Lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) individuals and transgender (T) individuals are neglected segments of the population whose health has only recently been investigated systematically. The health of LGBT individuals requires attention, given reports of poor mental and physical health. This course focuses on the mental and physical health of LGBT individuals. It aims to understand potential determinants of their health. In addition, sex, ethnicity/race, and other sociodemographic characteristics are examined with respect to the protection or vulnerability they confer on LGBT individuals. The role of time is considered both developmentally (i.e., age) and historically (i.e., cohorts). This course should be of interest to anyone concerned with the health of LGBT individuals. By the end of this course, the student should have a solid grasp of the biopsychosocial exigencies and health of LGBT individuals.

Requirements
Each student will select a substantive area to investigate in detail and to summarize for the seminar by means of an oral presentation. The student will generate a final paper, no more than 15, double-spaced and single-sided copied pages, that further elaborates on the area of interest or that addresses another area of concern in the health of LGBT individuals. The term paper will be due at the last meeting of the seminar. It must adhere to APA style.

The first half of most weekly meetings will be devoted to review and discussion of the assigned readings, and the remaining half to a student’s oral presentation. For both parts of the weekly gathering, the assigned readings and oral presentations, critical evaluation of the literature and originality of ideas will be rewarded, as will class participation.

Required Texts
Note. I presume you have Freud’s celebrated papers. But, just in case, make sure you have the papers assigned for October 6.

Recommended Texts


Note. Read the required readings in the order listed. Recommended readings are identified by an asterisk. All readings are available on Blackboard, except books.

September 1: Introduction, and Definitions and Considerations about Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity


September 8: Clinical Psychology banned all classes to support Black Lives Matter; this day will be made up

September 15: Psychiatric Disorders or Psychological Symptomatology


September 22: Physical Diseases or Psychological Symptoms


September 29: No class; CUNY follows Monday schedule of classes
October 6: Biology


*Note. The biological basis of sexual orientation and gender identity is a rapidly developing, but complicated research area. Your assigned readings review the concepts, theories, and research in this area. They will allow you to tackle the empirical literature, such as the following recommended readings.*


---

**October 13: Psychoanalysis**


*Lippa, R.A. (2007). The relation between sex drive and sexual attraction to men and women: A cross-national study of heterosexual, bisexual, and homosexual men and women. *Archives of Sexual Behavior, 36*, 209-222. (Although not a psychoanalytic paper, the article is relevant.)

---

**Psychoanalysis (cont): Insufficient time dictates this session is to be covered on your own, when convenient.**


October 20: Sex and Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity


October 27: No class; professor at conference.

November 3: Gender and Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity

Note. For more basic issues about gender atypicality or nonconformity, see the following:


**November 10: Sexual Identity Development (The Coming-Out Process) and Gender Identity Development**


**November 17: External and Internal Stress**

Meyer, I.H. (2003). Prejudice, social stress, and mental health in lesbian, gay, and bisexual populations: Conceptual issues and research evidence. *Psychological Bulletin, 129*, 674-697. (Note. Just read pp. 674-682. Everything after p.682 refers to his meta-analysis, which is dated. You have already covered more recent findings and meta-analyses on health disparities by sexual orientation during the first few weeks of this course.)


*Note. For more basic issues, with many implications to ponder, see the following articles and texts:


*Zozulya, A.A., Gabaeva, M.V., Sokolov, L.Y., Surkina, I.D., & Kost, N.V. (2008). Personality, coping style, and


**November 24: Attachment and Social Support**


**December 1: Bisexuality**


December 8: Technically the semester’s end, but not for us

December 8: Race and Ethnicity


*Note.* For more basic issues, see:


**December 15: Wrap Up**

**FINAL PAPER IS DUE DURING THIS, OUR LAST SESSION**

*Note.* APA has guidelines for clinical practice with sexual minority and transgender individuals. They are not provided for the following reasons. Revisions of the LGB guidelines are nearly complete and should be published in 2021. Revisions of the transgender guidelines should begin in 2021. If curious, the extant versions can easily be tracked down.