LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER STUDIES MINOR
San Diego State University

Current Minor Advisor:
Professor Esther Rothblum
Women’s Studies Department
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Requirements for the Minor:
Total units required are 15

This is an Interdisciplinary Minor that is not part of any specific department.

NOTE: COURSES MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK BELOW WILL BE OFFERED IN SPRING 2009

Required Courses (6 units):
*GEN S 321 Gay and Lesbian Identities in the Modern World, 3 units
GEN S 322 Gay and Lesbian History and Culture, 3 units

Elective Courses (minimum 9 units; no more than 2 elective courses from any one department):
*ENG 563 Gay and Lesbian Literature, 3 units
GEN S 340 Confronting AIDS, 3 units
WMNST 360, Women’s Sexuality and the Body, 3 units
WMNST 535 Lesbian Lives and Cultures, 3 units
*HIST 406 History of Sexuality, 3 units
HIST 583 Topics in Gender and Sexuality (depending on theme), 3 units
JMS 410 Media and Sexuality, 3 units
*TFM 470 Critical Studies of Gender/Sexuality/Media, 3 units
499 Special Study, 3 units in any department with an appropriate topic by permission of the minor advisor

Catalog Description for the Minor*:

Dr. Esther Rothblum, Women’s Studies Department, is advisor for this minor.
The interdisciplinary minor in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Studies consists of a minimum of 15 units to include GEN S 321 and GEN S 322 and 9 elective units selected from ENG 563; GEN S 340; WMNST 360; 535; HIST 406; JMS 410; TFM 470, or HIST 583 (depending on theme) or 499 (in any department with an appropriate topic with the approval of the minor advisor).
Additional courses are acceptable with the approval of the advisor. No more than two elective courses may be in the same department.

Courses within the minor may not be counted towards the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must completed in residence at San Diego State University.

*Additional prerequisites may be required for courses in the minor.

Goals of the Minor:

As a result of completing the minor, a student will:

1. Use theoretical, historical, psychological, political, and cultural constructions of sexuality and gender identity to analyze the rise and influence of LGBT studies in the U.S. and the world; characterize current social and political trends in LGBT affairs; propose programs and interventions designed to meet the needs of LGBT communities.
2. Identify, analyze, propose and advocate for laws, regulations, policies and ethical issues regarding LGBT communities and organizations.
3. Identify, describe, and analyze the many influences of LGBT communities on art, literature, music.

This minor draws on disparate courses to provide students with the opportunity to form a coherent interdisciplinary minor. The minor will also raise the level of dialogue in these courses by providing students with more sophisticated training.

History of the Minor

LGBT Studies is a growing academic specialization across the United States. Such programs have been established for years at other universities, such as San Francisco State University, UCLA, UC Berkeley, Duke, Princeton, Rutgers, UC Irvine, UC Riverside, and UC Santa Cruz. Individual courses in LGBT Studies have been offered at SDSU since the late 1970s, but they have never been consolidated into a coherent program for students.

In 2002-3, the two core courses in LGBT Studies entered the Explorations section of General Education (GS 321 and 322), creating a base for this minor when added to upper-division courses previously developed in several departments in two colleges. Enrollments in these General Education Courses have been very healthy, and it is anticipated that additional courses in departments and schools will be developed for incorporation into the minor.

LGBT Studies does not fit into any one current department or major at San Diego State University. Students who are interested in LGBT topics, those seeking graduate study in LGBT scholarship, and/or those seeking future employment in
LGBT organizations must currently rely on the grapevine to discover which courses include LGBT content. An LGBT Studies minor aggregates these courses so that interested students can follow a cohesive curriculum. Faculty involved in the minor can expose interested students to additional scholarship and mentor them about work and study after graduation. Evidence of student interest in LGBT issues is the LGBT Student Union on campus (http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~lgbtsu/) that includes a speakers’ bureau, drop-in counseling, and an office in Aztec Center. SDSU also has a lesbian sorority (Gamma Rho Lambda). The SDSU library, aware of student interest in LGBT Studies, has created an extensive Subject Guide for LGBT Studies (available at http://infodome.sdsu.edu/researchguides/glstudies.shtml). Finally, the San Diego LGBT Community Center, located in Hillcrest, has an extensive calendar of events and SDSU students are involved as volunteers and participants.

**Affiliated Faculty**

This list includes not only faculty who teach courses in the proposed minor, but also those who conduct scholarship on LGBT issues and who are willing to serve as mentors to students.

**Edith J. Benkov, Ph.D. (French Studies, UCLA, 1979)**
Professor of French and European Studies
Professor Benkov’s research centers upon early modern European studies, with a focus on gender, sexuality. She has published on a variety of topics in that field, including studies on gender and poetry, cross-dressing, and lesbian identity in Medieval Europe.

**Michael Borgstrom, Ph.D. (English, UC Davis, 2002)**
Assistant Professor of English
Professor Borgstrom's research focuses on colonial, 19th-, and 20th-century American literature, with a particular emphasis on sexuality, gender studies, and critical race theory. He is managing editor of *Nineteenth-Century Prose*, and his published work examines historical intersections of race and sexuality in early American literature and culture.

**Susan Cayleff, Ph.D. (American Civilization, Brown University, 1983)**
Professor of Women’s Studies
Professor Cayleff has published two books about lesbian athlete Babe Didrikson Zacharias, one of which was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. Her areas of expertise are in body politics and sexualities, health and healing, sports and biography and auto/biographical writing.

**William F. Eadie, Ph.D. (Communication, Purdue University, 1974)**
Professor of Journalism and Media Studies
Professor Eadie has served as Editor of *The Journal of Applied Communication Research*, and he is the author of "In Plain Sight: Gay and Lesbian
Communication and Culture," which appears in a widely used textbook on intercultural communication. He is currently serving as Editor for Sage Publication's, 21st Century Communication: A Reference Handbook.

Victoria González-Rivera, Ph.D. (History, Indiana University, 2002)  
Assistant Professor of Chicana and Chicano Studies  
Professor González-Rivera worked for two years on the Trayectos Project, a San Diego-based NIH funded study dealing with gay and bisexual Mexican immigrant men and their HIV risk. She has also written on sexuality and politics in Nicaragua. In 2001 she co-edited Radical Women in Latin America: Left and Right. Her book Before the Revolution: Women’s Rights and Right-Wing Politics in Nicaragua, 1821-1979 will be published in 2010. Her newest project is “Heteromothernities: Ideologies of mothering on the U.S.-Mexico Border.” She is also writing on LGBT life under the Somoza dictatorship in Nicaragua.

Juan M. Godoy, Ph.D. (Spanish, UC Berkeley, 1993)  
Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese  
Professor Godoy’s research centers upon twentieth-century gay Spanish poets. He has published a book and a number of articles on individual poets. He is the author of several gay-themed poems and short stories.

Matthew Kuefler, Ph.D. (History, Yale University, 1995)  
Associate Professor of History  
Professor Kuefler is editor of the Journal of the History of Sexuality and specializes in the history of gender and sexuality. His books have focused on masculinity and gender ambiguity in late antiquity, Christianity and homosexuality in the middle ages, and the history of sexuality.

Walter Penrose, Ph.D. (History, City University of New York, 2006)  
Assistant Professor of History  
Professor Penrose specializes in the History of Gender and Sexuality in Ancient Greek, Hellenistic, and South Asian contexts. His forthcoming book, Amazons, Ethnicity, and the Ideology of Courage in Ancient Greek and Asian Cultures, is under contract with Oxford University Press. He served on the Board of Directors for the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies at the CUNY Graduate Center from 2001-2004.

Esther Rothblum, Ph.D. (Psychology, Rutgers University, 1980)  
Professor of Women’s Studies  
Professor Rothblum is editor of the Journal of Lesbian Studies, has co-edited over 20 books on lesbian/gay/bisexual issues, and conducts research on lesbian relationships and mental health.

Ronnee Schreiber, Ph.D. (Political Science, Rutgers University, 2000)  
Assistant Professor, Political Science
Professor Schreiber studies women in American political institutions and women’s activism on public policy issues. Her book, *Righting Feminism: Conservative Women and American Politics* will be published by Oxford University Press in 2008. In addition to her book, she has published research on media coverage of women in Congress, how feminist organizations adapt to conservative political climates and how conservative women challenge feminist understandings of gender consciousness.

Louisa Stein, Ph.D. (Cinema Studies, New York University, 2006)  
Assistant Professor of Television, Film, and New Media Production  
Professor Stein’s research focuses on audience engagement with contemporary media culture, including film, television, the Internet, and videogames. Her work emphasizes questions of sexuality and gender, often drawing on feminist and queer theory. She is co-editor of the forthcoming collection *Watching Teen TV* and is also co-authoring a study of fan textual creativity in new media.