This course examines sexuality with an emphasis on understanding the historical, cultural, economic, and political factors that contribute to the construction of sexual identities, relationships, and institutions. Topics to be addressed include differentiating biological sex, gender and sexuality; understanding gender diversity cross-culturally; sexuality, class, and racial stratifications; cultural constructions of sexuality; the emergence of sexual identities and movements in the United States; child sex trafficking, and the global sex industry; the global HIV/AIDS crises. Ethnographic and national cases included in the course include Native North Americans, Pacific Islands, Indonesia, India, and contemporary U.S. urban culture and its class, racial and ethnic variations. Underlying the course’s focus on specific topics and case studies will be an examination of essentialist and constructivist notions of sexuality. The course relies particularly on cases and examples that defy assumptions of “norms” in gender and sexuality. The course encourages students to move beyond their own experience and engage in open discussion and exploration of the wide range of variations found in the expression of genders and sexualities in human cultures across time and space.

REQUIRED BOOKS
1. A Course Pack is available at the Duck Bookstore.

Participation and Attendance 10
Exam I 20
Exam II 30
Final Exam 40

Exams:
There are two in-class exams and one Final Exam in this course that will test you on the readings, documentaries, and lectures. It is important that you come to class regularly, do the readings, and pay attention to lectures. Each exam will be composed of multiple choice and short essay questions. You are encouraged to meet with the professor or the GTF assigned to your section if you have difficulties with the material.
Class Attendance and Participation: It is important for you to attend classes regularly and participate in discussions. Please note that your participation will be judged on your command of the readings, and not on ad-hoc comments.

Absences:  
I will not accept absences/excuses for exams unless proper documentation is provided. In case of an illness, please provide us with a doctor’s note. In the case of a family bereavement, please notify the professor or the GTF assigned to your section. For example, if your car breaks down on the highway and you cannot attend class to take the exam, please provide us with a legitimate form of proof.

Class Rules:  
This is a big class, so please be considerate and respectful of the professor and fellow students during class. Students are expected to be respectful to each other during class. Please do not interrupt anyone while they are speaking in class. Please do not interrupt class or professor by passing notes, giggling in class, text messaging, cruising the Internet, etc.

Here are some dos and don’ts for this class:  
Please read the materials prior to class.  
You are strongly encouraged to meet with me and the GTFs during office hours.  
You are allowed to bring beverages to class but no food is allowed.  
You are encouraged to bring to my attention news articles/books/videos you think may be of interest to the class.  
Please switch off your cell phone prior to class.  
Please do not arrive late for class or leave early without prior notification. If you have to leave early for some reason, please sit close to an exit.  
Please do not read newspapers or use text messaging in class.  
Please understand that such behavior is both disrespectful and disruptive to the instructor and fellow students. Such behavior violates the university’s code of student conduct. I will take off points for disruptive behavior during class. In extreme cases, I may ask you to leave the class. In return, I will do my best to provide you with the information you need to succeed in the course, and make it an enjoyable learning experience.

E-mail Message Policy. The best way to communicate with me is via e-mail. However, in the course of a day, I receive many messages, and it is not possible for me to respond to all of them. However, I do want to make sure that your questions and concerns are addressed in a timely manner. I am available to discuss questions pertaining to class readings during my office hours, and meet with you after class. During Monday thru Thursday, you will get a response from me within 24 hours. For messages sent to me on weekends, I may not be able to respond to you until Monday morning.

Similarly, the Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTFs) are also busy with their own work, so please send e-mails judiciously, and give them 24 hours to respond to your queries.

Blackboard. Please read Blackboard regularly for class-related announcements. Changes to class scheduling such as class cancellations, questions for reading, etc. will be
posted on Blackboard. I will communicate with you via e-mail messages thru Blackboard. Please note that I will use your university email address, and not your private yahoo account. So, activate your university account.

**Disabilities.** Students with disabilities who will be taking this course and need disability-related accommodations should inform the professor immediately and file documentation with the Office of Disability Services (164 Oregon Hall) or visit their website: http://www.ds.uoregon.edu.

**Plagiarism** or academic dishonesty is a very serious academic offence. Any student caught plagiarizing will automatically get a Fail grade for that assignment. Plagiarism consists of inserting phrases, sentences, paragraphs or more from another source without proper attribution including quotation marks and a footnote indicating the source. It also includes using purchased papers or downloading material from any Internet source without explicit quotation. If deemed necessary, I may report you to the Office of Academic Dishonesty.

Please review the University policy on Academic Dishonesty for details visit: http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/judicial/conduct/sai.htm. It is your RESPONSIBILITY to make sure that you understand this policy, and that you follow university policy accordingly.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

Readings from the Course Pack referred to as (CP) and from Serena Nanda’s *Gender Diversity* as (GD)

**Week One** Introduction

3/29 “Investigating Sex, Essentialism and Constructionism,” Jennifer Harding (CP)

3/31 Documentary: *Being Gay: Coming Out in the 21st century*

**Week Two** Theories of Sexuality

4/5 “Sexing the body: How Biologists Construct Human Sexuality,” Anne Fausto Sterling (CP)
“The Invention of Sexuality,” Jeffrey Weeks (CP)
“The Egg and the Sperm: How Science has Constructed a Romance Based on Stereotypical Male-Female Roles,” Emily Martin (CP)

4/7 “Sambia Sexual Culture,” Gilbert Herdt (CP)
Documentary: *Guardians of the Flute*
Begin reading *The Last Time I Wore a Dress*

**Week Three** Transgender Lives

4/12 “Who put the “trans” in Transgender? Gender Theory and Everyday Life,”
Kessler, Susan and Wendy McKenna (CP)
Sex/Gender Diversity in Euro-American Culture in *Gender Diversity*, pp.87-100
Discussion *The Last Time I Wore a Dress* (Gender Identity Disorder)
Guest Speaker: Miriam Abelson (Sociology)

**Week Four  Intersexual Lives**

4/19  **In-class Exam I**
“Choosing the Sexual Orientation of Children,” Edward Stein (CP)

4/21  “Divergence or Disorder: the politics of naming intersex,” Elizabeth Reis (CP)
Documentary: TBA
Guest Speaker: Elizabeth Reis (Women’s Studies) and Ryan McAllister (Georgetown University)

**Week Five  Sexuality and Religion**

4/26  Article: TBA
Documentary: *A Jihad for Love*

4/28  Purity, Niddah, Sexuality (CP)
Documentary: *Trembling Before God* (15 minutes)
Guest Speaker: Debra Green (Religious Studies)

**Week Six  Sexuality and Marriage**

5/3  “Arapesh Marriage,” and “Youth and Marriage Among the Mundugumor,” Margaret Mead (CP)
“Arranging a Marriage in India,” Serena Nanda (CP)
“Nayar Marriage,” Kathleen Gough (CP)

5/5  “Ritualizing Heterosexuality: Weddings as Performance,” Chrys Ingraham (CP)
**Exam II**

**Week Seven  Beyond Binary Constructions**

5/10  “Hijra and Sadhin: Neither Man nor Woman in India,” in *Gender Diversity*
“The Tantric Vision,” Margo Anand (CP)
Documentary: *Between the Lines*

5/12  “Men and Not-Men: Sexuality and Gender in Brazil,” in *Gender Diversity*

**Week Eight  Beyond Binary Constructions**

5/17  “Liminal Roles in Polynesia,’ in *Gender Diversity*
Documentary: *Paradise Bent*

5/19  “Transgendered Males in Thailand and the Philippines,” and “Multiple Genders among North American Indians,” in *Gender Diversity*

**Week Nine  Pornography**

5/24  “Pornography: Not for Men Only,” Mariana Valdevere (CP)
“Men on Rape: What They Have to Say About Sexual Violence,” Timothy Beneke (CP)
Panel Discussion on campus sexual climate
“Men, Women and Rape,” Susan Brownmiller (CP)
“Breaking the Silence, Making Laughter: Testimony of an Asian American Sister,” Luoluo Hong (CP)

Week Ten Sexuality, Tourism and Voyeurism
5/31 Love and Work in a Tourist Town: Dominican Sex Workers and Resort Worker Perform at Love,” Denise Brennan (CP)
“Romancing the Club: Love Dynamics between Filipina Entertainers and GIs in US Military Camp Town in South Korea,” Sealing Cheng

6/2 “Sex Trafficking: Inside the Business of Modern Slavery,” Siddharth Kara
Recap of Class

Final Exam to be held on the scheduled date, Tuesday June 7 at 8 AM in 282 Lillis.
http://registrar.uoregon.edu/calendars/final_exam