GDST 301-4: Queer Genders

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This course introduces students to current debates on gender identity and gender difference from the perspectives of queer subjects. We will explore recent theoretical and cultural works on queer forms of gender and consider the challenges they pose to our understanding of sex, gender, sexuality, and the body. Paying attention to the tension as well as convergence between transgender, queer, and feminist perspectives, we will consider how these different communities may engage with each other and build productive alliances. While most of the theoretical works are by North American authors, we will address their limits through a consideration of films from Europe and Asia.

**Required Reading:**
Custom Courseware

**Mini Films Series** (Films are subject to change, depending on availability)
*All About My Father* (2002, Norway)
*La Perona de Leo N.* (2005, Italy)
*Beautiful Boxer* (2004, Thailand)
*Wild Side* (2004, France)
*Shinjuku Boys* (1995, Japan)
Selections from *Here Comes The Rainbow* (2005, Hong Kong)

**Course requirements and Grading**

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance &amp; participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 short paper (3-4 pg)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research paper (8-10 pgs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>On-line Film Diary</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class presentation (10 min)</td>
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**Description of Assignments**

*Attendance & participation*: Attendance and degree of involvement during class discussion and contribution to the learning environment.

*Short papers*: A 3-4 pg critical analysis of selected course texts.

*Research Paper*: A critical essay that develops a relevant topic of your choice based on a combination of class reading and independent research outside of the course syllabus.

*On-line Film Diary*: Weekly on-line responses to the films viewed during week 9-12.

*Class Presentation*: 10 min. report on an extra reading related to course texts.

**Prerequisites**: GDST 200. Students who have taken WS 301-4 Special Topic: Theorizing Queer Genders, may not take this course for further credit.
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.