Sexualities Concentration of Women’s Studies  
DRAFT April 13, 2009

I. Program Mission

The Sexualities concentration of Women’s Studies will provide students with an understanding of sexualities across aesthetic, cultural, historical, legal, literary, political, and social contexts in which human sexualities have been and are currently being expressed and theorized. The concentration will provide students with insights into the social construction of sexualities through their complex interplay with key variants such as gender, race, and class, within micro-cultural, cross-cultural, national, and global communities.

II. Rationale

The relationship between sex and gender forms one of the most important and ongoing debates in Women’s Studies. Queer theoretical perspectives have challenged women’s studies scholars to trouble the relationship between sexual identity and sexual behavior and sex, gender, and power. Post-colonial feminist scholars have argued limits of analyses that present totalizing constructions of masculinity, femininity, and sexuality. This concentration introduces students to these important theoretical interventions and offers an intersectional and interdisciplinary exploration of sexualities that intersects with our concentrations in globalization and science and technology.

III. Areas of interest include:

- **Social, Historical, and Cultural Construction of Sexualities**
  - Relationship between Sexuality, Discourse, Power and Knowledge
  - Sexualities in Historical Context
  - Representations of Sexualities in Literature, Media, and Visual Arts

- **Intersectional Analysis of Sexualities, Race, Gender, Class, and Nation**
  - Sex, Race, and Politics
  - Comparative Analysis of Sexualities

- **Globalization and Sexuality**
  - Globalization, Sexuality and New Technologies
  - Immigration and Sexuality

- **Sexual Politics and Sexual Citizenship**
  - Politics of Sex Work
  - LGBTQI Movements in Historical and Comparative Perspective
  - Gender Expression, Sexual Difference, and Transgender Policy

- **Science of Sex and Sexualities in Global and Cross-Cultural Perspectives**
  - Reproduction and Reproductive Technologies

- **Heteronormativity and Social Institutions**
  - Sexuality, Family, and Heteronormativity
  - Heteronormativity and the Law
  - Medicine and the Construction of Normal Sex
### Sexuality, Identity, and Culture

**Historical and cross-cultural Perspectives on Sexuality**  
Diversity of Sexual Categories and Identities  
Theoretical and Methodological Approaches to the Study of Sexuality  
Narrative Constructions of Sexuality

#### IV. Core and Potentially Affiliated Faculty:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name/e-mail</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Areas of Interest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Anne D’Alleva  
[Anne.Dalleva@uconn.edu](mailto:Anne.Dalleva@uconn.edu) | Art History | Gender and sexuality in the visual arts of Pacific Islands, particularly Tahiti, Samoa, and New Zealand. |
| Fred Roden  
[fsroden@aol.com](mailto:fsroden@aol.com) | English | Victorian and medieval literature, gender studies and queer theory, and religious studies |
| Serkan Gorkemli  
[Serkan.Gorkemli@uconn.edu](mailto:Serkan.Gorkemli@uconn.edu) | English | LGBT Literature/Queer Theory (LGBT History, Cyberqueer Studies), Rhetoric and Composition (Computers & Writing, Writing centers) |
| Morgne Cramer  
[Morgnecramer@yahoo.com](mailto:Morgnecramer@yahoo.com) | English | Women's Literature and Feminist Theory; Twentieth-Century and American Literature; Lesbian Feminist Studies |
| Margaret Breen  
[Margaret.Breen@uconn.edu](mailto:Margaret.Breen@uconn.edu) | English/WS | LGBT Literature / Queer Theory, Women’s Writing and Feminist Literary Theory, The Novel |
| Mary Bernstein  
[Mary.Bernstein@uconn.edu](mailto:Mary.Bernstein@uconn.edu) | Sociology | Social movements, sexualities, identity |
| Naples, Nancy  
[Nancy.Naples@uconn.edu](mailto:Nancy.Naples@uconn.edu) | Sociology/WS | Sexual citizenship, and reproductive rights. |
| Price, Kim  
[KimberlybPrice@gmail.com](mailto:KimberlybPrice@gmail.com) | Sociology | Gender, Family, Sexualities, and Research Methods |
| Marysol Asencio  
[Marysol.Ascencio@uconn.edu](mailto:Marysol.Ascencio@uconn.edu) | Family Studies & Puerto Rican and Latin@ Studies | Public health, health disparities, human sexualities, and reproduction |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Courses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Micki McElya</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Twentieth-Century U.S., Histories of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Cultural History, Feminist and Queer Theories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sylvia Schafer</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Modern European political and cultural history, France, law, sexual difference, sexuality and feminist theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ingrid Semaan</td>
<td>WS and Sociology, Stamford</td>
<td>Gender and Violence</td>
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V. Non-comprehensive list of courses:

Gender and Sexualities (WS 3252)
Introduction to LGBT Literature (ENGL 3613)
Advanced Study: LGBT Literature (ENGL 4613W)
Sociology of Sexualities (WS 3621/W/ SOCI 3621/W)
Latinos: Sexuality and Gender (HDFS 3268)
Issues in Human Sexuality (HDFS 3277)
Gender and Sexuality in Modern Europe (HIST/WS 3416)
Sexualities, Activism, and Globalization (WS 2xxx)
Gender and Science (WS 2xxx)
Women and Health (WS 2453/Soci)
Latinos: Sexuality and Gender (HDFS 3268)
Issues in Human Sexuality (HDFS 3277)
Gender and Science (WS 2xxx)
Psychology of Women (WS3102/Psych 3102)
Women and Body Art (WS 3251)
Women and Violence (WS3263)
Seminar on Rape Education and Awareness I (WS 3271)
Seminar on Rape Education and Awareness II (WS 3272)
Sex and Gender (Anth 3351)
 Ethnicities, Sexualities, Modernisms (WS 3209/Arth 3040)

VI. Recommended Course Sequence

1000-level: either Gender and Everyday Life (WS 1105) or Gender in Global Perspective (WS 1124)

2000-level: Sexualities, Activism, and Globalization (WS 2xxx)
3000-level: either Genders and Sexualities (WS 3252) or Sociology of Sexualities (WS and SOCI 3621/W)