

The University of Western Ontario  
London, Canada  
Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies  
Fall 2025



**GSWS 3730F Gay Lives and Culture**

*Western University is situated on the traditional land of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, 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.*

**Instructor:** Dr. Jeremy Fairall  
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**Course Description:**

What does it mean to be a gay man today? This course examines contemporary gay male culture, considering their historical antecedents. Attention will be paid to various aspects of gay life, including race, intersectionality, activism, community-building, sex, art, politics, and health care.

**Antirequisite:** GSWS 1023F/G

**Prerequisite(s):** GSWS 2220E or GSWS 2273E, or permission of the Department.

**Learning Objectives:**

This course will enable students to

- Gain a general knowledge of the key concepts of Queer Theory.
- Acquire a broad understanding of some of the major issues and perspectives of contemporary gay life.
- Gather, review, evaluate and interpret information relevant to the topic.

- Develop skills related to critical thinking and analysis, oral and written communication, and scholarly research.

**Evaluation:**

Response paper (novel)	10%
Response papers (films)	20% (2 @ 10% each)
Participation	15%
Critical Essay	20%
Research Proposal	10%
Research Essay	25%