

HS 3630a Fall 2011  
Instructor: Dr. Treena Orchard

## Syllabus for HS 3630a

**Instructor:** Dr. Treena Orchard

**Class:** Monday from 2.30-3.30 + Wednesday from 1.30-2.30

**Room:** TC-309

**Office Hours:** 3.30-5.00 pm Wednesdays or by appointment

**E-Mail:** [torchar2@uwo.ca](mailto:torchar2@uwo.ca)

**Cell:** 519-639-9722

### Course Description

This is an advanced undergraduate course in health sciences that explores how sexuality, gender, and health are experienced, valued, and socially constructed. The materials selected provide a sound overview of the basic concepts and theoretical approaches related to these three issues and also introduce students to some of the newer fields of research that are emerging. The more traditional areas of concentration include the body, heterosexuality and gender, reproductive health practices, HIV/AIDS, and health and healing in post-colonial settings. Topics that could be considered more cutting-edge include sex and gender among gay men and transgendered individuals, bio-technologies and the redefinition of life and death, structural/symbolic violence, and the ethical and emotional challenges of conducting fieldwork. By examining classic and modern contributions to these diverse fields of study, students will be equipped with foundational theoretical and methodological skills as well as a critical awareness of how health is experienced, embodied, and impacted by larger factors of economy, politics, gender, and sexuality.

### Class Schedule and Format

The basic format for each class will be as follows: 1. Introduction to the topic (15 min). 2. Reading and discussion (45 min). 3. Fieldwork (15 min). 4. Summary and reflection (15 min).

HS 3630a Fall 2011

Instructor: Dr. Treena Orchard

and concepts contained in the readings is very important. This approach also helps ensure that you are completing the assigned materials and allows for feedback on your writing skills and analytical development.

Each write-up will be 2 double-spaced pages or between 500-600 words, and if you exceed this word limit marks will be deducted. Each write-up must contain an *introductory paragraph*, which introduces the topic of the assignment, a description of the 2-3 main points to be examined from the reading(s), and a concluding sentence that clearly articulates the importance of your topic in relation to the broader

HS 3630a Fall 2011

Instructor: Dr. Treena Orchard

**Final Exam (40%)**

The final examination is comprehensive and will consist of a series of definitions, short answers and a broad range of essay questions. Together we can discuss some of the most pertinent topics from which to draw the essay questions, which will constitute 70% of the final.

**Grading scheme:**

I use the format provided below for grading, which is the university-wide scale that has been





HS 3630a Fall 2011

Instructor: Dr. Treena Orchard

Schilder, Arn; Treena Orchard; Christopher Buchner; Mary Lou Miller; Kim Fernandes; Steffanie Strathdee; and Robert Hogg (2008). 'It's like the treasure': Beliefs Associated with Semen Among Young HIV-Positive and HIV-Negative Men Who Have Sex With Men. *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 10(7), 667-679.

+

Broad, K.L. (2002). GLB + T?: Gender/Sexuality Movements and Transgender Collective Identity (De) Constructions. *International Journal of Sexuality and Gender Studies*, 7(4), 241-264.

**OR**

Bauer, Greta; Rebecca Hammond; Robb Travers; Mathias Kaay; Karin Hohenadel; and Michelle Boyce (2009). "I Don't Think This Is Theoretical; This Is Our Lives: How Erasure Impacts Health Care for Transgender People", *Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS CARE*, 20(5), 348-361. (posted on WEB CT)

**Topic 4, October 10 and 12, 2011: At the Intersection of Sexuality, Gender, and Health: Sara's Story**

DeVries, Maggie (2008). *Missing Sarah: A Vancouver Woman Remembers Her Vanished Sister*. Toronto: Penguin Canada. Read the first 5 chapters and further if your time permits.

View Film: *Finding Dawn* on Wednesday

**2<sup>ND</sup> WRITE UP DUE Monday**

**Topic 5, October 17 and 19, 2011: Reproductive Health Practices and Moral Dilemmas: Male and Female Circumcision**

Bell, Kirsten (2005). Genital Cutting and Western Discourses on Sexuality. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, 19(2), 125-148.

Benatar, Michael and David Benatar (2003). Between Prophylaxis and Child Abuse: The Ethics of Neonatal Male Circumcision. *American Journal of Bioethics*, 3(2), 35-48.

-Informal class evaluation

**Topic 6, October 24 and 26, 2011: A Modern Pandemic: HIV/AIDS**

Treichler, Paula (1999). The Burdens of History: Gender and Representation in AIDS Discourse, 1981-1988. In *How to Have Theory in an Epidemic: Cultural Chronicles of AIDS*. Pp. 42-98. Durham: Duke University Press. ISBN (Pbk): 0-8223-2318-4.

View *STD and HIV 'Slideshow'*

**Topic 7, October 31 and November 2, 2011: Doing Ethnography and the Challenges of Fieldwork**

HS 3630a Fall 2011  
Instructor: Dr. Treena Orchard

Bolton, Ralph (1995). *Tricks, Friends, and Lovers: Erotic Encounters in the Field*. 7In