

SPRING 2021

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Cover excerpts from books recently published by CSGS faculty affiliates. Each year we celebrate new faculty publications at our annual faculty book party, to be held virtually this year on Gather Town on May 13 at 5pm

A Note from the Director

Dear Friends of the Center,

We enter Spring quarter with a great deal of excitement about our upcoming programming and graduation celebrations – but also with the hope that we will be holding our signature classes and programs in 5733 S. University by the beginning of Fall. We have ten majors and three minors graduating this spring in Gender & Sexuality Studies. We want to take a moment to recognize their accomplishments – accomplishments that were much harder this year than in previous years as they conducted all of their research and writing remotely. Read more about our majors and minors and how to attend our majors’ presentation on their B.A. projects on May 14, later in this newsletter (page 3). We also want to congratulate our graduate fellows who are moving on to new opportunities. We are thrilled that fellows **Emily Bock** (Anthropology) and **Rebecca Ewert** (Sociology) will continue to teach in GNSE next year as newly appointed Social Science Teaching Fellows.

This quarter, we will feature two of our signature Center events. On April 14 at 5pm, we will hold our Director of Studies Lecture, organized by Prof. **Kris Trujillo** (Comparative Literature), who will be in conversation with Prof. **Matt Brim** (College of Staten Island/CUNY) about his book, *Poor Queer Studies: Confronting Elitism in the University*. On May 13, we will celebrate our faculty and postdoctoral affiliates who have published new books this year at our Faculty Book Party. All are invited to attend this party—hosted virtually on Gather Town—at 5pm; keep an eye on our website and email digest for the link to attend.

On May 17, as part of our **Feminist Queer Praxis Series**, the Center will host a panel of healthcare professionals who work with the Trans- population. A detailed description can be found under Student News (page 3) in this newsletter.

The Center-sponsored **Lexicon Project** for the

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FEATURED EVENTS

Wed Apr 7 at 6pm
Luchina Fisher on *Mama Gloria*

Wed Apr 14 at 5pm
Matt Brim on *Poor Queer Studies* with **Kris Trujillo**

Wed Apr 21 at 5:30pm
Alisha Lola Jones on *Flaming: The Peculiar Theo-Politics of Fire and Desire in Black Male Gospel Performance*

Thu Apr 22 at 1pm
Writing Women: Yiddish Gender Politics with **Anita Norich**

Thu Apr 22 at 3:30pm
Khiara M. Bridges, “Imagining an Ethnography of Pregnant Class-Privileged People of Color”

Wed May 12 + Thu May 20
Critical University Studies: Academic Labor in Crisis Times

Thu May 13 at 5pm
Faculty Book Party

Fri May 14 at 3pm
GNSE BA Symposium

Wed May 17 at 2pm
Feminist Queer Praxis: Providing Trans Health

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critical study of medieval embodiment--focused this quarter on the "Global Middle Ages"-- will host three discussion sessions from 9:30-11am on April 9, April 23, and May 7. The schedule and readings are available at <https://voices.uchicago.edu/lexicon-project/schedule/>.

We are co-sponsoring an exciting and ambitious faculty project, "**Black Baroque**," run by **Noémie Ndiaye** (English, Theater and Performance Studies). The project will bring a series of Black theater-makers to campus for workshops this spring and through the fall. On April 14 at 1pm, Prof. Ndiaye will be in conversation with **Bintou Dembélé** about dismantling structures of oppression in opera as a queer Black artist. **Keith Hamilton Cobb** will discuss his show *American Moor* on April 28, and **Debra Ann Byrd** will discuss her show *Becoming Othello: A Black Girl's Journey* on May 3. These events will be hosted by the Court Theatre (www.courtheatre.org).

We will also be co-sponsoring "Critical University Studies: Academic Labor in Crisis Times," a series of events organized by Prof. **Lauren Berlant** (English) and Prof. **Zachary Samalin** (English). The first event on May 12 at 5pm with **Kandace Chu** (CUNY) and **Heather Steffen** (Rutgers) will propose different ways to recast the labor students and faculty are currently doing. The second event on May 20 at 5pm with **Jennifer Doyle** (UC Riverside) and **Nick Mitchell** (UC Santa Cruz) will discuss universities' entanglement with various scenes of security.

Please see the Center's calendar for more information on other events we are co-sponsoring this quarter: a discussion of the new Chicago-based documentary, *Mama Gloria*, with filmmaker **Luchina Fisher** on April 7 at 6pm; former CSGS/CSRPC fellow **Alisha Lola Jones** (Ph.D '14, Indiana University) discusses her book *Flaming: The Peculiar Theo-Politics of Fire and Desire in*

Black Male Gospel Performance on April 21 at 5:30pm; "Writing Women: Yiddish Gender Politics" with **Anita Norich** (University of Michigan) on April 22 at 1pm; **Khiara Bridges** (UC Berkeley Law) on "Imagining an Ethnography of Pregnant Class-Privileged POC" with **Eman Abdelhadi** (Comparative Human Development) and **Amy Krauss** (Pozen Center) on April 22 at 3:30pm.

We have a great set of presentations planned at the **Gender and Sexuality Workshop** this quarter, which takes place on Zoom on alternating Tuesdays at 5pm (unless otherwise noted). On April 6, **Serena Covkin** (Ph.D. Candidate in History) will present her paper "'Simply Because They're Married to Servicemen': War and Women's Rights in the Case of the Murdering Wives" with Faculty Discussant **Kathleen Belew** (History). On April 20, **Rose Owen** (PhD Candidate in Political Science) will present her paper "Feminist Justifications of Violence" with Faculty Discussant **Verónica Zebadúa-Yáñez** (University of Virginia). On Friday, May 7 at 12pm, we will be holding a special session for postdoctoral fellow **Amy Krauss** (Pozen Center) with Faculty Discussant **Miriam Ticktin** (The New School for Social Research). Our final session for the year will be held on May 18, when **Sarah McDaniel** (PhD Candidate in English) will present her paper "Encountering Address: Assembly, Affinity, and Archives in the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP)" with Faculty Discussant **Tina Post** (English). Details on how to attend the workshops can be found on page 4 of this newsletter and on the Workshop's website at <http://voices.uchicago.edu/genderandsexuality/>.

We hope that you have a wonderful Spring quarter!

Kristen Schilt

Director for the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology



Images representing the work of our graduating GNSE B.A. students. The Class of 2021 will present their work at a B.A. Symposium on May 14.

Student News

2020-21 Graduates

Congratulations to our graduating fourth years! **Emilio Balderas, Tai Davidson Bajandas, Max Grayzel-Ward, Janelle Hartley, Brian Johnson, Alice May, José Morin, Catherine O'Carroll, Chiara Theophile** and **Imaan Yousuf** will all be graduating this year as Gender and Sexuality Studies Majors! We invite everyone to see all of the work that our students have put into their B.A. theses by attending the virtual B.A. Presentations on May 14 at 3pm. Zoom link to come in the weekly digest. We would also like to congratulate our graduating minors, **Angel Chesney** (Philosophy/Visual Arts), **Celia Hoffman** (Political Science) and **Sebastian Oberkfell** (Economics). Good luck to all majors and minors in your next endeavors! Please stay in touch with us. We always like to see alumni come back and tell us what they've been up to.

Spring Courses

Due to overwhelming demand, we are happy to be able to have **Paula Martin** (Comparative Human Development) teach her Foundations course, "Treating Trans-: Practices of Medicine, Practices of Theory" for the second time this Spring. For our Concepts course offering, **Yaniv Ron El** (Sociology) is teaching "Gender and Consumption," which has also drawn a large audience. In addition, we are crosslisting a record 44 undergraduate and 19 graduate-level courses. The topics of gender and sexuality continue to be very engaging for students across campus and the list of options available for them grows each year.

Feminist Queer Praxis Series

In conjunction with Paula Martin's "Treating Trans-" course, we have organized a panel of healthcare professionals who work with the Trans- population to be held on May 17 at 2pm. **Amanda Adeleye**, an OB/GYN at UChicago Medicine and a member of our affiliated faculty will be joined by **Trisha Lee Holloway/Riddle** (Trans and Gender-Nonconforming/Community Health Manager at Howard Brown Heath), **William Pettway** (Communications and Operations Assistant at the Center for HIV Elimination, CHAT member, Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health) and **Dan Rowell**, AB '07 (MSN, RN). This will be a lively discussion and a great way for students in the course to connect what they're learning in the classroom to future careers. But you don't need to be in the course to attend the event. All are welcome! Zoom link to come in future weekly digest.

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Program

The Center for Gender and Sexuality Studies offers an undergraduate major and a minor. Students are able to focus solely on gender/sexuality studies or combine the major with another discipline to look at how gender/sexuality impacts that subject. We also offer a minor, which makes the most sense for students whose majors have little overlap with our courses. Descriptions of major and minor requirements can be found at <http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/academic/>. If you have questions or want to talk about how they might fit in with your general academic goals, email Bonnie Kanter at bonnick@uchicago.edu.

CSGS Summer Internship Funds Recipients

Each summer CSGS provides funding undergraduates who are interested in internships that focus on advocacy, service, or activism for women and LGBTQ communities. This summer we have three interns, **Myra Bajwa, Arianna Quintero** and **Titilayo Arowolo**, all first and second years planning to major in Gender and Sexuality Studies. As students don't need to know their placements to apply, we'll be working together through Spring Quarter to find them opportunities that will relate to their interests while also helping them figure out how they might integrate gender and sexuality in to their work after college. Check for a report back about their locations and experiences in our Autumn Quarter newsletter.

Ruth Murray Essay Prize

The deadline for undergraduate students to apply to the Ruth Murray Essay Prize--awarded for the best essay written by a University of Chicago undergraduate student in the area of women's studies, feminist criticism, gender or sexuality studies--is May 7. The \$500 prize sponsored is in memory of **Ruth Murray**, who died in 1991, having served as Bibliographer for the Education, Psychology, Sociology and Women's Studies Collections at the Regenstein Library for many years. Ruth Murray had a strong interest in encouraging scholarship in women's studies and often served as a stimulus and facilitator of work by students and faculty in the area. It is the intent of the Ruth Murray Prize Committee that the essay competition sustain and encourage scholarship in gender and sexuality studies, as Ruth Murray did during her lifetime. Essays may come from students in all majors and may take the form of analytic or critical essays, empirical research papers, or personal essays.

Graduate Student News

We are thrilled that current Residential Fellows, **Emily Bock** (Anthropology) and **Rebecca Ewert** (Sociology) will be staying with us next year as Social Sciences Teaching Fellows! Emily will be splitting her time between Gender and Sexuality Studies and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies. Rebecca will be teaching courses in Sociology as well as GNSE. Both will be in residence at the Center and we couldn't be happier to have them around for the next two years.

This year, in light of the difficulties that the global pandemic has caused graduate student researchers, we created a grant to help students pivot to non-travel related research. We are pleased to announce the following students were recipients of this special grant: **Jacob Hafen** (MAPSS), **Evan Jayne** (MAPSS), **Emma Rudd** (MAPSS), **Yuchen Yang** (Sociology) and **Selena Zhong** (Sociology). Congratulations to all!



Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop & Working Group

Workshops and Working Group sessions will continue to be held virtually on **Tuesdays from 5:00-6:20pm Central Time** (unless otherwise noted). Please contact the organizers via emails provided for session information.

Spring 2021 Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop

The full Spring 2021 schedule for the Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop, including faculty discussants, can be found below and on our website (<http://voices.uchicago.edu/genderandsexuality/>).

Tuesday, April 6: *Serena Covkin*, History, “Simply Because They’re Married to Servicemen: War and Women’s Rights in the Case of the Murdering Wives.” Discussant: Kathleen Belew, Assistant Professor of History at University of Chicago

Tuesday, April 20: *Rose Owen*, Political Science, “Feminist Justifications of Violence.” Discussant: Verónica Zebadúa-Yáñez, Diversity Postdoctoral Associate and Lecturer at Department of Politics at University of Virginia

Friday, May 7 at Noon (Special Time): *Amy Krauss*, Anthropologist and Postdoc at the Pozen Center, TBD. Discussant: Miriam Ticktin, Associate Professor of Anthropology at The New School for Social Research

Tuesday, May 18: *Sarah McDaniel*, English, “Encountering Address: Assembly, Affinity, and Archives in the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP).” Discussant: Tina Post, Assistant Professor, Department of English at University of Chicago

Papers will be made available in advance via our email list. If you are interested in joining the list, go to <http://lists.uchicago.edu/web/subscribe/sexuality-gender-wkshp>. If you have any questions or accommodation requests, please don’t hesitate to contact us at gssworkshop@gmail.com.

Find us on social media



<https://www.facebook.com/UChicagoGender>



<https://twitter.com/UChicagoCSGS>



<https://www.youtube.com/user/UChicagoGender>



<https://www.instagram.com/uchicagocsgs/>

Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group welcomes students and papers from any field, discipline, or methodological tradition, as long as the research is relevant to gender and sexuality studies, broadly defined. Submitted work may be partial or rough, including rough drafts of papers or dissertation chapters, work nearing completion, survey designs, literature reviews, or methodological sections. Meeting time consists largely of discussion of the submitted research or work following brief comments from the presenter. We ask that only students, graduate or undergraduate, attend.

March 30: *Brigid Boll*, Divinity School, “Who’s Afraid of the Menstruating Body? Reflections on Menstrual Taboo and Yoga”

April 13: *Paula Martin*, Comparative Human Development, “The Interludes”

April 27: *Gracia Lee*, MAPSS, “Debating the Dollar: A Case Study of the 1988 Women’s Business Ownership Act in the US”

May 11: *Jiyoun Yoo*, MAPSS, “Crossing the Racial Line with Intersectionality: Black and Asian American Feminist Solidarity Movement”

May 25: *Allison Kanner-Botan*, Divinity School, “Letters from Layla: Materiality and the Poetics of ‘Ishq in the Legend of Layla and Majnun”

Important note about our format: Prior to each meeting, we will send an email to our mailing list with the paper to be discussed and a sign-up link to attend the virtual meeting. For security, only those who sign-up will be provided the Zoom link and password. We also encourage you to submit written feedback to the authors, especially if you are unable to attend the Zoom conference.

If you have any questions or would like to be added to the Working Group email list, please contact the Working Group Co-Coordinators Silvia Fedi (Political Science) and Liz Chávez (Sociology) at gssworkinggroup@gmail.com.

CSGS STAFF

Tate Brazas, *Program Coordinator*

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