

Assignments, Fall 2009

Queering Theory

The bulk of your assignments this semester (blog entries, blog participation, 2 presentations and your final wrap-up) will be organized around the development of and participation in our class blog (blog.lib.umn.edu/puot0002/glb4403). Once we have worked out the details together in the first and second weeks of class, I will distribute and post a more detailed handout on our blog.

By the third week of course you will be required to pick one of the suggested topics related to queer and queering theory. These topics are listed at the end of this description. You will be responsible for tracking this term throughout the course of the semester. By tracking I mean that you will be required to pay particular attention to your topic as you are reading, discussing and thinking about queering theory. You will be required to post weekly entries in which you critically reflect on your topic and: a. how it is addressed in our readings or discussions or b. how it is relevant to current events or c. how it is represented within popular culture (television shows, movies, music, on the internet). You are encouraged to be creative in your tracking of the term. You can draw on a wide range of sources and post your blog entries in many different forms.

In addition to posting your own entries, you are required to actively read other blogs and other students' entries. Your active engagement will come in the form of commenting on other blogs, creating links within your own entries, and incorporating comments from other entries/blogs into your in-class participation.

Each of the suggested topics is explicitly related to the readings for one class session. You are required to do one (roughly 10 minute) presentation on your topic on the day that we are explicitly reading about and discussing it. You are also required to do one (roughly 10 minute) presentation on your topic/blog participation during the last week of the course. Details about your presentation will be listed in the detailed handout.

Topics Brief Presentation Date

GENDER October 6
PERFORMATIVITY/PERFORMANCE October 13
OBJECT October 22
RESISTANCE October 24
REJECTION or REFUSAL October 27
BODIES and MATERIAL EXPERIENCE October 29
PUNISHMENT/CONSEQUENCES November 3
(ANTI) ASSIMILATION November 10
NORMS November 19
GLOBAL/TRANSNATIONAL/DIASPORA November 24
NATION/CITIZEN December 1
ANTI-CAPITALISM December 3
YOUTH December 8

Finally, you are required to submit a final wrap-up on your experiences tracking your chosen topic and on helping to develop and participate in the blog. This wrap-up can come in the form of a lengthy blog entry (or series of entries) or a separate (more formal) reflective essay. Please see me if you have other thoughts on how to organize/develop/articulate your reflective thoughts on your topic and your experience with the blog.