This course will examine the ways in which dominant culture organizes, sustains, and sexually differentiates desire, a topic of critical importance to feminism and other revolutionary systems of thought. We will consider utopian models of desire, some of which abolish sexual difference, and others of which reconceptualize it. Theoretical materials will include works by Marx, Freud, Lacan, Deleuze, Guattari, Irigaray, Jameson and Kristeva. These materials will be aligned with Proust's great novel of classic and alternative desire, Remembrance of Things Past. (Readings will be in English.)

Required Reading

- Proust
  - Swann's Way
  - Within a Budding Grove
  - The Guermantes Way
  - Cities of the Plain
- Freud
  - Interpretation of Dreams
  - Beyond the Pleasure Principle
- Deleuze
  - Proust and Signs
- Silverman
  - The Subject of Semiotics

In addition, a xerox packet will be made available to students at cost.

Course Assignments

Students will be asked to read all assigned materials, to participate in class discussions, and to keep an academic journal in which they make frequent short entries.

The semester's grade will be based on class participation (25%), and the academic journal (75%).

Note: Students are advised to read the Proust texts before the first day of classes.