Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop & Working Group

Spring 2023 Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop

We are excited to announce the Spring 2023 schedule for the Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop. We have an exciting lineup of authors and discussants, and we hope you will join us! All sessions will be held virtually on alternate (even) week Tuesdays from 5:00 to 6:00pm Central Time.

March 28: Silvia Federici, PhD Candidate in Political Science, “Ruled by Women? Gender and Kratos in Ancient Sparta.” Discussant: Josiah Ober, The Markos & Eleni Kounalakis Chair in Honor of Constantine Mitsotakis, Professor of Political Science and Classics at Stanford University

April 11: Kat Myers, PhD Candidate in Environmental Ethics. Discussant: Colin Marshall, Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Washington.

April 25: Zoya Sameen, Teaching Fellow in the Social Sciences. Discussant: Adwoa Tumbo, Director of WCGS and Professor of History at George Washington University.

May 9: Tara Gonzales, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Northwestern University, “Negotiating Gender and Sexual Variance in the United Nations.” Discussant: Kristen Schilt, Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of CSGS at the 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.

If you have any questions or would like to be added to the Working Group e-mail list, please contact the Working Group Co-Coordinators James Green and Yunning Zhang, at gssworkinggroup@gmail.com.

Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group

The following students will present at the Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group in Spring quarter. The Working Group will meet every other Tuesday from 5:00 to 6:00pm CST, and presenters will provide their preference for in-person or Zoom sessions. In-person meetings will take place at the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, 5733 S University Ave, in room 103. Food and beverages will be provided for in-person meetings.

We ask that only students, graduate or undergraduate, attend.

March 21: Yuken Zhu, PhD candidate in Anthropology, “Un-intelligibility”


April 18: Agnes Mondragón, Teaching Fellow in the Social Sciences, “Gendered Violence, Feminism, and the Politics of Representation in Mexico”

May 2: Rachel Berkebile, MA at the Divinity School, “Is the Evangelical Church an Abuser of Women? A Research Prospectus”

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.

A Note from the Director

Dear Friends of the Center,

We are excited this quarter to feature two events that are celebrating the intellectual contributions of Center co-founder Prof. Lauren Berlant, who passed away in 2021. On April 13th and 14th, we will have our inaugural Lauren Berlant Memorial Lecture, our joint endeavor with the Department of English. Our keynote speaker will be Prof. Paul Lisicky (Rutgers University- Camden), whose most recent book, Later: My Life at the Edge of the World, is a memoir documenting his time living in Provincetown, MA during the height of the AIDS crisis in the 1990s. Prof. Lisicky will give a keynote lecture on Thursday, April 13 at 5:00pm, titled “Later and Sooner: The Long Legacy of HIV.”

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On Monday, May 8 at 5:00pm, we will host our annual Distinguished Alumna/e Lecture, featuring Prof. Moon Duchin (PhD, University of Wisconsin Madison) as a discussant. In our last session on Tuesday, May 9, Prof. Tara Gonzalves (Northwestern University) will present with Prof. Kristen Schilt (Sociology) as a discussant.

As the academic year comes to a close, we will celebrate the accomplishments of our graduating undergraduate students at our annual B.A. Symposium. On Friday, May 12 from 1:00-3:00pm, students will present their research and thesis projects. After a few years of hiatus, on Wednesday, May 17, we will again co-host a year-end BBQ with the Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture and with the new Department of Race, Diaspora, and Indigeneity. Everyone is welcome!

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

Students craft, enjoy waffles, and play games during our Galentine’s Day Study Break on Monday, February 13.

A packed house for “Trans: Healthcare In Practice”, a panel discussion and part of our Feminist Queer Praxis series on Tuesday, February 21.

CSGS Summer Internships

Each summer CSGS provides funding for undergraduate students who are interested in internships that focus on advocacy, service, or activism for women and LGBTQ communities. This summer, we are funding three students: Elle Gilbert-Bair, Daphne Hoang, and Leticia Mercado. We’re so pleased with this group of students who are interested in a wide variety of issues, including reproductive rights, LGBTQ media, and inclusive sex education.

As students don’t need to know their placements to apply, we’re 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 into their work after college. Check for a report back about their locations and experiences in our Autumn Quarter newsletter.

Ruth Murray BA Thesis Prize in Women’s Studies, Feminist Criticism, Gender or Sexuality Studies

Sunday, May 7 is the deadline for undergraduate students to submit their BA theses for consideration for the Ruth Murray BA Thesis Prize in Women’s Studies, Feminist Criticism, Gender or Sexuality Studies. In past years the prize has been open to any essay written by an undergraduate but moving forward it will be awarded to the best thesis written by a University of Chicago undergraduate student in the area of women’s studies, feminist criticism, gender or sexuality studies. The $500 prize sponsored by the CSGS 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 sustains and encourages 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.

The Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality offers an undergraduate major and a minor. Students can focus solely on gender/sexuality studies or combine the major with another discipline to deepen their knowledge of how gender/sexuality impacts that subject. We also offer a minor, which may make 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, call or email Assistant Director of Student Affairs and Curriculum, Bonnie Kunter (773-702-2360; bonniek@uchicago.edu).

Spring 2023 Funding Deadlines

April 17 Undergraduate and Graduate Research Grants

May 7 Ruth Murray BA Thesis Prize in Women’s Studies, Feminist Criticism, Gender or Sexuality Studies

We continue to offer research and travel grants on a quarterly basis. In Winter Quarter we had a very large applicant pool and were able to award five grants to graduate students and two to undergraduate students in support of their thesis/dissertation research. Booth PhD student Nina Leonelli received funding for her dissertation surveys, and MAPSS students Duhaila Deng, Fabrice Fafre, Ann Jiang and Matthew Temple all received research grants to fund portions of their MA theses. Gabi Kinlock (CriticalRace and Ethnic Studies/English) and our own JQ Lee (Gender and Sexuality Studies) received funds to support their BA theses. Congratulations to everyone! Our final grant deadline (which includes two $2,500 grants for PhD students) is April 17.

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Program

The Call for Studies of Gender and Sexuality offers an undergraduate major and a minor. Students can focus solely on gender/sexuality studies or combine the major with another discipline to deepen their knowledge of how gender/sexuality impacts that subject. We also offer a minor, which may make 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, call or email Assistant Director of Student Affairs and Curriculum, Bonnie Kunter (773-702-2360; bonniek@uchicago.edu).

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We are excited this quarter to feature two events that are celebrating the intellectual contributions of Center co-founder Prof. Lauren Berlant, who passed away in 2021. On Monday, April 24th at 5pm, we will host a panel on “Gender, Policing, and the State.” Prof. Sarah Haley and Prof. Sophie Lewis will give keynote lectures. We hope you can join us in these events that will continue to develop the important intellectual contributions of Prof. Lauren Berlant.

We will continue our “Changing Women in a Changing Society” virtual panel discussions in Spring quarter. On Monday, April 24th at 5pm CST, we will host a panel on “Gender Policing and the State,” which will feature Prof. Sudha Gurunathan (UIUC), Prof. Shannon Malone戈 (University of North Carolina), and Prof. A.J. Malloy (Simon’s College). This panel will be moderated by graduate student Anna Fox (Sociology). Our final panel for the quarter aims to explore the ways in which the representation of women in media, politics, and society has evolved, and to challenge the stereotypes and biases that persist.

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GSS WORKSHOP & WORKING GROUP

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