WS 822-5: Graduate Seminar in Feminist Theory
- Theories of Queer Genders

Helen Leung

In this course, we will examine the emergence of transgender theory and its impact for feminist and queer analyses of gender. By paying attention to the tension as well as intersections between transgender, queer, and feminist theories, we will consider how these theoretical frameworks may be complicated and enriched by each other. We will also discuss various fictional and cinematic articulations of queer forms of gender and explore their relation to and significance for the realm of theory. The course will hopefully open up new theoretical and political possibilities for us to imagine gender diversity and sexual freedom, both in our works and in our lives.

The course will be conducted as a seminar and students are expected to participate actively in class discussion. Each student will be required to give an oral presentation on an assigned topic and to write a research paper on a relevant topic of their choice.

Required Texts:
Custom Courseware (Additional essays by Judith Butler, Pat Califia, Jacob Hale, Emi Koyama, Kate More, Gayle Rubin, Susan Stryker, and Stephen Whittle.)

Films:
*A Boy Named Sue* (dir. Julie Wyman, 2000)
*Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (dir. John Cameron Mitchell, 2001)
*Shinjuku Boys* (dir. Kim Longinotto and Jano Williams, 1995)
*Gendernauts* (dir. Monica Treut, 1999)
*Portland Street Blues* (dir. Wilson Yip, 1999)
*Ke Kulana He Mahu: Remembering a Sense of Place* (dir. Kathryn Xian & Brent Anbe, 2001)

Course Requirements & Grading Structure:
Oral presentation  40%
Research paper  60%

THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN'S STUDIES ENCOURAGES CLARITY OF THOUGHT AND EXPRESSION AND GOOD WRITING. STUDENTS WILL BE EVALUATED ON THESE SKILLS IN ALL COURSES GIVEN BY THE DEPARTMENT.