



An edit of the cover of Rochona Majumdar's 2021 book Art Cinema and India's Forgotten Futures: Film and History in the Postcolony. Professor Majumdar will deliver the 2022 Distinguished Faculty Lecture on Feb 23.

A Note from the Director

Dear Friends of the Center,

We are excited to showcase our funding campaign in honor of the late Prof. **Lauren Berlant**, one of the co-founders of our Center. Our campaign is titled "[*The Unfundable Fund for Gender & Sexuality Theory, Research, & Practice*](#)," a formulation of Lauren, who was a tireless advocate for keeping space open for student research that presents "forms of queer we might not yet recognize." What this means for us as a Center is to find ways to be able to provide crucial financial support and mentorship to emerging scholars in the fields of gender and sexuality - two areas of study that are woefully underfunded by national granting agencies and underrepresented at most universities. With the Unfundable Fund, we hope to keep space open for graduate student scholars engaging critical questions in gender and sexuality studies through interdisciplinary humanistic areas of inquiry. Recognizing the increased precarity of academic careers, we will expand our funding to

include postdoctoral scholars at the University of Chicago, as well as instructional professors. Finally, we are seeking to endow funds to provide two grants each year. Additionally, we hope to fund a yearly one-quarter Visiting Professorship for an assistant professor in the arts, humanities, or the humanistic social sciences whose research fits within the ethos of the Unfundable Fund. Our campaign went live in November 2021 and we are grateful to the many faculty, friends, and alumni who have already made donations. We encourage you to read more about the Unfundable Fund on our [website](#).

We will continue to show the importance of funding critical research on sexuality through a virtual alumni panel on Wednesday, February 16 at 4:30pm. Titled "The Pleasures and Perils of Doing Radical Sexuality Research in the Academy," this panel brings together three former Hon. **James C. Hormel** Fellows from the Center: **Joseph Fischel** (Yale University), **Sarah Luna** (Tufts University), and **Red Tremmel**

FEATURED EVENTS

Fri Jan 21 at 12:20pm

Martha Nussbaum with Linda Zerilli on *Citadels of Pride: Sexual Abuse, Accountability, and Reconciliation*

Thu Feb 10 at 5:00pm

Feminist/Queer Praxis: Abortion Access and Care

Wed Feb 16 at 4:30pm

The Pleasures and Perils of Doing Radical Sexuality Work in the Academy panel with **Red Tremmel, Joe Fischel, and Sarah Luna**

Wed Feb 23 at 4:30pm

2022 Iris Marion Young Distinguished Faculty Lecture: **Rochona Majumdar**, "Masculinity and Melodrama in India"

Tue Mar 1 at 5:00pm

LGBTQ Speakers Series: **Colby Gordon**

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(Tulane University). As Center fellows, each panelist did research on an aspect of sexuality that is not easily funded by granting agencies: kink and consent, sex work, and burlesque respectively. Moderated by Prof. **Kristen Schilt**, this panel will discuss the funding landscape for sexuality research and how to find support in academia for work that pushes boundaries. As a reminder for our other alumni events, we will host the inaugural event of the new annual **OutStanding Speakers Series** in Spring quarter. The series was created and endowed in collaboration with UChicago Alumni Pride. Each year, we will invite a prominent scholar, professional or public figure who has made significant contributions to the LGBTQI+ community for a multi-day visit to campus to deliver a lecture and meet with students. Additionally, a student will be selected each year to receive the New OUTstanding Leader Award for their impact on the LGBTQI+ community, whether it be on campus or more broadly.

This winter quarter, we will also continue our year-long thematic series. From our **CSGS Faculty Affiliates Book Series**, we start 2022 with a book salon on **Martha Nussbaum's** recent book, *Citadels of Pride: Sexual Abuse, Accountability, and Reconciliation* on Friday, January 21 at 12:20pm. Nussbaum will be in a virtual conversation about *Citadels of Pride* with Prof. **Linda Zerilli** (Political Science/CSGS). On Wednesday, February 23 at 4:30pm, we will feature Prof. **Rochona Majumdar** (Cinema and Media Studies/SALC) for our annual **Iris Marion Young Distinguished Faculty Lecture** on "Masculinity and Melodrama in India." And, on Tuesday, March 1 at 5:00pm, we will be featuring Prof. **Colby Gordon** (Bryn Mawr College) for the **LGBTQ Speaker Series**. This series is a co-coordination with the Center for the Study of Race, Culture, and Politics, and for this talk we are working with the Renaissance Workshop and the Department of English. Prof. Gordon will present a paper on Monday, February 28 at the Renaissance Workshop, and will do a formal talk on March 1st. Both of these events will be in person.

The Center has two active faculty projects this year. **[The Lexicon Project](#)**, a working group of UChicago scholars, seeks to recover

and explore the ways that people wrote and thought about questions of embodiment in the Middle Ages. The project hosts [group meetings](#) discussing pre-circulated readings and will host a talk by Prof. **Kristina Richardson** (CUNY, Queens College) about Race in the Middle Ages on Friday, March 25. **[Getting Real: The Cultural Politics of Reality TV](#)** is a working group to advance a critical inquiry into reality television and pop culture as well as the affective forms of pleasure and entertainment that are cultivated in viewers. The [working group](#) will meet on Friday, January 21 and Friday, February 18 from 4:30-6:00pm. In spring quarter, they will host campus visits by **Racquel Gates** (Film, Columbia University) on Wednesday, March 30 from 5:00-6:00pm, with a reception to follow, and **Wendy Osefo**, (Education, Johns Hopkins) and star of *The Real Housewives of Potomac*, on Thursday, May 12 from 5:00-6:30 pm, with a reception to follow.

Our Gender & Sexuality Workshop will continue to meet virtually in winter quarter on alternating Tuesdays at 5pm. On January 11, we will feature a chapter by CSGS dissertation fellow, **Agatha Slupek** (Political Science). Prof. **Jennifer Culber** (Johns Hopkins) will be our visiting faculty discussant. On January 25, Prof. **Nathan Snaza** (University of Richmond) will be workshoping a chapter in conversation with Prof. **S.J. Zhang** (English). On February 8, CSGS residential fellow **Sarah McDaniel** will workshop a chapter with comments from Prof. **Jo McDonagh** (English). On February 22, graduate student **Gabriel Ojeda-Sagué** (English) will workshop a chapter with comments from Prof. **Kris Trujillo** (Comparative Literature). In our final session for the quarter on March 8, CSGS residential fellow **Paula Martin** will workshop a chapter. Prof. **stef shuster** (Michigan State University) will be our visiting faculty discussant.

Kristen Schilt

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



Former CSGS Hormel Fellows Joseph Fischel (Yale University), Sarah Luna (Tufts University), and Red Tremmel (Tulane University) will join us on Wed, Feb 16 at 4:30pm for a virtual panel titled "The Pleasures and Perils of Doing Radical Sexuality Research in the Academy."

Student News

Winter Courses

This Winter Quarter we are offering two new courses taught by graduate student lecturers. Our Foundations course this quarter is “Feminist Perspectives in Social Studies of Science and Technology,” taught by Anthropology graduate student, **Sophie Reichert**. Our Concepts course, “On being Ill: Feminist and Queer Cancer Narratives” is being taught by English graduate student, **Lee Jasperse**. We are also very pleased to have Prof. **Malynne Sternstein** (Slavic) repeat her very popular course, “Trans-bodies in Horror Cinema.” Prof. Sternstein received a course development grant from us to create this course. Other faculty who received this grant are running their courses in Winter as well. **Hilary Strang** (MAPH) is teaching “Ectogenes and Others: Science Fiction, Feminism, Reproduction” and **Maliha Chishti** (Harris) is teaching “Women, Peace and Security.” Finally, our record nine sections of GNSE Civ will continue in Winter Quarter, chaired by Prof. **Kris Trujillo** (Comparative Literature) who will also be teaching two sections. Other sections will be taught by Professors **Sarah Johnson** (English), **Kaneesha Parsard** (English) and **C. Riley Snorton** (English/GNSE) and Social Sciences Teaching Fellow **Emily Bock** (GNSE/CRES). In addition to these courses, we are crosslisting 44 undergraduate and 27 graduate courses, providing our students with a broad range of choices to meet their interests.

Feminist Queer Praxis: Abortion Access and Care

Winter Quarter has an assortment of classes available to our students that touch on the topics of gender, medicine and reproductive rights. To bring those ideas together in our Feminist Queer Praxis series we will be hosting a discussion with an abortion provider and a staff member of an abortion fund to talk about their work, especially in the context of the current political atmosphere. On Thursday, February 10 at 5:30pm, join us on Zoom for Abortion Access and Care, a discussion featuring **Qudsiyyah Shariyf** (AB 2019, GNSE Minor), Program Coordinator at the Chicago Abortion Fund and **Neha Bhardwaj**, MD MS, Director of Ryan Center, Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at UChicago Medicine.

Undergraduate Summer Internships for 2022

Once again, CSGS will offer funding for up to six internships at gender- and LGBTQ-related service, educational, or activist organizations in the U.S. Those who receive funding will need to secure their own (unpaid) internships but don't need to have it already set before they apply. The CSGS staff is happy to help applicants think through potential internship sites in the city and beyond. There will be an information session on Wednesday, January 12 at 5:00pm on Zoom which will include last year's recipients talking about their experiences. *The deadline to apply for funding is February 28th at 11:59 pm.* If you have other questions, contact Bonnie Kanter at bonnick@uchicago.edu.

Undergraduate Major/Minor

Undergraduate students interested in the topics of gender and/or sexuality are welcome at the Center and have the option to major or minor in Gender and Sexuality Studies. Students can take GNSE coursework as an independent major, or as a double major where their gender coursework can provide a lens through which they study another discipline. A minor is also available for students who may not be able to complete all the major requirements while also studying another discipline. Currently we have students who are also majoring in Linguistics, Biology, English, Sociology, Cinema and Media Studies and many other areas. If you have questions about the major or minor and want to talk about how they might fit in with your general academic goals, email Student Affairs Administrator Bonnie Kanter (bonnick@uchicago.edu) to talk through your options.

Graduate Student News

Congratulations to our latest recipients of the Gender and Sexuality Studies Graduate Certificate! PhD students **Basil Dababneh** (Cinema and Media Studies), **Silvia Fedi** (Political Science), **Eva Pensis** (Music/Theater and Performance Studies), and **Graham Steffen** (Comparative Human Development) all completed their requirements this past quarter. Well done!

2022-23 Fellowships

Applications are currently open for Dissertation and Residential Fellowships for current graduate students who are working on issues of gender and/or sexuality within their academic discipline. In addition to the CSGS fellowships, we will have joint fellowship opportunities with the Center of the Study of Race, Politics and Culture for graduate students whose work crosses over both research areas. *The deadline to apply is March 15, 2022.* For more information, please visit our [fellowship](#) page or contact Bonnie Kanter at bonnick@uchicago.edu with any questions.

Graduate Student Teaching Opportunities

PhD students from all divisions and professional schools are encouraged to apply for the following 2022-23 teaching opportunities in Gender and Sexuality Studies: CSGS Free Standing Course (Undergraduate course) – sample syllabus of your own design required; Co-Teach Advanced Theories of Gender and Sexuality with Linda Zerilli (Undergrad/Grad course); and Teaching Internship in Gender Studies in World Civ (applications managed by the College). *All application materials are due February 28, 2022*, with a letter of recommendation from a faculty member who can speak to your teaching abilities due by March 7th. Visit [the graduate teaching page](#) on our website for more information and links to the applications. Contact Bonnie Kanter at bonnick@uchicago.edu with any questions.

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**. Please contact the organizers via emails provided for session information.

Winter 2022 Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop

We are excited to announce the Winter 2022 schedule for the Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop. We have a fabulous lineup of authors and discussants, and we hope you will join us!

January 11: *Agatha Slupek*, Doctoral Candidate in Political Science, “Fury at the Limits of Law.” Discussant: ***Jennifer Culbert***, Associate Professor of Political Science at Johns Hopkins University

January 25: *Nathan Snaza*, Humanities Coordinator, University of Richmond, “‘What is a Witch?’ Tituba’s Subjunctive Challenge.” Discussant: ***SJ Zhang***, Assistant Professor of English at University of Chicago

February 8: *Sarah McDaniel*, Doctoral Candidate in English, “This is(n’t) it: Living Lateness and the Ongoingness of Archives.” Discussant: ***Jo McDonagh***, George M. Pullman Professor of English at University of Chicago

February 22: *Gabriel Ojeda-Sagué*, Doctoral Candidate in English, “(Trans)feminine Aesthetics and the Literary Travesti.” Discussant: ***Kris Trujillo***, Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature at University of Chicago

March 8: *Paula Martin*, Doctoral Candidate in Comparative Human Development, “Potential and Prevention in Gender Affirming Care for Youth.” Discussant: ***stef shuster***, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Michigan State University

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/info/sexuality-gender-wkshp>. If you have any questions or accommodation requests, please don’t hesitate to contact us at gssworkshop@gmail.com.

CSGS STAFF

Tate Brazas, *Program Coordinator*

Willem Finn Harling, *Events and Media Intern*

Bonnie Kanter, *Student Affairs Administrator*

Gina Olson, *Associate Director*

Kristen Schilt, *Faculty Director*

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.

January 18: *Xiaogao Zhou*, Sociology, “Governing Gender: Competing Ideologies, Gender Crises, and Institutional Responses to Gender Transgression in Chinese State Newspapers”

February 1: *Marc Folch*, Postdoctoral Scholar at CEHD “The LGBTQ+ Gap: Recent Estimates for Young Adults in the United States”

February 15: *Febi Ramadhan*, Anthropology, Northwestern University, “Islamic Piety, Sexuality, and Conversion Therapy in Indonesia”

March 1: *Natalia Niedmann Alvarez*, Law School, JSD, “From the Texas Case to Roe v. Wade”

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 reach out to the Working Group Co-Coordinators Kat Myers (Divinity) and Sofia Smith (Political Science) at gssworkinggroup@gmail.com.

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