

**Queer and Feminist Diaspora Studies**  
**15PGNH011**  
**2018 - 2019 (Term 2)**  
**Course Convenor: Dr Alyosxa Tudor**  
**Course Level: Postgraduate**

**University of London**  
**School of Oriental and African Studies**  
**Centre for Gender Studies**

**Time & Place:** Thursdays, 3-4pm

**Assessment:** One 2000 word essays (50% ), 2 out of 3 reaction papers; 1000 words each (50%).

**Course description:**

Looking at recent events through a queer, feminist and diasporic lens, this module is engaged with questions of community building, solidarity and the inescapability of ambivalences and contradictions in politics that work towards radical social transformation.

This course is focused on theory (making sense of the world) and epistemology (making sense of making sense of the world). We will discuss how theory and epistemology are intertwined with activism, research practice and everyday life. The module aims to enable students to reflect critically on knowledge production and to 'translate' theoretical concepts across disciplines, languages and contexts.

**Teaching/Learning Methods:** The course consists of lectures, tutorials and class discussions. We will be using Moodle to access course documents, such as the updated syllabus, weekly lecture notes and sample reaction papers. We will also use BLE for occasional online discussions on specific topics as well as to exchange relevant information, resources and links.

**Assignments:**

**I. Reaction Papers (50%):**

Students are asked to write brief reaction papers (1000 words) based on the assigned readings. Students are allowed to submit 3 reaction papers. The grade is based on the 2 best.

**II. Essay (50%):**

The 2000 word essay is due on Jan 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019. We will discuss essay topics after reading week.

## Course Schedule

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
Week 1	<b>introduction: challenges and contradictions in feminist and queer diaspora studies</b>
Week 2	<b>queer migrations</b>
Week 3	<b>home</b>
Week 4	<b>space</b>
Week 5	<b>europe</b>
Week 6	* Reading week *
Week 7	<b>atlantic</b>
Week 8	<b>mediterranean</b>
Week 9	<b>epistemology</b>
Week 10	<b>death</b>
Week 11	<b>presence</b>

## 1. challenges and contradictions in feminist and queer diaspora studies

introduction to queer theory and feminist theory with focus on migration and diaspora studies

## 2. queer migrations

introduction to critical knowledge production on the intersection of migration, diaspora, racism, gender, sexuality

### key reading

Luibheid, E. 2008: QUEER/MIGRATION: An Unruly Body of Scholarship. In: GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies. Vol. 14 Issue 2. 2008, p169-190. 22p  
[https://muse.jhu.edu/article/241318?casa\\_token=SxTtuimDoKEAAAAA:RCPH2aSXARg\\_z6ujkcSHQF2WKgpAw91UL8TJKWSC5ukFGp3BM2--lzeHpce0mjS8mv\\_H4y\\_MZuA](https://muse.jhu.edu/article/241318?casa_token=SxTtuimDoKEAAAAA:RCPH2aSXARg_z6ujkcSHQF2WKgpAw91UL8TJKWSC5ukFGp3BM2--lzeHpce0mjS8mv_H4y_MZuA)

Manalansan, M. 2006: Queer Intersections: Sexuality and Gender in Migration Studies. In: *The International Migration Review*. 40(1): 224-249; Blackwell Publishing, 2006  
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1747-7379.2006.00009.x/pdf>

### Recommended Reading

Chávez, Karma R. (2013): *Queer Migration Politics : Activist Rhetoric and Coalitional Possibilities*. Urbana: University of Illinois. 2013.

Bhagat, Ali (2016): *Forced (Queer) migration and everyday violence: The geographies of life, death, and access in Cape Town*. Geoforum.

## 3. home

introduction to theories of home and belonging, notions of diaspora

### Key Reading

El-Tayeb, Fatima (2011): "Introduction: Theorizing Urban Minority Communities in Postnational Europe". In: *European Others. Queering Ethnicity in Postnational Europe*. Minneapolis, London: University of Minnesota, pp. xi-xlvi.

Tudor, Alyosxa (2017): 'Queering Migration Discourse: Differentiating Racism and Migratism in Postcolonial Europe.' *Lambda Nordica*, 22 (2-3), pp. 21-40.  
<http://www.lambdanordica.se/wp-content/uploads/art18.pdf>

Mohanty, C. T. (2003): "Genealogies of Community, Home, and Nation". In: *Feminism Without Borders. Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity*. Durham, London: Duke University. pp. 124-137.

## Recommended Reading

El-Tayeb, Fatima 2008: "The Birth of a European Public. Migration, Postnationality, and Race in the Uniting of Europe". In: *American Quarterly*. 60 (3), pp. 649–670.

Ahmed, S. 1999: "Home and Away. Narratives of Migration and Estrangement". In: *International Journal of Cultural Studies*. 2 (3), pp. 329–347.

## 4. space

key topics: racialised, colonial and gendered access to space; critical identity politics; dealing with ambivalences, uncertainties and contradictions of positionality

### Key Readings

Brah, A. 1999 (republished 2012): *The Scent of Memory: Strangers, Our Own, and Others. Feminist Review*. (100):6-26  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/41495191.pdf?refreqid=excelsior%3Ac5dfdee1c02de9d5e0fbce8ef48f20a5>

Puwar, N. Introduction: Proximities. In: *Space Invaders: Race, Gender and Bodies out of Place*. Oxford : Berg, 2004. <https://library.soas.ac.uk/Record/644744>

El-Enany, N. 2017: *The Colonial Logic of Grenfell*. <https://www.versobooks.com/blogs/3306-the-colonial-logic-of-grenfell>

## Recommended Reading

Nayak, A. 2007. *Critical Whiteness Studies*. *Sociology Compass*. 1, 2. pp. 737-755

Campt, Tina & Deborah Thomas (2008) 'Gendering diaspora: transnational feminism, diaspora and its hegemonies', in *Feminist Review* 90: 1-8. (7 pages)

Butler, Judith (2012): "What shall we do without exile?". In: *Parting Ways. Jewishness and the Critique of Zionism*. New York: Columbia University. pp. 205-224.

Thomas, Deborah; Campt, Tina (2006): "Diasporic Hegemonies: Slavery, Memory, and Genealogies of Diaspora". In: *Transforming Anthropology*. 14 (2), pp. 163–172.

## 5. europe

key topics: europe and eurocentrism, colonial nostalgia, differentiation between racism and migratism, rise of the global right

### Key Reading

El-Enany, N. 2016: *Brexit as Nostalgia for Empire*.  
<http://criticallegalthinking.com/2016/06/19/brexit-nostalgia-empire/>

Bhambra, G. 2016a: VIEWPOINT: Brexit, Class and British 'National' Identity. <http://discoversociety.org/2016/07/05/viewpoint-brexite-class-and-british-national-identity/>

Bhambra, G. 2016b: Brexit, the Commonwealth, and exclusionary citizenship. <https://www.opendemocracy.net/gurminder-k-bhambra/brexit-commonwealth-and-exclusionary-citizenship>

Bhambra, G. 2017 Locating Brexit in the Pragmatics of Race, Citizenship and Empire' in William Outhwaite (ed) *Brexit: Sociological Responses*. London: Anthem Press. <http://gkbhambra.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Brexit-chapter-BHAMBRA-.pdf>.

Feminist Review Brexit Reactions <https://femrev.wordpress.com/2016/07/14/collective-reflections-on-brexit/>

### **Recommended Reading**

Bhambra, Gurminder K. (2009): "Postcolonial Europe, or Understanding Europe in Times of the Postcolonial". In: *Sage Handbook of European Studies*. London: Sage, pp. 69–85.

Spivak, Gayatri Chakravorty (2008): "Our Asias 2001 – How to Be a Continentalist". In: *Other Asias*. Malden, MA ; Oxford: Blackwell Pub. 209–238.

Hall, Stuart (1991): "Europe's Other Self". In: *Marxism Today*. 18 , S. 18–19.

Boatcă, Manuela (2013): "Multiple Europes and the Politics of Difference Within". In: *Worlds & Knowledges Otherwise (WKO). Uneasy Postcolonialisms*. 3 (3), online: [https://globalstudies.trinity.duke.edu/wp-content/themes/cgsh/materials/WKO/v3d3\\_Boatca2.pdf](https://globalstudies.trinity.duke.edu/wp-content/themes/cgsh/materials/WKO/v3d3_Boatca2.pdf) [20/01/2014].

## **6. Reading week – no lectures**

### **7. atlantic**

key topics: black atlantic, slavery, modernity, theories of queering, thinking together critical race studies and queer studies

#### **Key Reading**

Spillers, Hortense. 1987. 'Mama's Baby, Papa's Maybe: An American Grammar Book' *Diacritics* 17(2), pp. 65–81.

Tinsley, O. N. (2008): "BLACK ATLANTIC, QUEER ATLANTIC: Queer Imaginings of the Middle Passage". In: *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*. 14 (2-3), pp. 191–215. (24 pages) <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/241316/pdf>

## Recommended Reading

Gilroy, P. 2003: "The Black Atlantic as a Counterculture of Modernity". In: Braziel, Jana Evans; Mannur, Anita (Eds.) *Theorizing Diaspora. A Reader*. Malden [u.a.]: Blackwell pp. 49–80. (31 pages)

Omise'eke Natasha Tinsley [2012: Extract from "Water, Shoulders, Into the Black Pacific"](#) GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies - Volume 18, Numbers 2-3, 2012, pp. 263-276.

Swaby, Nydia A. (2014): "'disparate in voice, sympathetic in direction': gendered political blackness and the politics of solidarity". In: *feminist review*. 108 (1), pp. 11–25.

## 8. mediterranean

key topics: the mediterranean; queer and gendered perspectives on refugees, crises, war and 'fortress europe'

### Key Reading

Pallister-Wilkins, P. (2016): Interrogating the Mediterranean 'Migration Crisis'. In: *Mediterranean Politics*, 2016. Vol 21, no. 2, 311–315  
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/13629395.2016.1145826?needAccess=true>

Danewild, Ida (2017): White innocence in the Black Mediterranean: hospitality and the erasure of history. In: *Third World Quarterly*, 2017. Vol. 38, No. 7, 1674–1689.  
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/01436597.2017.1331123?needAccess=true>

## Recommended Reading

Berlant, L. (2007): "Slow Death (Sovereignty, Obesity, Lateral Agency)," *Critical Inquiry* 33, no. 4 (Summer 2007): 754-780.

Perkowski, N. (2016): Deaths, Interventions, Humanitarianism and Human Rights in the Mediterranean 'Migration Crisis'. In: *Mediterranean Politics*, 2016. Vol. 21, no. 2, 331–33.

## 9. epistemology

key topics: queer of color critique, Black lesbian feminism, critical identity politics, border epistemology

### Key Reading

Muñoz, J. E. (1999): Introduction. In: *Disidentifications. Queers of Color and the Performance of Politics*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota. <http://www.bonny-and-read.com/uploads/4/6/4/1/46415259/joseestebanmunoz-disidentifications-intro.pdf>

Lorde, Audre (2007): "The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House". In: *Sister Outsider. Essays and Speeches*. Berkeley: Crossing, pp. 110–113. [http://bixby.ucla.edu/journal\\_club/Lorde\\_s2.pdf](http://bixby.ucla.edu/journal_club/Lorde_s2.pdf)

### **Recommended Reading**

Butler, Judith (2007): "Subjects of Sex/Gender/Desire". In: *Gender Trouble. Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. New York: Routledge. pp. 1-46.

Rich, Adrienne (2003): "Notes Toward a Politics of Location". In: Lewis, Reina; Mills, Sara (Eds.) *Feminist Postcolonial Theory. A Reader*. New York: Routledge, pp. 29–42.

Kaplan, Caren (1994) "The Politics of Location as Transnational Feminist Critical Practice". In: Inderpal Grewal and Caren Kaplan (Eds.). *Scattered Hegemonies: Postmodernity and Transnational Feminist Practices*. Minneapolis and London: University of Minnesota Press, pp. 137-152.

Ahmed, Sara (2004): "Declarations of Whiteness: The Non-Performativity of Anti-Racism". In: *borderlands*. (e-journal), 3 (2), [http://www.borderlands.net.au/vol3no2\\_2004/ahmed\\_declarations.htm](http://www.borderlands.net.au/vol3no2_2004/ahmed_declarations.htm) [20.01.2014].

## **10. death**

key topics: death and dying in migrant communities; theories of biopolitics and necropolitics; queer politics; hate crimes

### **Key Reading**

Gunaratnam, Y. 2013: [Death and the Migrant: bodies, borders, care](#). Introduction

Cohen, Cathy. "Death and Rebirth of a Movement: Queering Critical Ethnic Studies." *Social Justice* 37, no. 4 (122) (2011): 126-32. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41478938>.

### **Recommended Reading**

Shakhsari, Sima (2014): "Killing Me Softly with Your Rights. Queer Death and the Politics of Rightful Killings". In: Haritaworn, Jin; Kuntsman, Adi; Posocco, Silvia (Eds.) *Queer Necropolitics*. London: Routledge S. 93-110.

Berlant, Lauren (2007): "Slow Death (Sovereignty, Obesity, Lateral Agency)". In: *Critical Inquiry*. 33 (4), pp. 754–780.

Spade, Dean; Bassichis, Morgan (2014): "Queer-Politics and Anti-Blackness". In: Haritaworn, Jin; Kuntsman, Adi; Posocco, Silvia (Eds.) *Queer Necropolitics*. London: Routledge.

Mbembe, Achille (2003): "Necropolitics". In: *Public Culture*. 15 (1), pp. 11–40

Spade, Dean (2011): *Normal Life. Administrative Violence, Critical Trans Politics, and the Limits of Law*. Brooklyn, NY: South End.

## 11. presence

key topics: reading practices, solidarity, becoming, passing

### Key Reading

Lewis, Gail (2017): "Questions of Presence". *Feminist Review* 117. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41305-017-0088-1>

Tudor, Alyosxa (2017): Dimensions of Transnationalism. *Feminist Review* 117, pp. 20-40. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41305-017-0092-5>

### Recommended Reading

Campt, Tina (2011): "what's the 'trans' and where's the 'national' in transnational feminist practice? – a response". In: *Feminist Review*. pp. e130–e135.

Puar, Jasbir K. (1998): "Transnational Sexualities: South Asian (Trans)nation(alism)s and Queer Diasporas". In: Eng, David L.; Hom, Alice Y. (ed.) *Q & A: Queer in Asian America*. Philadelphia: Temple University, pp. 405–424.