**COM 4370-004 – Media and Sexuality**

Spring 2015, Wednesday 4-6:50 pm 344 AL

Dr. Fred Fejes, Professor

School of Communication & Multimedia Studies GS 111

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Office Hours 2-4 Wednesdays

Credit Hours: 3

**Course Objectives:** The objectives of this class:

1. To examine the history of the modern American LGBT community and movement
2. To examine the media representation of modern American LGBT community and movement in the context of both its own development of the modern LGBT movement and the changing American social/sexual/political environment.
3. To examine the shift in American public opinion of LGBT issues in the last fifteen years
4. To understand how media theories can be used to understand the changes

**Required Texts**

Gross, Larry (2001), *Up From Invisibility: Lesbians, Gay Men and the Media in America*. Columbia University Press, New York

Streitmatter, Rodger (2009), *From ‘Perverts” to the “Fab Five”: The Media’s Changing Depiction of Gay Men and Lesbians.* Routledge, New York.

BLACKBOARD READINGS AND VIEWINGS: Each Week a set of readings viewing material will be posted in the Blackboard Unit folder as a required part of that week’s assignment

*iCLICKER*: We will be using the  *iClicker* is class. If you have not already purchased one, you can purchase them in the bookstore. An iClicker phone app is also available. They will begin to be used for grading on Aug. 28. Register you iClicker on the Blackboard site green tab “Register iClicker.”

A number of the assignment viewings will be on Netflix Streaming. If you do not already have it, Netflix has a number of different offerings, the basic streaming service starts a $7.99 a month and the first month is free. Also you can also quit at anytime. Check : <https://signup.netflix.com/home>

If you are not familiar with the Blackboard system, there are a series of tutorials available at the red tutorial tab at the top of the Blackboard class site.

INSTRUCTOR AND COURSE COMMUNICATION

YOUR INSTRUCTOR IS DR. FRED FEJES. MY OFFICE IS CULTURE AND SOCIETY BUILDING 206

MY OFFICE HOURS ARE WEDNESDAYS 2-4 (JUST BEFORE THIS CLASS). I INVITE YOU TO COME AND TALK ABOUT ANYTHING REGARDING THIS CLASS (THE SUBJECT, THE ASSIGNMENTS, YOUR GRADES, ETC). I ONLY ASK THAT YOU EMAIL ME FIRST TO LET ME KNOW YOU ARE COMING.

IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT A COURSE ASSIGNMENT, MATERIAL, CONTENT OR ANY OTHER COURSE RELATED ISSUE, PLEASE POST YOUR QUESTION “COURSE AFFAIRS DISCUSSION BOARD” UNDER THE GREEN TAB “ CLASS QUESTIONS” ON THE LEFT. SELECT “CREATE FORUM” AND THEN GIVE A TITLE TO YOUR QUESTION.

OTHER STUDENTS CAN RESPOND TO THIS POST AND MAKE ADDITIONAL POSTS ABOUT THE TOPIC . POSTS WILL BE GENERALLY RESPONDED TO WITHIN 48 HOURS EXCLUDING SUNDAYS, SATURDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.  
  
IF YOUR MESSAGE INVOLVES A GRADE, AN ABSENCE OR MISSED ASSIGNMENT OR ANY OTHER PERSONAL MATTER, PLEASE CONTACT ME VIA THE MESSAGE BOARD UNDER THE RED TAB "MESSAGES" ON THE LEFT  
  
ONLY IF IT IS URGENT OR INVOLVES AN EMERGENCY, YOU MAY CONTACT ME VIA MY EMAIL ADDRESS ([FEJES@FAU.EDU](mailto:FEJES@FAU.EDU)) OR MY PHONE NUMBER (954-465-3262)

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

MID-TERM/FINAL: 20% Each

The Midterm and Final will be given as an in-class Bluebook essay exams. The questions will be given out before the exams and students will be allowed to prepare the answers. You can to bring one 3x5' notecard for each question.

iCLICKER QUIZZES-QUESTIONS/PROFILE: 15%

There will be weekly in-class iClicker graded quizzes based on the readings for that week. In addition there will be opinion/polling questions which are not graded but for which you will receive credit. The lowest weekly iClicker grade will be dropped

In addition you must create a PROFILE. In order to receive FULL CREDIT students are required to post a web profile on the Blackboard site including INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF AND A PHOTO. Postings of web profiles are due by Friday January 10 9 pm

JOURNAL assignment 25% Each week there will be a journal assignment based on the readings, viewings and class discussion.

RESEARCH LITERATURE SURVEY PAPER PROJECT. 20% This assignment is divided into two parts: PAPER PROPOSAL (5% OF GRADE) AND FINAL PAPER (15% OF GRADE). In this assignment you will 1) Select a research topic dealing with any topic involving sexuality and the media 2) Find at least 3 (but no more than 5) academic research articles that deal with this paper, and 3) Write a Short Literature 5 page survey in which you describe and summarize those articles. The due dates for the Paper Proposal and Literature Survey are indicated on the Class Schedule. This project will be described in more detail in class.

GRADING SCALE

ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE GRADED ON THE FOLLOWING GRADING SCALE:

A= Excellent

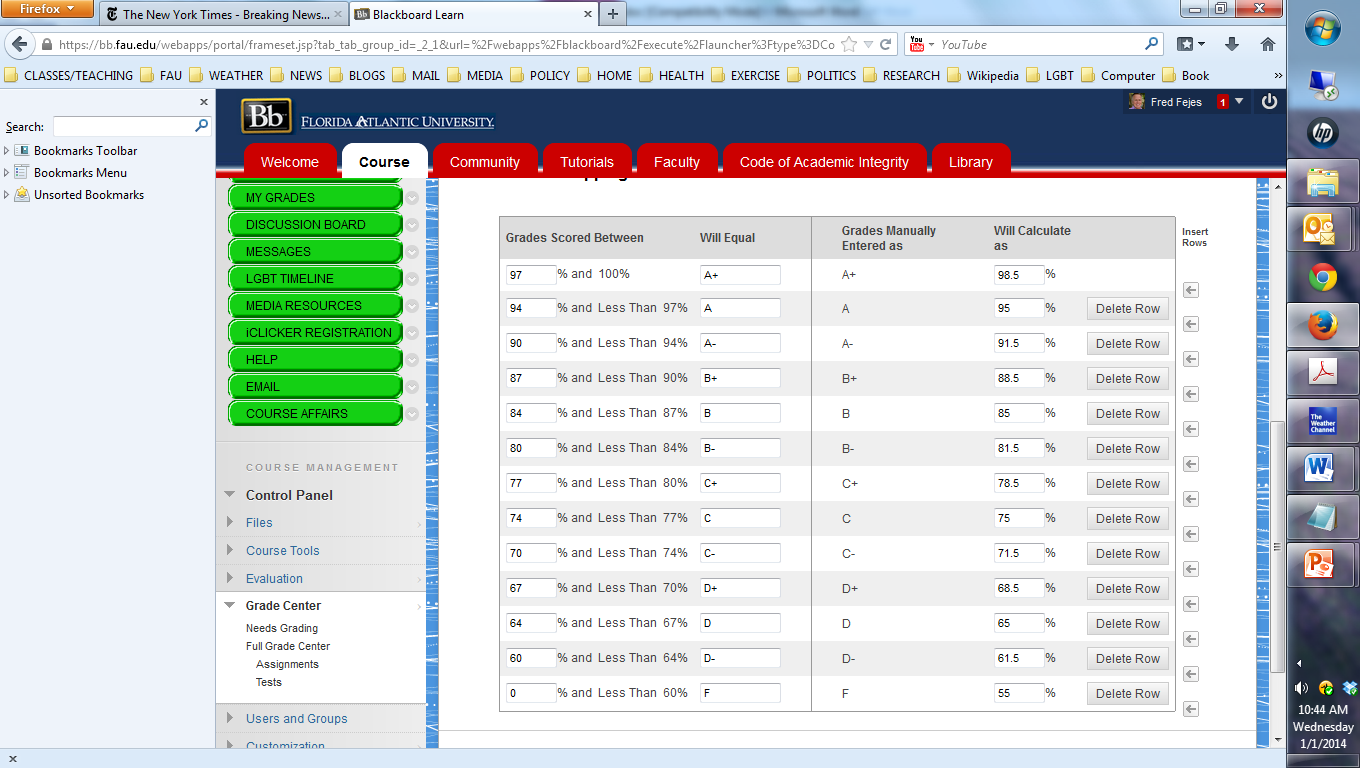
B= Above Satisfactory

C=Satisfactory

D= Below Satisfactory

F=Unstatisfactory/Non-completion

On Blackboard grades will be computed as:



**CLASS POLICIES**

ALL STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS, ASSIGNMENT CHANGES AND OTHER INFORMATION ANNOUNCED IN CLASS. PLEASE WATCH THE ANNOUNCEMENTS POSTED ON THE BLACKBOARD SITE.

MAKE-UP POLICY FOR TESTS AND EXAMS: As you will be allowed to drop the lowest of the iClicker grades , there will be no make up for the weekly quizzes/questions. There will be no make-ups for the journal assignments. For the midterm and final, unless there is a documented emergency situation, there will be no make-up. There will be no extra credit/work to make up for a low grade.

**Computer use in the class.** Students may only use laptop computers to take notes during the class. Any non-class related use of the computer (doing an assignment for another class, internet use, emailing, etc) is not allowed. Students who violate this rule will be asked to leave class.

**Cell-Phones**. Cell phones are not allowed in class. Any visible cell phone will be taken and returned to the student at the end of class. If you have to make or receive an urgent text of call, please leave the class to do so.

**NO EATING IN CLASS**

**Students with Disabilities:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) located in Boca Raton - SU 133 (561-297-3880), in Davie - MOD I (954-236-1222), in Jupiter - SR 117 (561-799-8585), or at the Treasure Coast - CO 128 (772-873-3305), and follow all OSD procedures.

**Code of Academic Integrity**  
  
Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility.

The FAU Code of Academic Integrity prohibits dishonesty and requires a faculty member, student, or staff member to notify an instructor when there is reason to believe dishonesty has occurred in a course/program requirement. The instructor must pursue any reasonable allegation, taking action where appropriate. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, the following:

**(A) Cheating**

1. The unauthorized use of notes, books, electronic devices, or other study aids while taking an examination or working on an assignment.   
2. Providing unauthorized assistance to or receiving assistance from another student during an examination or while working on an assignment.   
3. Having someone take an exam or complete an assignment in one’s place, including in class iClicker questions.  
4. Securing an exam, receiving an unauthorized copy of an exam, or sharing a copy of an exam.

5. Having another student use your iClicker.

**(B) Plagiarism**

1. The presentation of words from any other source or another person as one’s own without proper quotation and citation.   
2. Putting someone else’s ideas or facts into your own words (paraphrasing) without proper citation.   
3. Turning in someone else’s work as one’s own, including the buying and selling of term papers or assignments.

**(C) Other Forms of Dishonesty**

1. Falsifying or inventing information, data, or citations.   
2. Failing to comply with examination regulations or failing to obey the instructions of an examination proctor.   
3. Submitting the same paper or assignment, or part thereof, in more than one class without the written consent of both instructors.   
4. Any other form of academic cheating, plagiarism, or dishonesty.

For full details of the FAU Code of Academic Integrity, see University Regulation 4.001 at  
<http://wise.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf>.



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| ***9-Mar 12*** | **MIDTERM** |  | **-In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **PAPER PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE SUNDAY**  **MARCH 16 9 PM** |
| ***10-Mar 19*** | **TELEVISION I** | **LG: “Television Takes Over,” pp. 81-93**  **LG: “Hollywood’s Gay Nineties,” pp. 156-183**  **RS: “*Soap”*, pp. 37-50**  **RS: “*Fleeting Images,”*pp 73-82**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #10 due by Wednesday class.** |
| ***11-Mar26*** | **TELEVISION II** | **RS: “*Ellen*,” pp 104-115**  **RS:“*Will and Grace,”* pp 115-126**  **RS: “*Queer as Folks,´*pp. 127-137**  **RS: “*The L Word,”* pp. 149-158**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #11 due by Wednesday class..** |
| ***12-Ap 2*** | **NEWS** | **LG: “Journalism’s Closet Opens,” pp 110-130**  **LG: Breaking the Code of Silence,” pp. 131-142**  **RS: “Gays in the Military,” pp 65-72**  **Times Magazine article**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #12 due by Wednesday class.** |
| ***13-Ap 9*** | **ADVERTISING** | **LG: “Niche of Our Own”, pp233-242**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #13 due by Wednesday class.** |
| ***14-Ap 16*** | **TRANSGENDER** | **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #14 by Wednesday class.** |
| ***15 Ap 23*** | **SAME SEX MARRIAGE/THE FUTURE?** | **RS: “Same Sex Marriage,” pp. 159-168**  **LG: “Old Stories” pp 221-232**  **LG: “Facing the Future, pp. 252-259**  **BLACKBOARD FOLDER READINGS/VIEWINGS** | **-In class iClicker quiz on unit’s readings/viewings**  **-Journal Assignment #15 by Wednesday class.** |
| ***FINAL-April 30*** |  | **FINAL: 400-6:50pm** | **RESEARCH PAPER PROJECT DUE APRIL 30 4 PM** |