

ANTH 3711 FAO: Anthropology of Love and Relations

Instructor: Melinda Vandenberg Giles

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Course Description:

This course will explore the intersections of love, sex and global capitalism. By utilizing the concept of “economies of affect” we will examine relationality as directly enmeshed within neoliberal politics and state regimes. An analysis of the “intimate” in relation to political economy enables a deeper understanding of love, sex, and the search for human connection within a neoliberal era of precarity. The course will examine the shifting relationships between human subjectivities and the state, market, and society.

Course Requirements:

1. Students are expected to attend lectures and to have readings completed by the assigned dates so they will be able to actively participate. Students will be required to have a Reading Journal where they will write down thoughts related to the weekly articles, and responses to class discussions and lectures/films. The **Reading Journals** will be due on **Oct. 9** and **Nov. 27** and worth **30% each** for a total of **60%** of overall grade.
2. There will be a **group presentation** requirement. The class will be divided into 4 groups on lecture 1. Each group will decide on their topic related to Love, Sex, and Relationality and be responsible for conducting one full lecture. Everyone will receive the same grade in the group presentation unless there are obvious discrepancies in lack of participation. The group should collectively provide approximately 20-25 slides including a minimum of 9 academic references to produce a **60-minute lecture** with 20 minutes for questions. Please include in-text citations on each slide (with page numbers where applicable) and provide the Reference List on the final slide. The presentation slides are due on D2L the evening before the presentation.

Evaluation:

Reading Journals: 60%

Group Presentation: 40%

Required Text:

Love and Globalization: Transformations of Intimacy in the Contemporary World. Eds. Mark Padilla, Jennifer Hirsch, Miguel Muñoz-Laboy, Robert Sember, and Richard Parker. Nashville, Tennessee: Vanderbilt University Press. \$54

Additional required weekly readings are available as PDFs on D2L.

Schedule of Topics and Readings:

Part I: Ascension of the Affective Self

WEEK 1

Economies of Affect

- Sept 2** **Introduction and Course Expectations**
What Love Is: and what it could be. Carrie Jenkins. Prologue. Pages ix-xvi.
- Sept 4** **“Economies of Affect”.** Analiese Richard and Daromir Rudnycky. Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute 15: 57-77.

WEEK 2

Affect and Political Economy

- Sept 9** **The Managed Heart. Commercialization of Human Feeling.** Arlie Russell Hochschild. **Chapter 1:** Exploring the Managed Heart. Pages 3-23.
- Sept 11** **“The Catholicization of Neoliberalism: On Love and Welfare in Lombardy, Italy”.**
Andrea Muehlebach. American Anthropologist 115.3: 452-465.

WEEK 3

The Romance of Late Capitalism

- Sept 16** **“The Fantasy of Capitalism and Romance: Consuming the Self”.** Melinda Vandenbeld Giles. After the Happily Ever After.
- Sept 18** **Consuming the Romantic Utopia: Love and the Cultural Contradictions of Capitalism.** Eva Illouz.
Introduction to the Sociology of Love. Pages 1-22.
Chapter 1: Constructing the Romantic Utopia. Pages 25-47.

Part II: Love and Globalization

WEEK 4

An Anthropology of Love and Capitalism

- Sept 23** **Modern Loves: The Anthropology of Romantic Courtship and Companionate Marriage.** Eds. Jennifer S. Hirsch and Holly Wardlow. **Introduction. Pages 1-31.** Jennifer S. Hirsch and Holly Wardlow. **Chapter 8.** The Bonds of Love: Companionate Marriage and the Desire for Intimacy among Hijras in Hyderabad, India. Pages 174-192.
- Sept 25** **All about Love: New Visions.** bell hooks. **Introduction. Pages xiii-xxix.** Grace: Touched by Love. **Chapter 1. Pages 2-14.** Clarity: Give Love Words.

WEEK 5

Love, Sex and Transnational Romance

Film: Love under Cuban Skies

<https://curio-ca.ezproxy.lakeheadu.ca/en/catalog/search?q=love+under+cuban+skies>

- Sept 30** **Love and Globalization: Transformations of Intimacy in the Contemporary World.** Eds. Mark Padilla, Jennifer Hirsch, Miguel Muñoz-Laboy, Robert Sember, and Richard Parker. **Introduction. Pages ix-xxxi.** Cross-Cultural Reflections on an Intimate Intersection. Mark Padilla, Jennifer Hirsch, Miguel Muñoz-Laboy, Robert Sember, and Richard Parker.
- Oct 2** **Chapter 5. Pages 107-119.** The Strange Marriage of Love and Interest: Economic Change and Emotional Intimacy in Northeast Brazil, Private and Public. L. A. Rebhun. **Chapter 10. Pages 203-225.** Love Work in a Tourist Town: Dominican Sex Workers and Resort Workers Perform at Love.

WEEK 6

The Globalization of Intimacy and Care

Film: Chain of Love

<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/chainoflove/370399328>

Oct 7 **Global Woman: Nannies, Maids and Sex Workers in the New Economy.** Eds. Barbara Ehrenreich and Arlie Russell Hochschild.

Introduction. Pages 1-14. Barbara Ehrenreich and Arlie Russell Hochschild.

Oct 9 **READING JOURNAL 1 DUE (Sept 2-Oct 9)**

Mothering in the Age of Neoliberalism. Ed. Melinda Vandenberg. Giles.

Chapter 1. Pages 35-49. Multiplying Mothers: Migration and the Work of Mothering in Canada and the Philippines. Catherine Bryan.

WEEK 7

READING WEEK

Part III: Sex and Late-Capitalist Society

WEEK 8

Sex, Power and Society

Oct 21 **The Gender/Sexuality Reader: Culture, History, Political Economy.** Eds. Roger Lancaster and Micaela di Leonardo.

Chapter 10. Pages 153-168. Sex and Society: A Research Note from Social History and Anthropology. Ellen Ross and Rayna Rapp.

The History of Sexuality: An Introduction Volume I. Michel Foucault.

Chapter 1. Pages 17-36. The Incitement to Discourse.

Oct 23 **The Transformation of Intimacy: Sensuality, Love and Eroticism in Modern Societies.** Anthony Giddens.

Introduction. Pages 1-3.

Chapter 2. Pages 18-36. Foucault on Sexuality.

WEEK 9

Sex Roles, Race, and Shifting Gendered Subjectivities

- Oct 28** **The Normal Chaos of Love.** Ulrich Beck and Elizabeth Beck-Gernsheim.
Introduction: Individualization and Ways of Living and Loving.
Chapter 1: Love or Freedom
- Oct 30** **Mothering in the Age of Neoliberalism.** Ed. Melinda Vandenberg Giles.
Chapter 6. Pages 133-147. Negotiating Identities: The Case of Mompreneurs in Trinidad and Tobago

WEEK 10

Reconfiguring Relationality

Film: Paris Is Burning

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nI7EhpY2yaA>

- Nov 4** **The New “I Do”: Reshaping Marriage for Skeptics, Realists and Rebels.**
Susan Pease Gadoua and Vicki Larson.
Chapter 1. Pages 8-28. Have We Outgrown Marriage?
- Nov 6** **Urban Tribes: Are Friends the New Family?** Ethan Watters.
Chapter 1. Pages 15-39. Confessions of a Yet-to-Be-Married.
- Families We Choose: Lesbians, Gays, Kinship.** Kath Weston.
Chapter 1. Pages 1-20. The Monkey Cage and the Red Desoto.

WEEK 11

The Casualization of Intimacy?

- Nov 11** **Liquid Love: On the Frailty of Human Bonds.** Zygmunt Bauman. **Foreword.**
- The Ethical Slut: A Practical Guide to Polyamory, Open Relationships and Other Adventures.** Dossie Easton and Janet W. Hardy.
Chapter 2. Pages 9-19. Myths and Realities.
Chapter 4. Pages 27-40. Slut Styles.
- Nov 13** **What Love Is. Chapter 2. Love Is Society.**

WEEK 12
GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Nov 18

Nov 20

WEEK 13
GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Nov 25

Nov 27 READING JOURNAL 2 DUE (Oct 21-Nov 27)

Class Policies

D2L

I will be using D2L to post PDFs of course readings and announcements.

Policy on Extensions

Extensions will only be granted in emergency situations with appropriate documentation. Late assignments will be penalized 5% per day and you will receive 0% after 7 days unless prior arrangements have been made.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty (for instance, plagiarism) is a serious offence. Please see the web site: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/policies/student-related/code-of-student-behaviour-and-disciplinary-procedures/node/1046>. Please keep in mind that I have zero tolerance for any forms of plagiarism.