Western University

SOCIOLOGY 4422G
LGBTQ2S+ Populations

Winter 2022

Monday 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Location: SSC-5235

Professor Sean Waite
Office Hours: Mondays 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm
Department of Sociology, Office: SSC 5401
Email: swaite3@uwo.ca

Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek (Ah-nish-in-a-bek), Haudenosaunee (Hoden-no-show-nee), Lūnaapēewak (Len-ahpay- wuk) and Chonnonton (Chun-ongk-ton) Nations, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility as a public institution to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through our teaching, research and community service.

Course Description
This seminar course works to deconstructs sex, gender, and sexuality binaries to better understand LGBTQ2S+ diversity in Canada, and abroad. Using empirical and theoretical literatures, we will explore social and economic outcomes of LGBTQ2S+ populations. Students will also learn about data and methodological approaches, including challenges and limitations, for studying sex, gender, and sexual minority populations.

Prerequisite(s): Enrolment in fourth year of one of the Honours Specializations or Honours Double Majors in Sociology or Criminology.

Course Organization
This is an in-person seminar course. Class time will consist of mini lectures and structured class discussions. Each week there will be three articles or book chapters assigned. Three students will be assigned readings, asked to provide a short (5 to 10 minute) summary of their reading, and facilitate class discussion for roughly 20 minutes. Students not presenting an article will submit a
summary and reflection of the week’s readings. The course culminates with a final research paper and a poster or infographic presentation.

**Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Understand and deconstruct sex, gender, and sexuality binaries to better understand sex, gender, and sexual diversity in Canada.
- Explain the data/methodological opportunities and limitations for studying LGBTQ2S+ populations.
- Learn empirical skills for studying LGBTQ2S+ populations.
- Understand the challenges LGBTQ2S+ people face living in a heteronormative and cisnormative world.
- Contribute to knowledge dissemination via a conference poster or infographic poster to share insights about LGBTQ2S+ populations.
- Challenge unconscious bias about sex, gender, and sexual minority populations.

**Required Text**

Articles or book chapters assigned in the detailed reading list, excluding optional readings. Students will read between 50 to 65 pages per week of original research on topics related to LGBTQ2S+ populations.

**Methods of Evaluation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Type</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Throughout term</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary &amp; reflection</td>
<td>Throughout term</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilitating discussion</td>
<td>Throughout term</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research proposal</td>
<td>February 14, 2022</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poster presentation / infographic</td>
<td>April 4, 2022</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>April 4, 2022</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Participation**

Participation is worth **15% of your final grade**. Students will participate in class discussions by sharing ideas, opinions and, most importantly, making connections between the course readings.

**Discussion Facilitation**

Students will summarize readings and facilitate discussion for roughly 20 to 25 minutes twice during the semester. **This is worth 10% of their final mark**. Each week, three students will be assigned one of the weekly readings, provide a five to ten minute summary of their article, and facilitate class discussion for roughly 20 minutes. Students should avoid reading directly off their page during their summary and discussion. A good discussion should feel natural for the presenter and audience.

**Summaries and Reflection Posts**

Weekly summary and reflection posts are worth **20% of your final grade**. Each week, all students, with the exception of the weekly discussion facilitators, will submit a 3-page double-spaced summary and reflection on the articles covered that week. When summarizing articles, students should consider the strengths and weakness of the articles and the intersections of race, class,
gender, sexual orientation, and ability. You should also consider how these readings fit within the larger literature that we have discussed in class. Students are encouraged to critically engage with the readings and consider how the topics/reading can contribute to their own research papers. Students may also pose questions/topics they would like to raise during class discussion.

Research Proposal
Students will submit a three-page research proposal worth 10% of your final grade. Proposals should demonstrate that you have selected a relevant topic and have started conducting preliminary research. Strong proposals will use at least 8 sources. Your proposal should address the following:

1. What is your topic and how does it relate to LGBTQ2S+ populations?
2. What is the main argument, question, or thesis that your research paper will advance?
3. Is there enough peer-reviewed literature on your topic to make evidence-based arguments?
4. What are some of the key debates or issues addressed in the literature on this topic?
5. Why is this topic or issue important?

Research Paper
The term paper is worth 35% of your final grade. Students can write a research paper on any topic related to LGBTQ2S+ populations. Research papers should be roughly 15 double-spaced pages, excluding reference pages. Strong research papers will at least 20 peer-reviewed sources.

Poster Presentation or Infographic
On the last day of class, we will hold a digital conference poster session on LGBTQ2S+ populations. Students will prepare a poster presentation or infographic about their topic and share their research with the class. This component of the course is worth 10% of your final mark.

Poster Presentation / Infographic Peer-review
Your peers will evaluate your conference presentation and provide me with their feedback and grade. This feedback and the average grade from your peers will be considered when determining your conference presentation mark.

Submitting your paper and TURNITIN
All papers must be submitted via email. You must also submit your paper to TURNITIN through OWL. This is done by submitting your paper on OWL in the “assignments” tab.

Assignment Format Requirements
Marks may be deducted if you do not follow these instructions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Times New Roman font</th>
<th>1 inch (2.54cm) margins on all sides</th>
<th>Papers should be double-spaced.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12-point font size</td>
<td>Pages should be numbered in the right side of the footer starting on the first page of text, not the title page</td>
<td>Your full name should appear in the right side of the header.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All papers need to be submitted through TURNITIN on OWL. | All papers must be submitted via email. | ASA (American Sociological Association) style. |
Communication

- In person during office hours: Mondays 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm. Office hours are held in-person or by zoom on a first-come-first-serve basis. Please refer to the Owl Zoom tab for office hour zoom links.
- By telephone: 519-661-2111 x.87689
- By email: swaite3@uwo.ca

I endeavour to respond to emails within 24 hours, but I will not respond to questions where the answer can be found on the course outline. Similarly, I will not respond to questions that require a considerable amount of detail to answer. These questions should be asked during class or office hours.

Make sure to check the course OWL site regularly for course updates, cancellations, and other course-related postings. You are also responsible for any emails I send to your Western email account. Please be sure that you can receive and access emails from this account.

Important Policies

Policies for Assignment Deadlines

There are no late penalties. Students who miss class will need to speak with a peer to catch-up on what they missed. The following table outlines the various course components and the steps you need to take if you miss a deadline or attendance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course component</th>
<th>Missed / late submission details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Class time is finite (12 classes x 3 hours = 36 hours). If you miss class, you miss 3 hours of potential participation. Students can improve their participation grade by being more active in future class discussions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If you submit a self-reported absence for this class, you can only “make-up” lost participation, by being more active in future discussions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion facilitation</td>
<td>If you are absent for your discussion facilitation, you have three options:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a) Preemptively switch article and discussion date with a peer.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) Submit a 4 page summary and reflection on each of the articles assigned that week, i.e. 3 articles x 4 page summary and reflection each = 12 pages.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c) Do nothing and receive zero.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Submitting a self-reported absence on your discussion facilitation day does not change these options.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term paper proposal</td>
<td>Students are encouraged to submit their proposals on the due date. There will be a 7-day grace period to submit your term paper proposal. If you do not submit your term paper during this period, you will receive a 0 for this component of your grade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Note: The proposal due date covers an entire week. You cannot receive additional extensions for this exercise. The timely completion of the proposal is vital for a timely progression through the course.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Poster presentation / infographic

Students who cannot attend the in-class poster / infographic presentation will be provided a make-up date. Students will receive an incomplete until this portion of the course is complete.

Research paper

There are no penalties for late submissions. If your paper late, I have less time to mark and submit your final grades to the registrar’s office. For this reason, you may receive limited feedback on your final paper. See Completion of Course Requirements section below.

Recording Devices
No recording devices can be used in class. We will discuss sensitive topics in this class. If students wish to share personal stories or experiences they should not worry that they are being recorded. If you require a recording device for medical or other reasons, please see me.

A Note on Plagiarism
Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence (the Scholastic Offence Policy can be viewed in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking
All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (www.turnitin.com).

Policies on Examinations
No midterm or final exam. Please refer to the methods of evaluation section.

Policy on Laptops and other Electronics/Phones in Class
Laptops are permitted in class, but if it is observed that students are on social networking sites such as Facebook or Twitter, they will be told to close the lid and they will not be permitted to use it for the remainder of the class. Be sure that all cell phones are turned off at the beginning of class.

Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness
Western’s policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf. Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation: counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/academic_consideration.html.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work
Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a Self-Reported Absence (SRA) form online provided that the absence is 48 hours or less and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy are met. Two important exceptions to this
rule: SRAs will NOT be allowed for final examinations or assessments worth more than 30% of a given course. Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a **Student Medical Certificate** (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds) to your Home Faculty Academic Counselling office.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.

[www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf)

**Accessibility Options**

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar’s website: [www.registrar.uwo.ca/academics/examinations/accommodated_exams.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/academics/examinations/accommodated_exams.html)

**Scholastic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site: [www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

**Mental Health**

Students who are in **emotional/mental distress** should refer to Mental Health@Western ([www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/](http://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/)) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.
**Detailed Reading List**

**WARNING:** Some readings may contain language and/or content that some readers may find offensive. I encourage students to raise this issue during class discussion. Do you think that the educational benefits from these readings outweigh the offensive language, or should these readings be shelved?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>January 10, 2022</td>
<td>Sex, gender and sexuality: building a foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>January 17, 2022</td>
<td>Data and methodological considerations for studying sex, gender and sexual minority populations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>January 24, 2022</td>
<td>Bisexuality, biphobia, and bi-erasure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>January 31, 2022</td>
<td>Geography matters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>February 7, 2022</td>
<td>Families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>February 14, 2022</td>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February 21, 2022</td>
<td><strong>Reading Week</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>February 28, 2022</td>
<td>Coming out and transitioning at work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>March 7, 2022</td>
<td>Gender, sexual orientation and employment I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>March 14, 2022</td>
<td>Gender, sexual orientation and employment II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>March 21, 2022</td>
<td>Health, healthcare, and wellbeing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>March 28, 2022</td>
<td>Criminology and victimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>April 4, 2022</td>
<td>Class presentations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Week 1: Sex, gender and sexuality: building a foundation**

The Genderbread Cookie: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-cdsGFnNp6Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-cdsGFnNp6Q)


**Optional Readings:**

Week 2: Data and methodological considerations for studying sex, gender and sexual minority populations


3. How to ask?


Optional readings:


Week 3: Bisexuality, biphobia, and bi-erasure


Optional readings:


**Week 4: Geography matters**


**Optional readings:**


**Week 5: Families**


**Optional readings:**


**Week 6: Education**


Optional readings:

Week 7: Coming out and transitioning at work

Optional readings:

Week 8: Gender, sexual orientation and employment I

Optional readings:
Week 9: Gender, sexual orientation and employment II


Optional readings:


Week 10: Health, healthcare, and wellbeing


Optional readings:


**Week 11: Criminology and victimization**


**Optional readings:**


**Week 12: Presentations**

No readings. Last day of class.