GSWS 204-3: Sex and the City

Professor: Dr. Tiffany Muller Myrdahl  
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Office hours: TBC  
Lecture: Mondays 14:30 – 17:20; HC 1530

Course Description:  
This course explores the sexual politics of urban spaces by examining questions such as: What are the explicit and implicit ways that certain forms of sexuality (as well as sex acts and gender expression) are promoted or policed? Whose bodies - and which practices - are managed? How and where do these forms of management take place? The course examines various aspects of the urban form (including but not limited to: the built environment, social relations, laws and policies, oral histories, and memorial landscapes) to investigate the ongoing conversation between cities and the intimate lives of their residents. Please note: this course asks students to consider explicit content - sex acts, not just sexual identities - in order to think through the mutual production of cities and sexualities.

Educational Goals:  
Students will develop an understanding for the geographies of sexualities and be able to articulate how notions of gender, sex, and sexuality are intertwined with and productive of the urban form. Students will use analytical writing and creative project design to enhance their capacity to interpret and interrogate the role that sexuality and gender play in urban and suburban spaces.

Course Texts and Courseware:  
• Various texts and similar content (journal articles, memoirs, podcasts, etc.) available online and/or via SFU library databases.

Course Evaluation and Assignments:  
Attendance & class participation  15%  
Reading responses (2)  25%  
Social media analysis  25%  
Creative project + analysis  35%

Prerequisite: none