

# Bounded Sex? Gender, Sexuality and Identity in and beyond European borders

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Time Slot:	Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m.
Language of Instruction:	English
Contact Hours:	45
ECTS Credits:	6

## Course Description

In this course we use historical, political and social sciences, filmic representations, news reports, essays, biographies and field trips to conduct our interdisciplinary investigation into Women's and Gender Studies in European context. Our guiding approach seeks to find solidarity by understanding and embracing differences. Ultimately, our intersectional analysis of a multiplicity of subject positions, materialist histories and contemporary struggles reveal the overall instability of the sex/gender system and reasons for its longevity at the same time.

## Learning Objectives

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

1. Discuss gender and gender roles in a nuanced manner.
2. Formulate academic theses about some of the major social, medical, and political concerns facing women, nonbinary, transgender, transsexual and intersex people.
3. Discuss some of the historical and current issues related to gender politics in Germany.

## Student Profile

Should be in their fourth semester of college/university education or beyond.

## Assignments and Grading

Class Participation: 250 Points

Independent Project Report: 250 Points

Midterm Exam: 250 Points

Term Paper: 250 Points

## Class Participation

Includes short oral presentation on one of the readings plus info sheet (1 page/10 mins.) containing:

- one sentence author info
- brief summary of argument
- three beautiful quotes
- contribution to glossary – explanation of new terms in own words
- remaining questions, if available

To be handed in on the day before the presentation.

## Independent Project Report

Choose a queer or feminist site in Berlin for your independent project.

- Visit the site
- Collect data and/ or participate in an event
- Describe and analyze the aims of your particular project and situate in class context in ~1000 words.

Topic & Site Selection due in Session 4, Report due in Session 11, Presentation in last session.

### Midterm Exam

Short answers: three out of five each worth 10 points

Essay: two out of three, each worth 35 points

Prepare according to study guide.

### Term Paper

Includes engagement with several texts, citations and bibliography, ~3000 words. Make sure to:

- structure your paper using headlines, paragraphs, write in full sentences
- identify your main topic and stick with it
- give references to texts

Draft (1-2 pages) due in Session 8

Paper due in Session 12

FU Grade	Points of 1,000
1.0	980-1,000
1.3	950-979
1.7	900-949
2.0	850-899
2.3	800-849
2.7	750-799
3.0	700-749
3.3	650-699
3.7	600-649
4.0	500-599
5.0	< 500

### Literature

Readings posted on the online learning platform Blackboard.

### Course Schedule

Calendar	Topics, Readings, etc.
Session 1	<p><b>Topic: Introduction</b></p> <p><i>Intro to syllabus, getting to know each other</i></p>
Session 2	<p><b>Topic: From Women's Rights to Feminist Theory</b></p> <p><b>Readings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wollstonecraft, Mary (1792, 1993). Excerpt from A Vindication of the Rights of Women. In: Inderpal Grewal and Caren Kaplan (eds.) An Introduction to Women's Studies: Gender in a Transnational World, pp. 170-175.</li> <li>• Truth, Sojourner (1851): Speech at the Woman's Rights Convention: <a href="https://www.thesojournertruthproject.com/compare-the-speeches/">https://www.thesojournertruthproject.com/compare-the-speeches/</a></li> <li>• Beauvoir, Simone de (2011 [1949]): Introduction. In: The Second Sex. pp. 3-17.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Session 3</b></p>	<p><b>Topic: Materialist Feminism</b></p> <p><b>Readings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mariarosa Dalla Costa &amp; Selma James (1972): The Power of Women and the Subversion of the Community (incl. Introduction by Selma James). In: Rosemary Hennessy: Materialist Feminism, pp. 33-53.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session 4</b></p> <p><b>Hand in Topic of Independent Project</b></p>	<p><b>Topic: Reproductive Rights</b></p> <p><b>Readings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Davis, Angela. (1990). Reproductive Rights. In: Inderpal Grewal and Caren Kaplan (eds.) An Introduction to Women's Studies: Gender in a Transnational World, pp. 110-113.</li> <li>• Funk, Nanette (1993). Abortion and German Unification. In: Funk, Nanette and Magda Müller (eds.) Gender Politics and Post-Communism. Reflections from Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union, pp. 194-200.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session 5</b></p>	<p><b>Topic: Queer Theory</b></p> <p><b>Readings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cohen, Cathy J. (1997). "Punks, Bulldaggers, and Welfare Queens: The Radical Potential of Queer Politics." GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies, 3, pp. 437–56.</li> <li>• Evans, Jennifer V. (2023). Introduction. in: <i>The Queer Art of History: Queer Kinship after Fascism</i>. Durham London: Duke University Press, pp. 1-21.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session 6</b></p>	<p><b>MIDTERM EXAM</b></p>
<p><b>Session 7</b></p>	<p><b>Topic: Black Feminism</b></p> <p><b>Readings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lorde, Audre (1984): „The Master’s Tools Will Never Dismantle The Masters House“ and „Age, Race, Class and Sex: Women Redefining Difference“ in: <i>Sister Outsider</i>. Berkeley: Crossing Press, pp. 110-124.</li> <li>• <i>Women in Exile and Friends</i> (2022): <i>Breaking Borders to Build Bridges: “Introduction” and “Making our voices loud and clear”</i>, pp. 8-36.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session 8</b></p> <p><b>Term Paper Prospectus due</b></p>	<p><b>Topic: Health and Disability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rodriguez-Trias, Helen (1995) The Women’s Health Movement: Women Take Power. In: Kesselman, Amy et.al. (1995) <i>Women Images and Realities. A Multicultural Anthology</i>, pp. 439-449.</li> <li>• Keith, Lois (1996): Encounters with Strangers: The public’s response to disabled women and how this affects our sense of self, in: Jenny Morris “Encounters with Strangers. Feminism and Disability. London: The Women’s Press. pp. 69-88.</li> <li>• Comic: Papadogiannis, Nikolaos, Rachel E. Love, and Terry Anderson. (2022). <i>Comic – Transnational Aids Activism</i>. St. Andrews. <a href="https://taa.st-andrews.ac.uk/comic/">https://taa.st-andrews.ac.uk/comic/</a></li> </ul>

<p><b>Session 9</b></p>	<p><b>Topic: Gendered Science</b></p> <p><b>Readings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preciado, Paul B. (2008, 2013). Testo Junkie: Sex, Drugs, and Biopolitics in the Pharmacopornographic Era (Chapter 3, Testogel, pp. 55-67; Chapter 6, Technogender, pp. 99-129).</li> <li>• Heaney, Emma. (2021). "Is a Cervix Cis?: My Year in the Stirrups." Aster(ix) Journal. <a href="https://asterixjournal.com/is-a-cervix-cis/">https://asterixjournal.com/is-a-cervix-cis/</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Session 10</b></p>	<p><b>Topic: Intersectionality and Social Reproduction Theory</b></p> <p><b>Readings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arruzza, Cinzia; Tithi Bhattacharya and Nancy Fraser (2018). Notes for a Feminist Manifesto. New Left Review, 114(NovDec), pp. 113-134.</li> <li>• Stewart, Abibi: Feminism for the 99% or Solidarity in the House of Difference? Intersectionality and Social Reproduction Theory, Femina Politica – Zeitschrift für feministische Politikwissenschaft, 2-2021, pp. 23-35.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session 11</b></p> <p><b>Independent Project Report due</b></p>	<p><b>Topic: Current feminist debates in Germany I: Policing, Disability and Anti-genderism</b></p> <p><b>Readings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thompson, Vanessa Eileen (2021): 'Policing in Europe: disability justice and abolitionist intersectional care', Race &amp; Class 62(3), pp. 61-76.</li> <li>• Redecker, Eva von (2016): Anti-Genderism and right-wing hegemony. In: Radical Philosophy 198.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session 12</b></p>	<p><b>Topic: Current feminist debates in Germany II: Ecofeminism</b></p> <p><b>Readings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bauhardt, Christine (2022). Ecofeminist Political Economy: Critical Reflections on the Green New Deal. In: Alexander, S., Chandrashekeran, S., Gleeson, B. (eds) Post-Capitalist Futures. Alternatives and Futures: Cultures, Practices, Activism and Utopias. Palgrave Macmillan. pp. 87-95.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session 13</b></p>	<p><b>Topic: Feminist and Queer Sites in Berlin. Review Session and Course Wrap Up</b></p> <p><b>Presentation of Independent Projects in Class</b></p>

**Suggestions for Independent Project Subjects/ Sites**

<p><b>Sport/Activities</b></p> <p>Selbstverteidigung für Frauen <a href="http://svf-berlin.de/">http://svf-berlin.de/</a></p> <p>Seitenwechsel FLTI <a href="https://www.seitenwechsel-berlin.de/verein">https://www.seitenwechsel-berlin.de/verein</a></p> <p>Box Girls FLTI <a href="https://boxgirls.de/">https://boxgirls.de/</a></p> <p>FRAUENTOUREN <a href="http://www.frauentouren.de/">http://www.frauentouren.de/</a></p>	<p><b>Archives/Institutes/ Organisations</b></p> <p>Spinnboden Lesbenarchiv und Bibliothek Berlin e.V. <a href="http://www.spinnboden.de/">http://www.spinnboden.de/</a></p> <p>Margherita-von-Bretano-Zentrum (MvBZ), Freie Universität Berlin <a href="http://www.mvbz.fu-berlin.de">http://www.mvbz.fu-berlin.de</a></p> <p>Gunda-Werner-Institut in der Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung <a href="https://www.gwi-boell.de">https://www.gwi-boell.de</a></p>
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<p>Audre Lorde in Berlin <a href="http://audrelordeberlin.com/">http://audrelordeberlin.com/</a></p> <p><b>Queer Tours through Berlin</b> <a href="https://www.queerberlin.com/">https://www.queerberlin.com/</a></p>	<p>Women in Exile <a href="https://www.women-in-exile.net/">https://www.women-in-exile.net/</a></p> <p>Feministischer, Antisexistischer, Queerer Infoladen faq <a href="https://faq-infoladen.org/">https://faq-infoladen.org/</a></p> <p>Schwules Museum/Gay Museum <a href="https://www.schwulesmuseum.de/">https://www.schwulesmuseum.de/</a></p> <p>Savvy Contemporary <a href="https://www.savvy-contemporary.com/">https://www.savvy-contemporary.com/</a></p> <p>Oyoun <a href="https://oyoun.de/">https://oyoun.de/</a></p>
<p><b>Commercial Sites: Bars/Shops/Shows</b></p> <p>Other Nature - alternativer Sexladen <a href="https://other-nature.de/">https://other-nature.de/</a></p> <p>2nd Thru day/month FLTI Abend in der B-Lage <a href="https://b-lage.de/events/flti-abend">https://b-lage.de/events/flti-abend</a></p> <p>Laura Mèritts Sexklusivitäten Shop + Workshops <a href="https://www.sexklusivitaeten.de/">https://www.sexklusivitaeten.de/</a></p> <p>Every Tuesday FLTI Night at Möbel Olfe <a href="https://www.moebel-olfe.de/index.html">https://www.moebel-olfe.de/index.html</a></p> <p><b>She said – Bookshop</b> <a href="https://www.shesaid.de/">https://www.shesaid.de/</a></p> <p><b>Silver Future – Queer Bar</b> <a href="https://www.silverfuture.net/">https://www.silverfuture.net/</a></p>	<p><b>Women Centers and/or Queer Centers</b></p> <p>Begine <a href="https://www.begine.de/">https://www.begine.de/</a></p> <p>FrauenComputerZentrumBerlin (FCZB) <a href="https://www.fczb.de/">https://www.fczb.de/</a></p> <p>Schokofabrik <a href="https://www.frauenzentrum-schokofabrik.de/">https://www.frauenzentrum-schokofabrik.de/</a></p> <p>S.U.S.I. (Solidarisch, Unabhängig, Sozial, International) <a href="https://www.susi-frauen-zentrum.com/">https://www.susi-frauen-zentrum.com/</a></p> <p>Paula Panke <a href="https://www.paula-panke.de/">https://www.paula-panke.de/</a></p> <p>Feministisches Frauengesundheitszentrum (FFGZ) <a href="https://www.ffgz.de/">https://www.ffgz.de/</a></p> <p>Casa Kua (Trans, Inter, Queer Community Center) <a href="https://casa-kua.com/">https://casa-kua.com/</a></p> <p>Schwulen Beratung (Queer Psychosocial Support Center) <a href="https://schwulenberatungberlin.de/about-us/">https://schwulenberatungberlin.de/about-us/</a></p>