GSWS 431-4: LOCAL SEX ON GLOBAL SCREEN

Professor: Dr. Helen Leung  
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Office: AQ5104A  
Office hours: TBA  
Lecture: Mondays 9:30 – 13:20; AQ 5049

COURSE DESCRIPTION:  
This course examines the globalization of sexual cultures and the emergence of queer screen culture outside of North America and Europe. We will analyze the impact of globalization on local, diasporic, and postcolonial expressions of sexual practice and gender identity. In turn, we will also explore the various ways in which these mediatized expressions reframe our understanding of LGBTQ issues from transcultural and comparative perspectives.

Course Objectives  
Students are expected to:  
• gain a comprehensive understanding of current theoretical perspectives on queer cinema, its relation to the globalization of sexual cultures and to LGBTQ identities and politics  
• acquire literacy in the aesthetics and politics of global queer cinemas through in-depth case studies of representative films  
• learn research techniques and critical skills in writing film analysis  
• develop creative and interdisciplinary perspectives on sexuality and screen culture  
• experience collaborative work and cultivate self-reflective awareness of the collaborative process

EDUCATIONAL GOALS:  
For more detailed information please see the GSWS website: http://www.sfu.ca/gsws/courses/Educational_Goals.html

COURSE TEXTS AND COURSEWARE:  
All books and articles are available electronically through the SFU library catalogue.  
• Karl Schoonover and Rosalind Galt, Queer Cinema in The World (Duke UP, 2016)  
• Various articles on transnational, diasporic, and postcolonial queer cinemas by authors including B. Ruby Rich, Jose Neil Garcia, Gayatri Gopinath, Nick Rees-Roberts, Song Hwee Lim, Hamid Naficy, Audrey Yue and others.  
• Selected films will be screened in class or made available for streaming at home.

COURSE EVALUATION AND ASSIGNMENTS:  
Attendance & Participation (10%)  
Weekly Response on Canvas (10%)  
“Be A Film Critic!” Creative Project (20%)  
Film Analysis (3-4 pages) (20%):  
Final Research Paper (8-10 pages) (40%)

PREREQUISITE: 45 units including six units in GSWS or WS or GDST.
COURSE EVALUATION AND ASSIGNMENTS DETAILS:

• Attendance & Participation (10%): The attendance & participation grade reflects the punctuality and regularity of your class attendance, your degree of preparedness and involvement during class discussion, and your contribution to the learning environment.

• Weekly Response on Canvas (10%): Students are required to post discussion questions, comments, or responses about the issues raised by the film, the readings, and/or the class discussion every week. This grade is primarily marked on efforts and degree of engagement.

• “Be A Film Critic!” Creative Project (20%): Using a non-academic format (e.g. a short video, a podcast segment, a blog post, a magazine article etc.), introduce and discuss a queer film (one that has not been screened in class) of your choice.

• Film Analysis (3-4 pages) (20%): A detailed analysis of one of the films screened in class. Your analysis is expected to show: 1) some degree of outside research on the film’s context, 2) original analysis of the aesthetic and/or social significance of the film, and 3) critical reflections on the film’s relation to global queer cinema.

• Final Research Paper (8-10 pages) (40%): A research paper on any aspects of queer and/or trans cinema or screen culture.