

**Time:** T 8-9, R 9 → Tuesdays 3:00pm-4:55pm, Thursdays 4:05pm-4:55pm

**Place:** CSE E222

**Canvas Website:** <http://elearning.ufl.edu/>

**Course Website:** <https://queertheorymedia.wordpress.com/>

**Instructor Name:** Dr. Margaret Galvan

**Email:** margaretagalvan@ufl.edu

**Office:** TUR 4348

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 10:30am-11:30am, Thursdays 2:45pm-3:45pm, and by appointment

### Course Description:

We will learn about queer theory as it grew out of lesbian and gay studies and activism in the 1980s and as it continues through the present moment in its intersections with trans theory. Alongside theoretical texts, we will read contemporaneous queer media, including comics, zines, and other print media. Together, these materials will allow us to understand both the theories and activist movements. Moreover, we will ask not only how the visual materials speak to the textual works, but also what queer theories they assert through their visual interfaces.

Course assignments will include digital reflections on a shared course website, a short formal essay, and a research project.

### Books to Purchase:

Meg-John Barker and Julia Scheele, *Queer: A Graphic History* (2016), Icon Books, ISBN: 1785780719

Alison Bechdel, *More Dykes to Watch Out For* (1988), Firebrand Books, ISBN: 0932379451

Dylan Edwards, *Transposes* (2012), Northwest Press, ISBN: 0984594086

Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), Fantagraphics, ISBN: 1606997181

Cristy C. Road, *Spit and Passion* (2012), The Feminist Press, ISBN: 1558618074

David Wojnarowicz, James Romberger, and Marguerite Van Cook, *7 Miles a Second* (new edition 2012), Fantagraphics, ISBN: 1606996142

**Course Texts:** Additional course texts will be available for download as PDFs via Canvas or through online links posted on the syllabus and course website. Some course texts are on reserve, as indicated via Canvas.

**Assignments & Grading:** Refer to the university grading policy for overarching information:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

**Digital Reflections (15%):** you will be assigned to a group and publish three image-text posts and six insightful comments over the course of the semester. You will post these on the course website. We will collectively edit and compile these visual reflections into a group text at the end of the semester.

Your **Participation (15%)** will also be a vital and graded part of our seminar. Your participation grade will be assessed based on your active participation and completion of in-class assignments, such as workshops, impromptu freewriting exercises, presentations, etc.

**Short Essay (15%, due 9/21):** you will compose a typed paper of 3-5 pages in length that makes an argument about how a chosen artwork responds to a specific theory, building from close-readings of both texts.

**Assignments & Grading (continued):**

**Annotated Bibliography/Proposal (25%, due 10/19):** you will write a 3-page proposal for your research paper, accompanied by an annotated bibliography of 10 sources.

**Research Paper (30%, due 11/30):** you will write a 10-15 page research paper, extending from course content to include your own disciplinary interests.

**Assignments Format & Due Dates:** You must complete all assignments to receive credit for this course. Aside from the digital reflections, assignments should be typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12-point font, with page numbers and 1-inch margins. They should adhere to MLA or Chicago format, contain a bibliography, and be submitted on paper at the beginning of class. Digital reflections are due online the day before a given class, as stated in the syllabus and assignment sheet. Late assignments will be penalized one letter grade for each week late.

**Absence & Lateness Policy:** As this course is a seminar where we actively exchange each others' ideas in our every day classroom praxis, your attendance is vital. To do well in this class you must be present: physically, mentally, and intellectually. Much of our foundational learning will happen in classroom conversations and activities. Lateness is also not tolerated. If you are having scheduling problems, see me as soon as possible. Your course grade drops by one full letter for each "unacceptable" absence after three. Please see this link for details:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

**Academic Honesty & Definition of Plagiarism:** Plagiarism of a draft or final version of any assignment will be reported to the Dean of Students. For more information about academic honesty, including definitions of plagiarism and unauthorized collaboration, refer to the Student Conduct and Honor Codes: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/students/student-conduct-code/>

**Computers in the Classroom:** You may use a laptop or tablet for note-taking, in-class work, or referring to classroom materials.

**Accommodations:** Any student requesting academic accommodations based on disability is required to register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565). More information can be found here: <https://drc.dso.ufl.edu/>

**Policy on Harassment:** UF provides an educational and working environment that is free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment for its students, staff, and faculty: <http://hr.ufl.edu/manager-resources/recruitment-staffing/institutional-equity-diversity/resources/harassment/>

**Counseling and Wellness:** Students who face difficulties completing the course or who are in need of counseling or urgent help may call the on-campus Counseling and Wellness Center (352) 392-1575 or contact them online: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>

**Course Evaluations:** Toward the end of the semester, you will receive email messages asking you to go online and evaluate this course: <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/>

## COURSE SCHEDULE

## WEEK 1

## Tuesday, August 22

- Radicalesbians, “The Woman-Identified Woman” (1970)  
<http://www.historyisaweapon.com/defcon1/radicalesbianswoman.html>
- Carl Wittman of Gay Liberation Front, “The Gay Manifesto” (1970)  
[http://www.againstequality.org/files/refugees\\_from\\_amerika\\_a\\_gay\\_manifesto\\_1969.pdf](http://www.againstequality.org/files/refugees_from_amerika_a_gay_manifesto_1969.pdf)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 2-4, 16-17, 53-55

## Thursday, August 24

- Queer Nation, “Queers Read This” (1990)  
<https://www.qzap.org/v8/index.php/57-queers-read-this>
- Lesbian Avengers, “Lesbian Avenger Manifesto” (1993)  
[http://www.qzap.org/v5/gallery/main.php?g2\\_view=core.DownloadItem&g2\\_itemId=81](http://www.qzap.org/v5/gallery/main.php?g2_view=core.DownloadItem&g2_itemId=81)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 104-107, 109-111, 131

## WEEK 2

## Tuesday, August 29

- Jack Halberstam, “Introduction: Low Theory” and “The Queer Art of Failure,” in *The Queer Art of Failure* (2011)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), Editor’s Note, Introduction, pp. 8-9, 23-25, 112-116

## Thursday, August 31

- *Gay Comix* #1 (1980)
- *Gay Comix* #2 (1981)
- *Gay Comix* #3 (1982)

## WEEK 3

## Tuesday, September 5

- Meg-John Barker and Julia Scheele, *Queer: A Graphic History* (2016), to p. 90

## Thursday, September 7

- Continue with *Queer*, p. 91-end

## WEEK 4

## Tuesday, September 12

- **Digital Reflection A1 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, “Introduction: Axiomatic” in *Epistemology of the Closet* (1990)
- Judith Butler, “Imitation and Gender Insubordination,” originally published in *Inside Out: Lesbian Theories, Gay Theories* (1991)

## Thursday, September 14

- **Comments on Digital Reflection A1 (posted by Wed., 5pm)**
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 75-81, 146, 156, 171-174, 280-288

## WEEK 5

## Tuesday, September 19

- **Digital Reflection B1 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- Adrienne Rich, "Compulsory Heterosexuality and Lesbian Existence," in *Signs*, Vol. 5, No. 4 (1980)
- Adrienne Rich, "Reflections on 'Compulsory Heterosexuality,'" in *Journal of Women's History*, Vol. 16, No. 1 (2004)
- C. L. Cole And Shannon L. C. Cate, "Compulsory Gender And Transgender Existence: Adrienne Rich's Queer Possibility," in *WSQ*, Vol. 36, Nos. 3 & 4 (2008)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 203-210, 289-290, 297-305

## Thursday, September 21

- **Short Essay due at the beginning of class**
- **Comments on Digital Reflection B1 (posted by Wed., 5pm)**
- Alison Bechdel, *More Dykes to Watch Out For* (1988)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 122-130

## WEEK 6

## Tuesday, September 26

- **Digital Reflection C1 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- John D'Emilio, "Capitalism and Gay Identity," originally published in *Powers of Desire: The Politics of Sexuality* (1983)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 47-52, 140-145, 168-170, 220-222

## Thursday, September 28

- **Comments on Digital Reflection C1 (posted by Wed., 5pm)**
- Peter Hujar's photography (1970s/1980s), <http://peterhujararchive.com/images>
- Nan Goldin exhibition, "Witnesses: Against Our Vanishing" (1989), check out catalog & coverage, <http://artistsspace.org/exhibitions/witnesses-against-our-vanishing-3>
- "Peter Hujar Dies at 53; Made Photo Portraits" in *The New York Times* (1987), <http://www.nytimes.com/1987/11/28/obituaries/peter-hujar-dies-at-53-made-photo-portraits.html>
- Simon Bowcock, "Peter Hujar: the photographer who defined downtown New York," in *The Guardian* (2016), <https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2016/oct/14/peter-hujar-photography-new-york>
- "Vince Aletti on Peter Hujar," in *AnOther* (2014), <http://www.anothermag.com/art-photography/3761/vince-aletti-on-peter-hujar>
- Adam Lehrer, "A New Aperture Book 'Peter Hujar: Speed Of Life' Analyzes An Uncompromising Photographer," in *Forbes* (2017), <https://www.forbes.com/sites/adamlehrer/2017/06/27/a-new-aperture-book-peter-hujar-speed-of-life-analyzes-an-uncompromising-photographer/#7a36d82a4310>
- Hili Perlson, "Nan Goldin On the Changing Aesthetics of People with HIV," in *Sleek* (2017), <http://www.sleek-mag.com/2017/08/07/aids-through-nan-goldins-eyes/>

## WEEK 7

## Tuesday, October 3

- **Digital Reflection D1 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- Gayle Rubin, "Thinking Sex: Notes for a Radical Theory of the Politics of Sexuality" (1984)
- Cathy J. Cohen, "Punks, Bulldaggers, and Welfare Queens: The Radical Potential of Queer Politics?," in *GLQ* Vol. 3 (1997)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 119, 154-155, 261-271

## Thursday, October 5

- **Comments on Digital Reflection D1 (posted by Wed., 5pm)**
- David Wojnarowicz, James Romberger, and Marguerite Van Cook, *7 Miles a Second* (new edition 2012)

## WEEK 8

## Tuesday, October 10

- **Digital Reflection A2 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- Vito Russo, "Why We Fight" (1988)  
<http://www.actupny.org/documents/whfight.html>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0Q8p0HCQEs>
- David Wojnarowicz, "Postcards from America: X Rays from Hell," originally published in *Witnesses: Against Our Vanishing* exhibition catalog (1989)
- Bob Rafsky, "Bury Me Furiously," for Mark Fisher (1992)  
<http://speakola.com/eulogy/fisher-rafsky-bury-me-furiously-1992>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K9z-AbaPIWM>
- Jason Silverstein, "Why the Ashes of People With AIDS on the White House Lawn Matter," in *Vice* (2016), [https://www.vice.com/en\\_us/article/vdqv34/why-the-ashes-of-aids-victims-on-the-white-house-lawn-matter](https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/vdqv34/why-the-ashes-of-aids-victims-on-the-white-house-lawn-matter)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 29-37, 45-46, 94-95, 98-103

## Thursday, October 12

- **Comments on Digital Reflection A2 (posted by Wed., 5pm)**
- NAMES Project, The AIDS Memorial Quilt (1987-present), <http://www.aidsquilt.org/>
- "A Quilt, a Map, and a Few Good Apps," on *Microsoft Research Blog* (2012), <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/blog/a-quilt-a-map-and-a-few-good-apps/>
- Digitized map of The AIDS Memorial Quilt,  
<http://quilt.blob.core.windows.net/bing/map.html>
- Sharon L. Bass, "Panel by Panel, a Quilt Commemorates the Victims of AIDS," in *The New York Times* (1989), <http://www.nytimes.com/1989/03/12/nyregion/panel-by-panel-a-quilt-commemorates-the-victims-of-aids.html>
- *Strip AIDS USA* (1988), selections

**WEEK 9****Tuesday, October 17**

- **Digital Reflection B2 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- E. Patrick Johnson, "'Quare' Studies, or (Almost) Everything I Know About Queer Studies I Learned from My Grandmother," *Text and Performance Quarterly*, Vol. 21, No. 1 (2001)
- E. Patrick Johnson & Mae G. Henderson, "Introduction: Queering Black Studies/'Quaring' Queer Studies," in *Black Queer Studies: A Critical Anthology* (2005)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 108, 152-153, 233

**Thursday, October 19**

- **Annotated Bibliography/Proposal due at the beginning of class**
- **Comments on Digital Reflection B2 (posted by Wed., 5pm)**
- Cheryl Dunye, *Watermelon Woman* (1996). Access through kanopy.

**WEEK 10****Tuesday, October 24**

- **Digital Reflection C2 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- Sara Ahmed, "Introduction: Find Your Way" and "Sexual Orientation," in *Queer Phenomenology* (2006)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 57-69, 82-90

**Thursday, October 26**

- **Comments on Digital Reflection C2 (posted by Wed., 5pm)**
- Keith Haring (1980s), <http://www.haring.com/!/introduction#.WYNxN9Pys8Y>
- David Sheff, "Just Say Know," in *Rolling Stone* (1989), <http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/features/keith-haring-just-say-know-19890810>
- "Keith Haring, Artist, Dies at 31; Career Began in Subway Graffiti," in *The New York Times* (1990), <http://www.nytimes.com/1990/02/17/obituaries/keith-haring-artist-dies-at-31-career-began-in-subway-graffiti.html>

**WEEK 11****Tuesday, October 31**

- **Digital Reflection D2 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, "How to Bring Your Kids up Gay," in *Social Text*, No. 29 (1991)
- Lee Edelman, "The Future Is Kid Stuff," in *No Future: Queer Theory & the Death Drive* (2004)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 117-118, 136-138, 148-149, 151

**Thursday, November 2**

- **Comments on Digital Reflection D2 (posted by Wed., 5pm)**
- On Queer Zine Archive Project, read issues of *Rock Against Sexism*, *Homocore*, *J.D.s* (late 1980s/early 1990s), <http://archive.qzap.org/>
- "Queer Zine Resistance - A Reading List" (2016), <https://www.qzap.org/v8/index.php/96-qzr-reading-list>

**WEEK 12****Tuesday, November 7**

- **Digital Reflection A3 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- Jay Prosser, “Judith Butler: Queer Feminism, Transgender, and the Transubstantiation of Sex,” originally published in *Second Skins: The Body Narratives of Transsexuality* (1998)
- Susan Stryker, “Terms and Definitions” in *Transgender History* (2008)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 194-195, 199-202, 306-307

**Thursday, November 9**

- **Comments on Digital Reflection A3 (posted by Wed., 5pm)**
- Dylan Edwards, *Transposes* (2012)

**WEEK 13****Tuesday, November 14**

- **Digital Reflection B3 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- José Muñoz, “Preface” and “Introduction” in *Disidentifications* (1999)
- José Muñoz, “Introduction: Feeling Utopia,” in *Cruising Utopia* (2009)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 212-218

**Thursday, November 16**

- **Comments on Digital Reflection B3 (posted by Wed., 5pm)**
- Cristy C. Road, *Spit and Passion* (2012)

**WEEK 14****Tuesday, November 21**

- **Digital Reflection C3 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- Michael Warner, “The Ethics of Sexual Shame,” in *The Trouble with Normal* (1999)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 175-185, 236-249, 258-271, 291-296

**Thursday, November 23:** No class; Thanksgiving holiday

**WEEK 15****Tuesday, November 28**

- **Comments on Digital Reflection C3 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- **Digital Reflection D3 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- Sandy Stone, “The *Empire* Strikes Back: A Posttranssexual Manifesto” (1987)
- Susan Stryker, “My Words to Victor Frankenstein above the Village of Chamounix: Performing Transgender Rage” (1994)
- Justin Hall, ed., *No Straight Lines* (2013), pp. 188-193, 196-198, 250-251

**Thursday, November 30**

- **Research Paper due at the beginning of class**
- **Comments on Digital Reflection D3 (posted by Mon., 5pm)**
- Silas Howard & Harry Dodge, *By Hook or by Crook* (2002), <https://vimeo.com/112778241>

**WEEK 16****Tuesday, December 5**

- Wrap up