COURSE DETAIL

GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND ACTIVISM SINCE THE 1960S
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Leiden University College
Program(s) Leiden University College
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) History
UCEAP Course Number 125
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND ACTIVISM SINCE THE 1960S
UCEAP Transcript Title GENDER SEX&ACTIVISM
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

This course offers an introduction to the theories and methods of history as a field of knowledge. The focus is on gender, sexuality, and activism since the 1960s and students take up independent research projects related to this broad topic. The course readings focus on the history of LGBTQ social movements in comparative and transnational perspective. Students learn about (and have an opportunity to research) the diffusion of LGBTQ identities and social movements across Europe and beyond, from the 1970s to the 1990s. The course also examines how LGBTQ activists interfaced with states, international bodies, and international legal regimes—as well as with one another. It begins with an exploration of what distinguishes history from other disciplinary ways of knowing. Various historiographical traditions are touched upon, with a particular focus on the unique contributions of historians of gender and sexuality. From here, the course critically examines the ways historians have written about the chosen theme. Working with a handful of example essays, students consider such questions as: the words historians use; their narrative style, sources, methods, organization, and framing; their assumptions about historical causation and human nature; and their application (or avoidance) of social-scientific theory. The course also works with primary sources. First, students get experience locating such sources, using online and archival repositories. Then, they hone their skills of analysis. Along the way, students pursue independent projects in which they apply historical methods and theories to their own research questions. They gain experience in narrowing down a topic, devising a research question, synthesizing historiographical literature, identifying and interpreting a body of sources, managing notes and data, and, finally, putting it all into writing. In this respect, our seminar functions as a workshop, where students present on their progress and share ideas about the challenges, joys, and frustrations of historical research. The course also includes field trips to area historical archives, and hosts at least one or two visiting speakers. Students are encouraged to work in multiple languages, maximizing the language expertise in our international classroom. Prerequisites for this course are a course on modern history or gender studies.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

Host Institution Course Title
HISTORICAL METHODS: GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND ACTIVISM SINCE THE 1960S

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus
LUC The Hague- Level 2

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Human Diversity

Course Last Reviewed

Print