

**SENIOR SEMINAR, GENDER & SEXUALITIES SOCIOLOGY  
498**

**Fall 2016**

**Contact Information:**

Professor Dean

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**Prerequisites:** Students must complete Sociology 300 and Sociology 375 with grades of C- or higher, as well as at least 16 additional sociology units, before enrolling in Sociology 498. In addition, students must earn at least a C- in Soci 498 in order to get credit for Senior Seminar toward the major requirements. Students must file for Fall 2016 graduation in order to be eligible to enroll in Soci 498.

**General Education:** No

**Method: Interviews**

**Class Description & Objectives:**

This course will utilize gender and sexuality as analytical frames for investigating social life. First, we will explore some major theories and frameworks for understanding the socially constructed nature of gender and sexuality in social life and then we will read studies that make these analytical categories central to their empirical investigations. This course will emphasize both the individual and institutional ways in which social life is structured, paying particular attention to issues of power, identities and the intersections between identity categories.

As this is the “capstone” course for the major, each student will design and complete an original research project, including the collection and analysis of primary data. The first few weeks of the semester will be devoted to the development of student research topics. Class meetings will be divided more or less evenly between discussion of the course topics and discussion of student research projects. The course is designed as a seminar, which means student participation is central to its success. Class meetings will emphasize discussion of readings and student research topics.

**Evaluation:**

Oral Presentation	20%
Research Project	50%
Memos	20%
<u>Participation</u>	<u>10%</u>
	100%

**Required Texts:**

- Gerson, Kathleen. 2010. *The Unfinished Revolution: How a New Generation is Reshaping Family, Work, and Gender in America*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Kimmel, Michael. 2008. *Guyland: The Perilous World Where Boys Become Men*. New York: Harper Collins.
- Seidman, Steven. 2002. *Beyond the Closet: The Transformation of Gay and Lesbian Life*. New York: Routledge.

*Above is subject to change.*