

CLE9028 Sexual Cultures in Asia

Restriction: The course is ONLY available to students AGED 18 OR ABOVE.

Course Title	:	Sexual Cultures in Asia
Course Code	:	CLE 9028
Recommended Study Year*	:	All years
No. of Credits/Term	:	3 credits/term
Mode of Tuition	:	Lecture-tutorial
Contact Hours	:	3 hours per week
Category in Core Curriculum	:	Cluster : Values, Cultures and Societies
Discipline*	:	
Prerequisite(s)	:	Nil
Co-requisite(s)	:	Nil
Exclusion(s)	:	Nil
Exemption Requirement(s)	:	Nil
Brief Course Description	:	This course examines how the changing sexual cultures in Asia pose a series of new questions to the previous articulation of gender-cum-sexual issues. With the help of new critical vocabularies/perspectives and ethical discourses, students will study the burgeoning sex markets and new sexual scenes in East Asia (including Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan and Korea) by focusing on popular cultural forms such as film, drama, animation, comic, entertainment industry and clubbing culture. They will reflect on these new sexual phenomena, in light of the current thinking in selected gender and sexuality discourses. Through reading, discussion, group work, and seminar, students will learn how to reflect critically on a range of new sexual forms, examine sexual diversities and varieties from multiple perspectives, and develop critical and creative understanding of the new inter-Asia sexualscape.
Aims	:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) To introduce students to various forms and scenes of sexual culture in East Asia in recent years.2) To encourage students to critically examine the burgeoning sexual cultures, forms and scenes in contemporary Asia under the appropriate theoretical perspectives.3) To enable students to situate and understand gender, sex and sexuality in specific cultures and contexts with reference to social, cultural, economic, interpersonal, institutional and technological settings.

Learning Outcomes : Students will be able to

1. describe a broad outline of the cultural history of gender and sexuality and other sexual forms and phenomena as they are situated in different cultures and contexts with special reference to East Asia;
2. explain various key concepts and theories underpinning sex, sexuality and gender in general;
3. employ a set of conceptual tools to delineate and discuss various sexual forms, scenes and phenomena;
4. develop creative understanding and critical attitudes toward new sexual forms that have permeated in their everyday cultural encounters.

Indicative Content : Theoretical perspectives

1. Theories and key concepts of gender, sex and sexuality
2. Globalization of sexual culture in East Asia
3. Pop culture and sex/sexuality
4. Media and gender

Various forms of sexual cultures in Asia

1. *Shunga* (woodblock print), *pinku eiga* (pink movie) and *binibon* (soft core pornographic magazine) in Japan.
2. Boy's love comic and *dojinshi* (amateur comic) in East Asia.
3. New sexual cultures in Japan: newhalf, transsexual, shemale, etc.
4. Idol performance and idolization of entertainment industry in East Asia.
5. From Japanese adult videos to local *A-pian* (pornography) in Taiwan.
6. Funeral strippers for a dead crowd: electric flower cars in rural Taiwan.
7. From *fengyue* movie to Category III films in Hong Kong.
8. Sex, sexuality, romance and modernity in Korean TV drama and film.

Teaching Method : Lecture, tutorial and discussion

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

1. Active oral class participation engages critically with assigned weekly readings, unpacking key concepts and theories in them. (10%) [LO2, LO4]
2. Academic essays and tutorial presentations require students to critically examine specific sexual cultures/forms in Asia through a skillful use of conceptual tools. (30%) [LO3]
3. Guided group project – involving both writing and oral presentation – requires students to work together as a team on a specific case study. Students are required to trace the development of any chosen topics and reflect whether existing theories of sex, sexuality and gender can help make sense of all these new sexual phenomena. (30%) LO2, LO3, LO4]
4. Final examination assesses students’ familiarity and understanding of cultural history of gender, sex and sexuality in various contexts and their ability to present informed discussions of broad issues of sexual culture in contemporary Asia. (30%) [LO1, LO2]

Assessment

: Students are assessed on the basis of 70% Continuous Assessment, and 30% Final Examination.

Participation in Class Discussion:	10%
Tutorial Presentation:	15%
Written Assignments:	15%
Group Project	30%
Final Examination	30%

Required/Essential Readings

- : Jackson, S., L. Liu and L. Woo. Eds. *East Asian Sexualities: Modernity, Gender and New Sexual Cultures*, Zed: London and NY, 2008.
- Wong, H.W., and H.Y. Yau *Japanese Adult Videos in Taiwan*, Routledge, 2014.

Recommended/
Supplementary

- Butler, J. *Gender Trouble: Feminism and Subversion of Identity*, Routledge: New York, 1990.
- Evans, H., *The Subject of Gender: Daughters and Mothers in Urban China*, Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, Boulder, NY, Toronto and Plymouth, 2007.
- Friedman, Sara L. and Deborah Davis. Eds. *Wives, Husbands, and Lovers: Marriage and Sexuality in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Urban China*, Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 2014.
- Friedman, Sara L. “Another Kind of Love? Debating Homosexuality and Same-Sex Intimacy Through Taiwanese and Chinese Film Reception”. In *Media, Erotics, and Transnational Asia* Eds. Purnima Mankekar and Louisa Schein, Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2012.
- Foucault, M. *The History of Sexuality I*, New York: Vintage Book, 1990.
- Kim, Yeran. “Idol Republic: the global emergence of girl industries and the commercialization of girl bodies”. *Journal of Gender Studies* 20(4):333-34, 2011.
- McLelland, M.J. “The World of Yaoi: the internet, censorship and the global ‘boys’ love’ fandom”. *The Australian Feminist Law Journal* 23: 61-77, 2005.
- McLelland, M.J. and V. Mackie. Eds. *The Routledge Handbook of Sexuality Studies in East Asia*, Routledge, 2014.
- Moskowitz, M.L. “Multiple Virginity and Other Contested Realities in Taipei’s Foreign Club Culture”. *Sexualities*, 11(3): 327-51, 2008.
- Wong, H.W. & H.Y. Yau. “Sex as a Ritual: transforming women’s sexual being from ‘human-like’ to ‘animal-like’ in Taiwan”. *East Asia* 28(1): 37-55, 2012.

Important Notes:

1. Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 2 hours of class contact and 7 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
2. Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
3. Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
4. To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.