UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
LONDON, ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF GENDER, SEXUALITY AND WOMEN’S STUDIES

2160A INTIMATE RELATIONS; SEX, GENDER, AND LOVE
Course Syllabus Fall 2022

INSTRUCTOR: DR. LAUREN AUGER
EMAIL: lauger3@uwo.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays at 3:30-4:30 in 3249 Lawson Hall or by appointment online

CLASS TIME: Tuesdays 4:30-7:30

CLASS LOCATION: Spencer Engineering Building (SEB) 2200

PREREQUISITE(S): No Prerequisites

LAND STATEMENT
Western University is situated on the traditional land of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaune, Lenape and Attawandaron peoples who have longstanding relationships to the region of southwestern Ontario and the City of London. In close proximity to Western, there are 3 local First Nations communities: the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Munsee Delaware Nation. In the region of southwestern Ontario, there are 9 First Nations and a growing Indigenous urban population. Western recognizes the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original peoples of Turtle Island (North America) to the development of Canada.”

COURSE WEBSITE
All course information, including assignments, will be posted on the course website. Go to https://owl.uwo.ca/portal.

COVID STATEMENT
The format of the course may change due safety concerns with the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic based on guidelines from the University or governing health unit (s).

DEPARTMENTAL COURSE DESCRIPTION
Intimate Relations focuses on how expectations of intimacy and relationships rely on particular understandings of love, sex, sexuality and bodies to shape how we experience ourselves as gendered and sexual beings. The course considers how intimacy (sexual, maternal, familial, affectionate) is understood in relation to history, philosophy, health, society and popular culture.

DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION

Intimate relations are fundamental to how we understand ourselves. This course will explore intimate relations in history, culture, society, and personal experience. We will examine how historical and cultural understandings of gender and sexuality impact people’s lived experiences as well as their subjectivities. Intimate Relations; Sex, Gender, and Love will challenge you to unpack the ways in which dominant understandings regarding sex, gender, and love impact your own intimate relations and experiences.

KEY COURSE QUESTIONS:

- What is intimacy?
- How do dominant discourses regarding gender, sexualities, and love impact people’s intimate relations?
- How do dominant discourses regarding love impact people’s expectations for love in their own lives?
- How do dominant discourses regarding gender, sexualities, and love impact people’s sense of self?
- How do discriminatory discourses regarding race, sexualities, disability, and gender impact people’s lived experiences and identities?
- How have dominant discourses regarding gender, sexualities, and love changed over time?
- How can experiences be resistant to dominant perspectives and ways of being?

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Students will develop their understanding of intimate relations through an interdisciplinary approach.

2. Students will learn that there are many kinds of intimate relations including sexual, familial, maternal, paternal, and affectionate.

3. They will demonstrate their ability to make connections between, and critically engage with, interdisciplinary scholarship on intimate relations, gender, sexuality, and love in course assessments.
4. Students will learn through participating in this course that dominant discourses regarding gender, sex, and love impact people’s lived experiences and sexualities.

5. Students will grow to understand that despite the power of dominant discourses, experiences and subjectivities can be resilient to dominant perspectives and ways of being.

6. Through this course, students will learn that dominant discourses can be harmful to people, communities, and understandings of self.

7. Students are encouraged to connect course content with their personal experiences.

8. Through course work, students will develop their critical thinking abilities making connections between multiple themes, discourses, and experiences.

9. The course will help develop students’ written communication skills particularly focusing on organizing essays and arguments, developing a clear writing style, and writing mechanics.

EVALUATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self-Reflection Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION

Mid-Term Exam (2 hours) (40% of final grade) Tuesday, October 18-4:30-6:30. The exam will cover weeks 1-5.

Self-Reflection Paper (20% of final grade) (1000 words 3 pages double spaced Times New Roman font size 12) due in the OWL Assignment box Tuesday, November 15, at 11:00 pm

Write a reflection paper on a topic from the course that resonated with you. Your thesis will be why you think that this topic is significant. You need to draw on two readings from this course to help you support this argument. To help support your argument, you must also draw on one piece of additional course content, for instance a guest lecture, video, or popular resource presented in the course.

Final Exam (2 hours) (40% of the final grade) The exam will cover week 1 as well as weeks 7-12. It will be scheduled during the exam period.
COURSE POLICIES

LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS AND EMAIL POLICIES
Participants enrolled in this class are expected to complete the required course readings, attend all class sessions, respectfully contribute to classroom activities and discussions, and complete course assignments on time. Electronics such as computers and smartphones are permitted. However, please be respectful and refrain from using your electronics for outside activity during class. Please have your telephones set to silent. You will not be permitted to use electronics during the examinations. Our learning environments (including online) will be respectful spaces. I will try to reply to emails within twenty-four hours. Please do not expect an immediate response. Put the course code in the subject line of the email. Be as specific as possible with your questions. Specific questions receive specific answers. I may not respond to emails on weekends or during the evenings. However, I will check my email every twenty-four hours during the work week. If your question is more appropriately handled in-person, please feel free to make an appointment during my office hours or see me after class.

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY
Your self-reflection paper must be submitted at the beginning of class in the OWL assignment drop box. I will apply a penalty of 2% per day for late assignments. Submit late papers to the late assignment OWL drop box for that assignment.

ACADEMIC CONSIDERATION
Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness see the online Academic Calendar; information can also be found here: (https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm.

NOTE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Please contact gswsugchair@uwo.ca if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you. You may also contact aew@uwo.ca to find out the full range of services available to you.

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS
“Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should
give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.”

PLAGIARISM
Plagiarism constitutes a serious academic offense.

“Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offense Policy in the Western Academic Calendar). Plagiarism checking: The University of Western Ontario uses software for plagiarism checking. Students may be required to submit their work in electronic form for plagiarism checking” (U.W.O. Senate statement on plagiarism)

If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please contact your TA and/or instructor.

You cannot submit assignments in GSWS 2160A completed for other courses.

TURNITIN
All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licencing agreement currently between the University and Turnitin.com (http://www.turnitin.com). (https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/TurnItIn.html)

ACADEMIC OFFENCES:
Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/exam/courseoutlines.pdf”

MISSED ASSIGNMENTS AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION
Academic Accommodation must be requested within 28 days of the missed assignment.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES DURING TESTS AND EXAMS
Electronics are not permitted when writing assessments in the classroom.
WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Week 1: Intimate Relations; Gender, History, and Sexuality- Tuesday, September 13,

Week 2: Contemporary Sexualities- Tuesday, September 20,

Week 3: Freud, Purity, and Weddings- Tuesday, September 27,

Week 4: Legacy of Residential Schools and Indigenous Family Life – Tuesday, October 4

Week 5: Love and War – Tuesday, October 11

Week 6: Mid-Term- Tuesday, October 18, 4:30-6:30 in-class
Week 7: Happily Ever After? Break Ups and Divorce- Tuesday, October 25


READING WEEK

Week 8: Pets and Kinships- Tuesday, November 8,


Week 9: Teaching Safe Intimate Relations? Sex Ed and Contraceptives in History and Contemporary Society- Tuesday, November 15

Self-Reflection Paper due in the OWL assignment folder by 11:00 pm on November 16, 2021


**Week 10 - Disability and Intimate Relations Tuesday, November 22,**


**Week 11: Online Dating/ Love and Intimacy During the Pandemic- Tuesday, November 29,**


**Week 12: Love, Family Life, and Belonging-Tuesday, December 6**

