

Political Science 321—Queer and Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Politics
Spring 2019

TuTh10-12, AH 030

W5-7, AH 030 (as scheduled below)

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Office hours: Tuesdays 12-1, Wednesdays 2-4

Other times by appointment

Six times in the last thirty years the US Supreme Court has directly addressed the rights of lesbian, gay, and bisexual citizens. During this time the US Congress acted decisively to defend the institution of marriage from the threat posed by same-sex marriages, to protect military personnel from the homosexual gaze, and then to allow LGB people to serve. More than two dozen state legislatures and more than two hundred municipal governments have included sexual orientation in their civil rights laws; increasingly these laws address gender identity. Citizens in numerous states and municipalities have voted on initiatives and referenda addressing the rights of lesbian, transgender, bisexual, and gay citizens. Last year the US Supreme Court declined to rule on the rights of transgender citizens. Many political analysts argue that ballot propositions related to LTBG rights have affected the outcomes of elections for national and state offices. These are only a few indications of the impact that queer, transgender, lesbian, bisexual, and gay citizens have had on US political institutions and public policies.

In studying queer and LGBT politics, one may look within queer and LGBT communities to answer questions about the distribution of power, structure of communal institutions, and sources of conflict. Alternatively one may examine the confrontation of queer and BTGL movements with political institutions as the former seek to create social change. This course will focus on that confrontation. We will not dismiss intra-movement politics but we will emphasize their implications for extra-movement political strategy. Three topics will provide an organizing framework for our discussions: law as an instrument of social change, how LGBT organizations have engaged electoral politics, and how reform and liberation aspirations have shaped the movement's politics.

Assignments

I propose three assignments for the term. If you would like to offer an alternative to any of the following, talk with me about it.

Political Argument—due 30 May at 10 AM

This project will focus on a political strategy, public policy, or theoretical issue relevant to queer or BTGL politics. My purpose in making this assignment is to engage you in the politics of Queer and/or LGBT movements. That is, I would like you to take the perspective of a participant in the

movement (e.g., activist, lawyer, policy analyst, intellectual) and advance an argument about the direction of the movement. Your argument should take the form of a legal brief, strategy paper prepared for a queer rights organization, pamphlet/zine, or theoretical essay that could be submitted to a queer journal (e.g. *International Gay and Lesbian Review*). I will make time available for each of you to consult with me as you begin research for your arguments. You will be well served to take advantage of the opportunity for consultation.

You should document the argument in the style appropriate to the format you have chosen. For legal briefs, use footnotes and tables of authorities; for essays, use an appropriate citation style. APA, MLA, and APSA all are appropriate. If the appropriate style does not include citations, you should append a bibliographic essay to your argument. Bibliographic essays describe how you acquired information and include a list of references; these essays narrate your research process.

Be sure to cite all sources for ideas that are not your own and for facts that are not common knowledge. When you quote or paraphrase a very specific claim, cite the page number on which the relevant passage may be found. Try to paraphrase when possible, avoiding extended quotations. Essays should be no longer than eight, double-spaced pages. Please number the pages. Papers will be evaluated according to the following criteria: writing, understanding and application of key concepts, clear statement of a thesis, development of a sound argument, and insight.

Midterm Examination—2 May

This will be an in-class examination focusing on the first part of the course (through 3 May).

Final Examination—13 June

This will be a comprehensive examination. It will be given during the scheduled final examination period.

Grades

Grades are a source of unpleasantness and ambivalence for me. I am not at all sure of their value; their assignment often reveals a gulf in understanding between students and me. But assigning grades is part of my job and I am committed to doing it with integrity. Thus I do my best to assign letter grades that reflect the quality of students' work. In my experience, some of that work is excellent; some is good; much of it is fair; and some is indeed poor. For the purpose of calculating grades, each assignment will be weighted according the table below.

Participation grades will reflect both regular attendance and the quality of your contributions to class discussion. The following is offered as a general set of guidelines and should not be seen as a promise of any particular grade. Other things being equal, regular attendance and occasional questions/comments related to course reading will merit a grade in the range from C to B. Participation characterized by regular attendance and specific questions *about the reading* that lead to clarification of concepts and arguments presented by the authors will generally merit a grade of B+. Students who go beyond this level to extend particular ideas from the

reading and grapple with broader issues in (queer or TGBL) politics will merit grades in the A range. In general I will not formally monitor attendance but will, on randomly selected dates, record class attendance and assign in-class projects. The record generated by these random forays will contribute to participation grades.

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Percent of Course Grade</u>
Midterm Examination	30
Political Argument	25
Final Examination	35
Participation	10

Books Ordered for the Course

Brettschneider, Marla, Susan Burgess, and Christine Keating. 2017. *LGBTQ Politics: A Critical Reader*. New York: New York University Press.

Mezey, Susan Gluck. 2017. *Beyond Marriage: Continuing Battles for LGBT Rights*. New York: Rowman & Littlefield.

Spade, Dean. 2015. *Normal Life: Administrative Violence, Critical Trans Politics and the Limits of Law*. Durham: Duke University Press.

Schedule:

Wednesday Nights

We will meet on five Wednesday evenings during the quarter. These periods will be used to watch and discuss videos that examine the history of queer and LGBT politics in the US. Please reserve 5-7 PM on the following dates: 3 April, 10 April, 17 April, 24 April, 1 May.

Tuesdays and Thursdays

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topic and Reading</u>
4/2	Queer or LGBT Politics
4/3	The Question of Equality: Part 1 Outrage 69
4/4	Alternative Paths to Citizenship Peters, The Decline and Fall of the 'H' Word Currah, All My Ducks Varnell, 'Civic Inclusion' Not 'Civil Rights' Raico, Gay Rights

	<p>Cohen, Cathy J. 1999. What is this Movement Doing to My Politics? <i>Social Text</i> 61(Winter):111-118.</p> <p>DeFilippis and Anderson-Nathe, Embodying Margin to Center (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>)</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> Duggan, Beyond Marriage</p> <p>Cohen, Cathy J. 1997. Punks, Bulldaggers, and Welfare Queens: The Radical Potential of Queer Politics? <i>GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies</i>. 3(4):43-465.</p> <p>Cohen, Cathy J. 2012. Obama, Neoliberalism, and the 2012 Election. <i>Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society</i> 14(1-2):19-27.</p> <p>Duggan, Lisa and Richard Kim. 2005. Beyond Gay Marriage: Countering the Right's Broader Agenda. <i>The Nation</i> 281(3):24-27.</p> <p>Fetner, Tina. 2001. Working Anita Bryant: The Impact of Christian Anti-Gay Activism on Lesbian and Gay Movement Claims. <i>Social Problems</i> 48(3):411-428.</p> <p>Ghaziani, Amin. 2016. Cycles of Sameness and Difference in LGBT Social Movements. <i>Annual Review of Sociology</i> 43:165-183.</p>
4/9	<p>LGBT(?) Politics</p> <p>Murib, Rethinking GLBT (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>)</p> <p>Smith, Schulenberg, and Baldwin, The "B" Isn't Silent (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>)</p> <p>Aultman and Currah, Politics Outside the Law (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>)</p>
4/10	<p>The Times of Harvey Milk</p>
4/11	<p>LGBT Politics and the Law</p> <p>Lawrence v. Texas (Kennedy Opinion, Scalia Dissent)</p> <p>Kaplan, Morris B. 2008. Hate Crime and the Privatization of Political Responsibility: Protecting Queer Citizens in the United States? <i>Liverpool Law Review</i> 29:37-50. (library)</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> Bowers v. Hardwick (Syllabus and White Opinion)</p> <p>Swiffen, Amy. 2014. New Resistance to Hate Crime Legislation and the Concept of Law. <i>Law, Culture and Humanities</i>, https://www.academia.edu/12708397/New_Resistance_to_Hate_Crime_Legislation_and_the_Concept_of_Law</p>

4/16	<p>Employment Rights Mezey, Chapter 1 Broussard v. Tower Loan (complaint and ruling)</p>
4/17	<p>The Question of Equality: Part 2 Culture Wars</p>
4/18	<p>Transgender Rights in the Courts and Legislatures Mezey, Chapter 2 G.G. v. Gloucester County School Board, Solicitor General’s Letter</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> Arkles, Gabriel, Pooja Gehi, and Elana Redfield. 2010. The Role of Lawyers in Trans Liberation: Building a Transformative Movement for Social Change. <i>Seattle Journal for Social Justice</i> 8(2): 579-641. Ballard, Amy. 2012. Sex Change: Changing the Face of Transgender Policy in the United States. <i>Cardozo Journal of Law & Gender</i> 18:775-799. Sellers, Mitchell Dylan. 2014. Discrimination and the Transgender Population: Analysis of the Functionality of Local Government Policies That Protect Gender Identity. <i>Administration & Society</i> 46(1):70-86.</p>
4/23	<p>Marriage Equality and the Law Mezey, Chapter 3 Obergefell v. Hodges (Opinion June 26, 2015) Daum, Marriage Equality (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>)</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> US v. Windsor (p1-60) Lee, Jess. 2018. Black LGBT Identities and Perceptions of Same-Sex Marriage. <i>Journal of Homosexuality</i> 65(14):2005-2027. D’Emilio, John. 2006. The Marriage Fight is Setting Us Back. <i>Gay and Lesbian Review</i> (November-December):10-11. Rauch, Jonathan. 2004. Objections to These Unions: What Friedrich Hayek Can Teach Us about Gay Marriage. <i>Reasononline: Free Minds and Free Markets</i>.</p>
4/24	<p>The Question of Equality: Part 3 Hollow Liberty</p>
4/25	<p>After Obergefell Mezey, Chapter 4 Masterpiece Cakeshop, Ltd. v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission Freedom of Association</p>

	<p>Thomas, George. 2018. Religious Liberty, Same-Sex Marriage and Public Accommodations. <i>Perspectives on Politics</i> 16(1):58-72.</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> Arlene's Flowers, Inc. v. Washington (1-32)</p> <p>Singer, Joseph William. 2015. We Don't Serve Your Kind Here: Public Accommodation and the Mark of Sodom. <i>Boston University Law Review</i> 95:929-950.</p> <p>Kennedy, Randall. 2005. Marriage and the Struggle for Gay, Lesbian, and Black Liberation. <i>Utah Law Review</i> 781-801.</p> <p>Dorf, Michael C. and Sidney Tarrow. 2014. Strange Bedfellows: How an Anticipatory Countermovement Brought Same-Sex Marriage into the Public Arena. <i>Law & Social Inquiry</i> 39(2):449-473.</p>
4/30	<p>Gender Self Determination</p> <p>Davis, Single-Sex Colleges (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>)</p> <p>Davis, Heath Fogg. 2014. Sex-Classification Policies as Transgender Discrimination: An Intersectional Critique. <i>Perspectives on Politics</i> 12(1):45-60. (library)</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> Currah, Paisley. 2013. Homonationalism, State Rationalities, and Sex Contradictions. <i>Theory & Event</i> 16(1):</p> <p>Taylor, Jami K., Daniel C. Lewis, Matthew L. Jacobsmeier, and Brian DiSarro. 2012. Content and Complexity in Policy Reinvention and Diffusion: Gay and Transgender-Inclusive Laws Against Discrimination. <i>State Politics & Policy Quarterly</i> 12(1):75-98.</p>
5/1	How to Survive a Plague
5/2	Midterm
5/7	Political Science Association Conference
5/9	<p>Public Opinion</p> <p>Garretson, The How, Why, and Who (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>)</p> <p>Haider-Markel and Miller, Equality or Transformation? (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>)</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> Brewer, Paul R. 2014. Public Opinion about Gay Rights and Gay Marriage. <i>International Journal of Public Opinion Research</i>. 26(3):279-282.</p>

	<p>Herman, Jody L. 2014. The Potential Impact of Voter Identification Laws on Transgender Voters in the 2014 General Election. The Williams Institute, UCLA. Available at: http://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/research/transgender-issues/voter-id-laws-sept-2014/</p>
5/14	<p>Campaigns and Elections Perry and Manley, Case Studies of Black Lesbian and Gay Candidates (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>) Snell, Equality in the House (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>) Stone, Amy L. and Jane Ward. 2011. From 'Black people are not a homosexual act' to 'gay is the new Black': Mapping White Uses of Blackness in Modern Gay Rights Campaigns in the United States. <i>Social Identities</i> 17(5):605-624.</p>
5/16	<p>Identities, Coalitions, and Intersections Terriquez, Veronica. 2015. Intersectional Mobilization, Social Movement Spillover, and Queer Youth Leadership in the Immigrant Rights Movement. <i>Social Problems</i> 62(3):343-362. Price, Queering Reproductive Justice (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>)</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> Gamson, Josh. 1989. Silence, Death, and the Invisible Enemy: AIDS Activism and Social Movement "Newness." <i>Social Problems</i> 36(4):351-365. Rand, Erin J. 2013. An Appetite for Activism: The Lesbian Avengers and the Queer Politics of Visibility. <i>Women Studies in Communication</i> 36(2):121-141. Stein, Arlene. 2010. The Incredible Shrinking Lesbian World and other Queer Conundra. <i>Sexualities</i> 13(1):21-32.</p>
5/21	<p>Queer and LGBT Politics Rohrer, Scouting for Normalcy (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>) Mucciaroni, Whither the LGBTQ Movement (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>) Thomas, Queer Sensibilities (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>) Stodolka, You Don't Belong Here (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>)</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> Bassichis, Morgan and Dean Spade. 2014. Queer Politics and Anti-Blackness. In Jin Haritaworn, Adi Kuntsman, and Silvia Posocco, <i>Queer Necropolitics</i>. New York: Routledge. Gamson, Josh. 1995. Must Identity Movements Self-Destruct? A Queer Dilemma. <i>Social Problems</i> 42(3):390-406.</p>

5/23	<p>To Seek a Normal Life? Seidman, Steven and Chet Meeks. 2011. The Politics of Authenticity: Civic Individualism and the Cultural Roots of Gay Normalization. <i>Cultural Sociology</i> 5(4):519-536. (library) Spade, Introduction, Chapter 1</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> Burke, Mary C. and Mary Bernstein. 2014. How the Right Usurped the Queer Agenda: Frame Co-optation in Political Discourse. <i>Sociological Forum</i> 29(4):830-850.</p>
5/28	<p>Critical Trans Politics I Spade, Chapters 2-3</p>
5/30	<p>Critical Trans Politics II Spade, Chapter 4</p> <p>Political Argument Due</p>
6/4	<p>Critical Trans Politics III Spade, Chapter 5, Conclusion Meade and Young, Queering the Feminist Dollar (In Brettschneider <i>et al.</i>)</p>
6/6	<p>Summing Up</p>
6/13, 8-10 AM	<p>Final Exam</p>

Instructor's Policies

Make-up Exams: Students are expected to take exams at the scheduled times. If you know now that you cannot take one of the exams at the scheduled time, you should not enroll in this class. Make-up exams will be given only when absences are due to illness or family emergency. All make-up exams will be administered on Friday 14 June at 1 PM.

Accommodations: Please let me know if you require any accommodations regarding class sessions or examinations. I will work with the Disability Access Center to provide appropriate accommodations.

Academic Honesty: The core requirement of academic honesty is that we do not take credit for others' work. When we draw on the work of others (through direct quotation, the use of ideas developed by other authors, or by making factual claims), we must acknowledge original sources. There are various methods for citing sources. The library maintains a collection of citation guides that you can find here: http://libguides.wvu.edu/citation_style. You may also find information about academic dishonesty at <http://libguides.wvu.edu/plagiarism>. I am happy to discuss any of these issues with you.

Appendix: Student Learning Objectives

Of late, Western (along with many other universities) has taken an interest in the practice of assessment. One of the consequences of this interest is a requirement that faculty list student learning objectives on their syllabi. Please do not let the following limit what you take from your work in this class.

1. Gain substantive knowledge in the disciplines of political science and sociology related to the role of Queer and LGBT movements in US politics.
2. Demonstrate writing competence.
3. Engage in independent research. The political argument assignment and your curiosity will afford you the opportunity to practice research (independently).
4. Demonstrate critical, independent thinking about politics and public life as related to queer and BTLG movements in the US.