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Gay Cultural Studies Newsletter

Women's Studies

Fall 2022

Gay Cultural Studies Newsletter: Fall 2022

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Introducing the Queer Studies Minor



ODU's new Queer Studies minor is a 12 credit hour program that emphasizes study of the social, historical, and cultural construction of gender and sexuality. Students will explore how the diverse experiences of LGBTQ+ people are shaped by the intersection of race, class, and disability.

The minor develops practical skills and complements any major as it prepares students to work with diverse populations and provides a strong understanding of the needs and issues relevant to LGBTQIA+ communities.

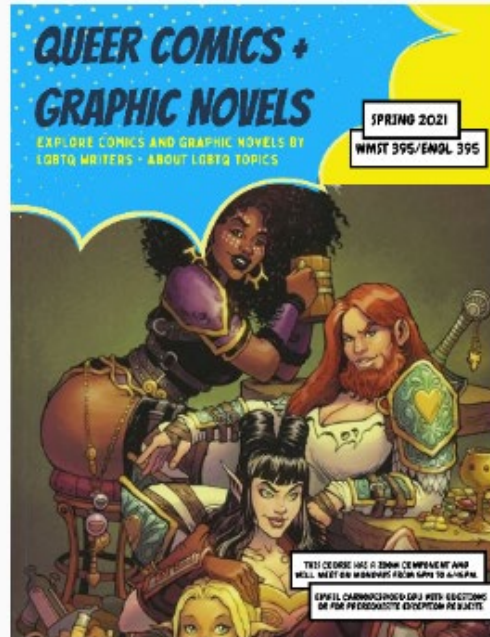
Email carhodes@odu.edu for more information

Spring 2022 Courses



Dimensions of Diversity QUST 302W

This course explores the intersections of gender, race, class and sexuality within society. Students will learn histories and nuances of topics such as intersectionality, allyship, and cultural appropriation.



Queer Literature QUST 305/ENGL 395

This course explores queer literature through comics and graphic novels. Students consider how graphic literature addresses issues of queer exclusion in the traditional literary canon and expands queer possibilities and homoeroticism in literature and art.



Sexualities in Society SOC 343

This course offers an introduction to the sociological study of sexualities. This course focuses on the ways in which sexuality as a social institution and identity intersects with other hierarchies of privilege and inequality, such as race, social class, and gender.

Upcoming Events



Joanna Eleftheriou is author of the essay collection *This Way Back* and has published essays, poems, and translations in such journals such as *Bellingham Review*, *Sinister Wisdom: A Multicultural Lesbian Literary & Art Journal*, and *Sweeter Voices Still: An LGBTQ Anthology from Middle America*. She earned an MFA from Old Dominion and a PhD in English from the University of Missouri. A contributing editor at *Assay: A Journal of Nonfiction Studies*, Joanna teaches at Christopher Newport University and the Writing Workshops in Greece.

Join us October 27th from 6:30pm - 8:00pm with Joanna Eleftheriou. She will lead students and community members in writing, shaping, and revising queer stories. This event is intended to amplify queer voices in both academic and nonacademic spaces by giving participants tools to create compelling stories in varied contexts including but not limited to historical accounts; film, essays, and podcasts; and business settings.

The workshop will provide a hands-on opportunity for participants to practice creating queer stories as a way to use the power of narratives to inform, educate, and persuade. Dr. Eleftheriou will also read from her memoir *This Way Back* with q&a to follow.

Research Spotlight



Lee Golembiewski, a fourth-year PhD candidate in the Health Psychology program at ODU and instructor in the Psychology Department

"My research focuses on sexual and gender minority (SGM) college students by studying factors such as stigma, internalized homophobia, and discrimination that may result in mental health disparities. Currently, I am conducting a research study which examines minority stress, social support, and mental health symptoms that LGBTQ+ college students may experience. By conducting this research, I aim to address mental health barriers and inform intervention techniques that can be applied at the university level to achieve equity in mental health outcomes among SGM college students."

To participate in Lee's study, participants must be: 18-26 years old, enrolled as an undergraduate student, and self-identify as a sexual minority (lesbian, gay, bisexual, pansexual, etc.).



Dr. Jeff Moe recently started his term as the editor of the *Journal of LGBTQ Issues in Counseling*, the official journal of the Society for Sexual, Affectional, Intersex, and Gender Expansive Identities in Counseling (SAIGE). With a focus on professional counseling, counselor education, and human development, the journal features innovative conceptual and empirical research that promotes the affirmation of LGBTQ+ people in society.

Dr. Moe, whose primary research interest is LGBTQ+ issues in counseling, recently published the results of a survey on school counselors' LGBTQ+ competence in *Professional School Counseling*. Dr. Moe consistently finds wide variability in counselor preparation related to LGBTQ+ issues, although many assume inaccurately that counselors are systematically exposed to this training. One principle finding from the study on school counselor LGBTQ+ competence, and LGBTQ+ training in counselors more generally, is that most counselors are not comprehensively trained to address LGBTQ+ issues and concerns.



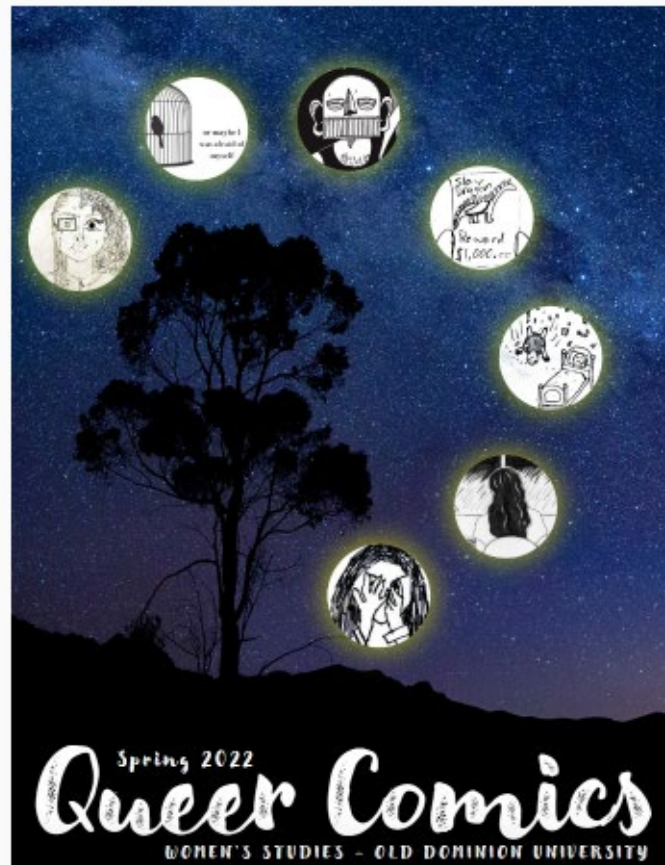
Dr. Vanessa Dominguez is the director of the Community Wellbeing and Support Clinic, a special collaboration between the department of Counseling and Human Services and the ODU Office of Counseling Services. Dr. Dominguez is a specialist in mental health counseling, couple and family counseling, multicultural counseling, and has extensive experience supporting LGBTQ+ youth and their families. She is particularly interested in supporting the development and wellness of transgender, non-binary, and other gender expansive people.

Graduate Assistant Spotlight



Hello! I am Peighton, a second year M.S.Ed. student studying Clinical Mental Health. I received my B.A. in Psychology at James Madison University and am currently working to become a licensed counselor so that I can provide counseling services in the state of Virginia. I am passionate about LGBTQ+ advocacy and would like to work with this community in the future. I hope to continue participating in advocacy efforts focused on LGBTQ+ accessibility to counseling and making counseling education programs more inclusive of LGBTQ+ identities.

Student Work Spotlight



Comic Anthology

Students in Cathleen Rhodes's ODU Queer Comics course created their own comics in the spring of 2022. Their *Queer Comics* anthology includes those original comics and accompanying artist statements.