and Chapter 1: The Construct of Travesti Life (pg. 1-43)

Week 12

Tuesday, March 27

Quiz #12

- TOPIC: Transgender Experiences
- READING: Kulick, Chapter 2: Becoming a Travesti (pg. 44-95)

Thursday, March 29

Quiz #13

- TOPIC: Transgender Experiences
- READING: Kulick, Chapter 3: A Man in the House (pg. 96-133)

Week 13

Tuesday, April 3

Quiz #14

- TOPIC: Transgender Experiences
- READING: Kulick, Chapter 4: The Pleasure of Prostitution (pg. 134-190)

Thursday, April 5

- TOPIC: Transgender Experiences
- READING: Kulick, Chapter 5: Travesti Gendered Subjectivity (pg. 191-238)

Week 14

Tuesday, April 10

Quiz #15

- TOPIC: Bisexuality
- READING: Alarie, Milaine, and Stéphanie Gaudet. 2013. "'I Don't Know If She Is Bisexual or If She Just Wants to Get Attention': Analyzing the Various Mechanisms Through Which Emerging Adults Invisibilize Bisexuality." *Journal of Bisexuality* 13:191-214.

Thursday, April 12

Quiz #16

- TOPIC: Asexuality
- READING: Scherrer, Kristin S. 2008. "Coming to an Asexual Identity: Negotiating Identity, Negotiating Desire." *Sexualities* 11:621-641.

Week 15

Tuesday, April 17

- TOPIC: Asexuality
- NO READING
- IN-CLASS FILM: (A)Sexual

Thursday, April 19

- TOPIC: Course wrap-up and final exam review
- NO READING

Tuesday, May 1

Final Exam
1:00pm - 3:50pm