

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
LONDON,

navigate desire. The second unit will explore desire, sexuality, and subjectivity in history. The course will then turn to female desire, sexuality, and subjectivity in contemporary popular culture specifically television, music, fiction, and pornography. The final unit will explore desire in everyday life through examining sex education, current sexual trends including hookup-culture, as well as women writing about their desire and sexuality. Core course questions include: What is desire? What does our interdisciplinary approach reveal about the nature of desire, sexuality, and subjectivity? How do people experience desire and articulate their sexual selves? How have social perceptions of desire changed over time? How do axes of race, gender, sexuality, ability, class, culture, religion, location, and time impact female desire? Which desires, sexualities, and identities are considered undesirable? How do societies react to these desires, sexualities, and identities?

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of our course are as follows:

to engage with theory and research from sexuality studies, feminist theory, gender theory, cultural studies, history, and psychoanalysis to understand how social understandings and subjectivities.

to gain a nuanced and thorough understanding of how race, gender, sexuality, ability, class, culture, religion, location and time in combination impact how people articulate their sexual selves and view themselves as individuals.

to facilitate an understanding of how cultural perceptions impact own experiences.

connections between core course questions, themes, and content.

ability to clearly articulate, support, and organize arguments.

to develop written communication skills particularly focusing on organizing essays, developing a clear writing style, and accurate use of grammar.

to help students become more comfortable articulating thoughtful analysis, summary, reflections, and observations to their peers.

COURSE EVALUATION* The syllabus may be subject to change with sufficient notice

Analyze an Event Essay	15%
Young Adult Novel Study	30%
Participation Journal	15%
Take-Home Exam	40%

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Analyze an Event Assignment (15% of final grade) 3-4 pages in-length due by Wednesday, February 1, by 11:30 pm in the OWL Assignment folder.

Drawing on **two readings** from our course, analyze a contemporary event impacting the ways in which female desire, sexuality, and subjectivity are experienced, understood, represented and/or theorized. You will need to conduct research on this event and provide a discussion in your paper contextualizing the event. Your sources can include popular sources. Your chosen event should have occurred in the last five years. The event could be any real-life event covered in the media. You must use proper MLA citation method and proper margins in your paper. You will be evaluated based on your ability to make a clear, well defended overarching argument about the event and how it sheds light on current understandings, representations, and experiences of

foundational reading (from weeks one or two) as a basis for your analysis.

Young-Adult Novel Study (30% of final grade) 6-7 pages in-length due Wednesday March 8, by 11:30 pm in the OWL assignment folder.

Read a Young Adult novel from the list below and write a paper analyzing this novel based on the following questions: What does your chosen Young Adult novel teach its readers about

understandings of and feelings towards desire, sexuality, and subjectivity, as well as appropriate

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

Week 9: Experiencing Desire; Relationships, Society, and Sex Education-
Wednesday, March 15

Miyazawa, Kaoura. (March 22, 2017). The Abstinence Only Until Marriage Program and Girl (Dis) Empowerment. *Girlhood Studies*. 10 (1). 4-21.

Kelly, Marguerite.

Auteri, Steph. (2018). *The Dirty Word*. Jersey City: Cleis Press. 145-166.