

KINGSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
The City University of New York

CURRICULUM DATA TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DEPARTMENT ENGLISH DATE 18 March 2015

Title of Course or Degree: English 7000 Sexuality and Literature

Change(s) Initiated: (Please check).

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Closing of Degree | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in Degree or Certificate Requirements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Closing of Certificate | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in Degree Requirements (adding concentration) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Certificate Proposal | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in Pre/Co-Requisite |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Degree Proposal | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in Course Designation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Course | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in Course Description |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New 82 Course | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in Course Titles, Numbers, Credits &/or Hours |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deletion of Course | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in Academic Policy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe): _____ | |

PLEASE ATTACH PERTINENT MATERIAL TO ILLUSTRATE AND EXPLAIN ALL CHANGES

I. DEPARTMENTAL ACTION

Action by Department and/or Departmental Committee, if required:

Date approved 18 Mar 2015 Signature, Committee Chairperson: Jane Weiss (Jane Weiss)

Signature, Department Chairperson: Edun Ferrante

II. PROVOST ACTION

Provost to act within 30 days of receipt and forward to College-wide Curriculum Committee exercising one of the following options:

- A. Approved B. Returned to department with comments

Recommendations (if any): _____

Signature, Provost: _____ Date: _____

III. CURRICULUM SUB-COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. Approved B. Tabled (no action will be taken by Curriculum Committee)

Recommendations (if any): _____

Signature, Sub-Committee Chair: _____ Date: _____

IV. COLLEGE-WIDE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee to act within 30 days of receipt, exercising one of the following options:

- A. Approved (forwarded to Steering Committee)
B. Tabled (Department notified)
C. Not Approved (Department notified)

Signature, Chairperson of Curriculum Committee _____ Date: _____

KINGSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

- 1) **Course Number and Title: English 7000: Sexuality and Literature**
- 2) **This course is an elective within the English concentration and Women's and Gender Studies concentration**
- 3) **Transferability of This Course*:**

- *Baruch College*: ENG 4525: Lesbian and Gay Themes in 20th Century Literature
- *Brooklyn College*: ENG 4110/ 74: Queer Literary Studies
- *Hunter College*: ENGL 322: Queer Voices, Queer Literature in the United States after 1945, and Topics in Gender and Sexuality in Literature
- *John Jay College*: ENG 220: Sex Roles in Literature
- *Lehman College*: ENG 345: Topics in Gender and Sexuality
- *Queens College*: ENG 325: The Queerness of Childhood and Gender and Sexuality in the Literature of HIV/AIDS, ENG 395: Transgender Narratives: From Gender Inversion to Gender Fluidity, and E
- *College of Staten Island*: ENL 398 - Cultural Variety in US Literature - Black Gay Men; ENH 224 - US Literature - Multicultural Perspectives - LGBT Literature
- *LaGuardia Community College*: ENG 252: Sexuality in Literature; ENG261: Literature of Difference-Lesbian/Gay Writers
- *Borough of Manhattan Community College*: English 346: Queer Literature
- *New York University*: ENGL-UA 749: Queer Literature
- *Columbia University*: ENGL 3983: Sexuality and the Arts
- *SUNY Purchase*: LIT 3004: Lesbian and Gay Poetry

In addition, many Women's and Gender Studies courses also include literature, culture, and art in their concentration courses, i.e., the College of Staten Island and Hunter College, as does the LGBT Studies program at Brooklyn College.

- 4) **Bulletin Description of the Course**

An introduction to the study of literature in which themes of heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer identity are central, including the relationships between these works and the larger historical, philosophical, political, and cultural contexts, and its local and global intersections with the social identities of race, class, gender, ethnicity, nationality, and ability.

- 5) **Number of Weekly Course Hours: 3**

- 6) **Number of Credits: 3**

7) **Course Prerequisites:** English 1200: Freshman English I

8) **Brief Rationale**

A. N/A

B. 25

C. 25

D. **Offered:** Every semester

E. **Department's Curriculum and College's Mission:**

This course will fill a gap in Kingsborough's literature elective course topics by providing an introduction to literary traditions in which themes of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and heterosexual experience are central components, as an area that has become increasingly significant in contemporary literary studies. It also offers students an opportunity to consider themes long regarded as central in global literature, such as the meaning of love, the role of nonconformity, the search for spirituality, and the power of family. In English 7000 students will apply the techniques and concepts of literary scholarship to examine the roles that race, ethnicity, class, gender, language, sexual orientation, belief, and other forms of social differentiation play in world cultures or societies.

9) **Withdrawn Courses:** N/A

10) **Internship or Independent Study:** N/A

11) **Textbooks:**

- Baldwin, James. *Giovanni's Room*. New York: Vintage International, 2013.
- Kushner, Tony. *Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches*. New York: Theatre Communications Group, 1992.
- Lorde, Audre. *Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches*. Berkeley: The Crossing Press, 1984.
- Moraga, Cherrie L. *Loving in the War Years: Lo Que Nunca Paso por Sus Labios*. Cambridge: South End Press, 2000.
- Nestle, Joan, Clare Howell, and Riki Wilchins. *Genderqueer: Voices from beyond the Sexual Binary*. New York: Alyson Books, 2002.

12) **Required Course for Concentration:** N/A

13) **Open to All Students**

14) **Course Objectives:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Do close readings of literary texts, including summarizing and annotating, and understand theoretical, historical, philosophical, anthropological, and literary contexts and terms.
- Create central arguments that include a clear topic, a solid stance, and provide support for main ideas by quoting, paraphrasing, and analyzing passages from texts.
- Recognize writing processes, receive feedback from peers, conference with professor, and revise major writing assignments.
- Engage in rigorous discussion that fosters critical reflection about life, the local and global world, and the texts through collaborative interaction.
- Write grammatically and mechanically correct papers and cite in MLA format.

15) Methods of Teaching:

- Lecture and class discussion
- Group work and group project(s)
- Individual and group presentations from students or others (professors from within or outside of the Department)
- Media resources
- Cultural events or learning activities (readings)

16) Assignments to Students: Assigned readings, journals, essays, written and oral responses and portfolios, in-class writing exercises, group work and group presentations.

17) Methods of Evaluating Learning: Students will be evaluated by the professor on the basis of the following graded assignments and activities (as specified in the syllabus distributed on the first day of class instruction):

- Class participation: 10%
- Group work and readings: 10%
- Informal writing assignments, journals: 30%
- Formal writing assignments, two essays (25% each), 50%

18) Topical Course Outline: Tentative Schedule**Week 1: Introductions and Spoken Word**

Lecture/ Discussion: Andrea Gibson, Lenelle Moise, Athens Boy Choir, Kai Davis, Emanuel Xavier, Katastrophe, Climbing Poetree, Slanty Eyed Mama, Alysia Harris, Aysha El Shamayleh, Justin Vivian Bond, C.C. Carter, Staceyann Chin, J. Mase III, Julie Novak, Wazina Zondon, Terna Hamida Jahnjeh Tilley-Gyado, and Alix Olson

Week 2: Poetry

Lecture/ Discussion: June Jordan, HD, Ericka Huggins, W.H. Auden, Nikki Finney, Adrienne Rich, Audre Lorde, Pat Parker, Cherríe Moraga, Richard Bruce Nugent, Mary Oliver, Walt Whitman, Kay Ryan, Langston Hughes, Joy Harjo, and Judy Grahn, Allen Ginsberg, Chrystos, Sappho, Paula Gunn Allen, Frank O'Hara, Eileen Myles, Gloria Anzaldua, Mary Dorcey, Minnie Bruce Pratt, Emily Dickinson, G. Winston James, Elizabeth Bishop, Essex Hemphill, Muriel Rukeyser, Michelle Tea, William Carlos Williams, and Countee Cullen Baldwin

Week 3-4: Novel

Lecture/ Discussion: James Baldwin's *Giovanni's Room*

Week 5: Poetry and Autobiography

Lecture/ Discussion: Cherríe Moraga's *Loving in the War Years*

Week 6: Autobiography

Lecture/ Discussion: Audre Lorde's *Sister Outsider*

Week 7: Creative Writing

Writing Workshop/ Conference

Week 8: Film

Viewing/ Discussion: Maryam Keshavarz's *Circumstance*

Week 9: Play

Tony Kushner's *Angels in America*

Weeks 10-11: Autobiography

Joan Nestle's, Clare Howell's, and Riki Wilchins' *Genderqueer: Voices from beyond the Sexual Binary*

Week 12: Analytical Writing and Course Wrap-Up

Writing Workshop/ Conference

19) Selected Bibliography and Source Materials:**Bibliography:****Critical Texts:**

- Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble, Bodies that Matter*
- Mark Lily, *Lesbian and Gay Writing: An Anthology of Critical Essays*
- *Gay and Lesbian Literary Heritage: A Reader's Companion to the Writers and Their Works, from Antiquity to Present*, Claude Summers
- *A Critical Introduction to Queer Theory*, Nikki Sullivan
- *Epistemology of the Closet*, Eve Sedgwick

Proposed Anthologies:

- *Gay and Lesbian Poetry in Our Time*
- *The World In Us: Lesbian and Gay Poetry of the Next Wave, An Anthology*
- *The Columbia Anthology of Gay Literature: Readings from Western Antiquity to the Present Day*
- *The Penguin Book of International Gay Writing*
- *Gay and Lesbian Poetry: An Anthology from Sappho to Michelangelo*

Poetry, Novels, Novellas, Plays, and Short Stories

- James Baldwin, *Giovanni's Room*
- Jeanette Winterson, *Written on the Body, Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*
- Caryl Churchill, *Plays: One*
- Adrienne Rich, *The Dream of a Common Language*
- Allen Ginsberg, *Howl*
- Armistead Maupin, *Tales of the City*
- Audre Lorde, *The Collected Poems of Audre Lorde*

Films

- *Boys Don't Cry*
- *My Life in Pink*
- *The Last Time I Wore a Dress*
- *Normal*
- *The Crying Game*