

Inquiry into Queerness

In this course we will begin by examining the possible meanings of the term "queer," paying close attention to the ways in which "queer" is and has been used as an indication of gender and sexual identity, both as an insult, and as a defiant act of self-description. We'll examine how ideas about gender and sexuality have changed historically and are inflected by time, place, culture, and politics; how various beliefs about and knowledge of gender and sexuality are institutionalized, regulated, and transformed. We will delve into queer studies and queer theory (and the differences between the two), and the diverse ways in which queer people have made an impact in a wide range of fields and disciplines. This course is open to and depends upon the presence of all gender identities and sexual directedness--your individual voice will be important in this class no matter what your particular experience may be.

For a more detailed course description, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact the instructor at wparrott@utk.edu.