Professor: Chris Roulston  
Class: Wednesday 10:30 am-1:30 pm  
Room: StvH 3166  
Office: LH 3253 (Lawson Hall)  
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Email: croulsto@uwo.ca  
Office hours: Wednesdays 2:00-3:00 pm, or by appointment

Course Description
Is there such a thing as queer time? In recent years, much queer scholarship has focused on the idea of queer temporalities, opposing queer time to heteronormative time, from both individual and historical perspectives. The idea of queer time as being "at best contrapuntal, syncopated, and at worst, erratic, arrested" (McCallum and Tukhanen, 2011), has led queer scholarship to consider the implications of being out of sync. This course will examine the "beginnings" of queer time, from Bersani and Edelman’s responses to AIDS and their challenge to reproductive futurism, to Halberstam's and Freeman's critiques of hetero-temporality. It will then move on to considerations of the queer archive and queer nostalgia, asking the question of what it means to "look backward" (Love) to a history that is often shameful, elusive and opaque. The last section of the course will examine queer futurities and intersectionalities, including discourses on trans temporalities, queer necropolitics and the queer posthuman. Throughout the course, we will be asking whether thinking temporality through a queer lens offer a way of challenging linear models of progress and normativity, and what might be meant by such a challenge.

Course Objectives
This course will enable students to:

- Develop an understanding of queer theory in relation to questions of temporality
- Understand the role queer theory plays in contemporary critical thinking
- Recognize political and ethical issues in relation to queer theory
- Develop critical thinking and writing skills

Course Materials will be available in the women's studies office
Course Assignments
2 oral presentations (25 mins each) 30%
Proposal for final paper (750-1000 words & bibliography) 10%
Oral presentation of final paper (10 mins) 10%
Final paper (15-18 pages & bibliography) 50%

Total 100%

Details of assignments:

1. Oral presentations (15% each=30%)
You will choose TWO articles to present in class. Your presentation should not exceed 25 minutes. The aim of your presentation will be to demonstrate an understanding of the text, and to generate a class discussion based on your analysis of the reading. Try to avoid simply reading your presentation, as you will be graded on your ORAL PRESENTATION as well as on the CONTENT of your work.

2. Proposal for final paper (750-1000 words & bibliography) (10%)
TO BE SUBMITTED WEDNESDAY 27 MARCH 2019
Your proposal should include:
* The goal of your project
* A tentative thesis for your project
* The unresolved aspects of your project
* An annotated bibliography of 8-10 secondary sources

3. Oral presentation of final paper (10 minutes) (10%)
WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL 2019, you will have the chance to present your research project to the class. You will have 10 minutes to present, and 5 minutes for questions.
Your oral presentation should include:
* Clearly presented ideas
* Questions that encourage responses and discussion

4. Final paper (15-18 pages) (50%) TO BE HANDED IN TUESDAY 30 APRIL 2019
Your final paper should be double-spaced, with a title page including your name, your email address and the title of your paper. Make sure to include all your sources in your bibliography.
Course Policies

E-mail Policy: Emails by the instructor will be responded to within 48 hours.

Medical Policy: 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 Counseling 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: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2011/pg1117.html and http://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Turnitin.com: All assignments for this course must be submitted to turnitin.com on or before the assignment due date. Submissions can be made via link on the course OWL page. "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 licensing agreement currently between the University and Turnitin.com. (http://www.turnitin.com) (http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/exam/courseoutlines.pdf)

Scholastic 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.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2009/pg113.html.

Plagiarism: "Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage 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 the ‘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 written work in electronic form for plagiarism checking." - U.W.O. Senate statement on plagiarism.
Week 1: Wednesday 9 January
Introduction: Thinking about queer time

Week 2: Wednesday 16 January
Challenging heteronormative temporalities 1

Week 3: Wednesday 23 January
Challenging heteronormative temporalities 2
1. *New Yorker* article: https://www.newyorker.com/culture/culture-desk/the-comedian-forcing-stand-up-to-confront-the-metoo-era

Week 4: Wednesday 30 January
Queering the Archive 1

Week 5: Wednesday 6 February
Queering the Archive 2
Week 6: Wednesday 13 February
Queerness, AIDS, Futurity and the Death Drive

Week 7: 18-22 February
READING WEEK

Week 8: Wednesday 27 February
Queer Nostalgia 1

Week 9: Wednesday 6 March
Queer Nostalgia 2
MOVIE: Todd Haynes, Carol (2015)

Week 10: Wednesday 13 March
Trans Temporalities
Week 11: Wednesday 20 March
Queer Necropolitics


Week 12: Wednesday 27 March
Queerness and the Posthuman


SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL FOR FINAL PAPER

Week 13: Wednesday 3 April
Pop Culture, Queerness and Afro Retro-Futurism

VIDEO ALBUM: Janelle Monae, Dirty Computer (2018)
Atlantic Article:

Week 14: Wednesday 10 April
PRESENTATION OF FINAL PAPER

TUESDAY 30 APRIL 2019
HAND IN FINAL PAPER (15-18 PAGES)