Instructor:
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Office:
College of Interdisciplinary Studies (5th Floor, Anek Prasong Bld1).

Course Hours:
By Appointment

Course Description
This introductory level course explores some of the intertwined and contested dimensions of gender, sexuality/ies and multiculturalism in contemporary Thailand. Specifically, the key concepts of gender and sexuality/ies meaningfully engage in the issues of diversity and multiculturalism in Thai society. We will be covering theoretical frameworks of gender and sexuality/ies as well as basic foundations of multiculturalism and its, often controversial, applications in the context of the (Thai) nation-state building. The course also examines the current theoretical debates about the extent to which gender and sexuality/ies and their related gendered constructs can account for various social conflicts and policy dilemmas surrounding the management of an increasingly diverse and multicultural Thai society. In this regard, some general themes will be addressed: current and historical definitions of gender and sexuality/ies under Thailand’s male-dominated social system; a wide range of ways the social meanings and cultural values are attached to these gendered categories, and eventually the social stratification as a result of gender and sexuality construction. Through this lens of intersectionality (of gender, sexuality and multiculturalism), we will also highlight the issues of agency, resistance, and activism in order to capture a complete view on intercultural understanding and social change of Thai society.

Course Objectives
This outline is designed for undergraduate students. Its objectives are:

1. To introduce students to fundamental concepts of gender and sexuality/ies. See how certain myths & assumptions about gender, sexuality/ies and gender differences are constructed and implemented to influence gender roles, social practices, and various forms of sexual oppression in Thai society. Examine the extent to which gender subordination, and related sexual oppression, can account for the various challenges and policy dilemmas surrounding the management of cultural diversity in our contemporary societies.

2. To facilitate the students to openly and critically engage in issues of gender, sexuality/ies and multiculturalism in an intersectional way. Through intersecting those social elements such as race, class, ethnicity, physical disabilities, age and gender, the students would seek to immerse themselves broadly and deeply in a discussion on the complex issues of gender inequality and oppression of the twenty-first century.

Class Format

Class will incorporate both lecture and discussion. Occasionally, we will break into a small group discussion for more detailed and in-depth discussion. Most of the lectures will directly involve with our readings whereas some may engage in the students’ backgrounds and experiences.

Course Meeting Time (3 hrs/week)
Lecture: 1 session/1.5 hours
Discussion: 1 session/1.5 hours
Course Requirements
3.2.1. Reader responses will account for 40% of the final grade
3.2.2. Class Discussion and attention will account for 10% of the final grade
3.3.3. Mid term exam will account for 25% of the final grade
3.3.4. Final paper will account for 25% of the final grade

Reader Responses
You are expected to keep up with the class readings, so 2 response papers are expected from you throughout the course. Reader responses are the 3-5 page paper that focuses on a particular issue from our class discussion. This paper should clearly articulate an argumentative thesis.

Class Discussion and Participation
You are expected to attend the class and participate in discussion. Students who miss more than 3 classes will lose attention credit.

Midterm Exam and Final Paper (Midterm Exam and Final Papers)
You must write an argumentative essay. Choose your own topic and write 15-20 page-long paper about it. For example, you can either write about the sexuality and political economy in Southeast Asia or the gender identity and social inequality in the region and etc.

Final Paper
You are obliged to turn in a Final Paper by the final week of the semester. Again, choose your own topic and write 15-20 page-long final paper about it. A wide range of gender/sexuality based topics are encouraged. The paper must be submitted to me by 16:00 p.m. of the Final Exam Day.

THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM. JUST TURN THE FINAL PAPER IN AND YOU WILL BE FREE!

Grades

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>PERCENTAGES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reader Responses Papers</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>-First Paper</td>
<td>(20%)</td>
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<td>-Second Paper</td>
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<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>Final paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attention</td>
<td>10%</td>
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Course Outline:

Week 1: 15 January 2019

Introduction to Class Structure and Theoretical Orientation
What are these concepts: sex, gender and sexuality/ies? How can we think about gender and sexuality in Southeast Asian cultural contexts?
-Introduction to class, assignments for papers and presentations, introduction to the Southeast Asian region
-Overview of theories of gender and sexuality
Week 2: 22 January 2019

**Gender, Sexuality and Thai & Multicultural Context I**

**Readings**


Week 3: 29 January 2019

**Gender, Sexuality and Thai & Multicultural Context II (Continued)**

The experience of colonialism is a crucial part of the histories of most countries in Southeast Asia. What role did colonialism play in constructing categories of gender and sexuality in the Southeast Asian region? Does it continue to have an impact?

**Readings**


Week 4: 5 February 2019

**Gender, Sexuality and Pop Culture and Multiculturalism**

How the pop cultures may impact on gender and sexualities in Southeast Asia?

**Readings**


Week 5: 12 February 2019

**Gender, Sexuality, the Nation-State and Multiculturalism**

Most of Southeast Asian countries fought against colonial rule and to establish independent states. Many of these places are characterized by very active states, and a strong sense of nationhood, while others have weak states. What role does the nation-state and nationalism play in the construction of gender and sexuality?

**Readings:**


Week 6: 26 February 2019

**Gender-Based Violence**

***1st Response Paper Due in Class***

What is the gender-based violence? How does it affect the women and the children’s lives throughout the world?

**Readings:**

Gender, Women, and Health (GWH), WHO Regional Office of Southeast Asia 2009. *Combating Gender-Based Violence in the Southeast Asia Region*. India: WHO.


Week 7: 5 March 2019

***Midterm Week***

Week 8: 12 March 2019

**Gender, Sexuality, Colonialism and Multiculturalism**

Most of Southeast Asian countries fought against colonial rule and to establish independent states. Many of these places are characterized by very active states, and a strong sense of nationhood, while others have weak states. What role does the nation-state and nationalism play in the construction of gender and sexuality?

**Readings:**
Many Asian and African countries have important women’s movements. Yet some of these activists have been reluctant to categorize themselves as feminists. What is behind this concern about feminism? How have theorists, especially feminists, from the developing world critiqued western theories of gender and sexuality?

Readings:


Masculinity/ies, Sexuality/ies and Multiculturalism

In the last decade, many scholars have begun to study masculinity from a feminist perspective. Research examining men in the developing world is an important part of this emerging literature. What are the historical roots of non-Western notions of manhood and how have ‘traditional’ ideas about being a man been impacted by colonialism and post-coloniality?

Readings:


Transgenderism-Queerism and Cultural Representation in Thailand

Readings:


Week 12: 9 April 2019

**Gender, Work and Economics**

---2nd Response Paper Due in Class---

**Readings:**

One of the most important transformations wrought by the global economy is changes in women's work. New forms of women's labor include domestic service, factory work, and sex work. What challenges do these new forms of work pose for our understanding of gender and sexuality? And what do they reveal about the relationship between gender and the global economy?


Week 13: 23 April 2019 (**Rescheduled**)

**Capitalism, Globalization Labor and Multiculturalism**

**Readings:**


Week 14: 21 May 2019

**Final Paper Due by 16.00 p.m.**

**Hooray, Class Dismissed!!!**