

Module code: MOD000759	Version: 2 Date Amended: 01/Dec/2009
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1. Module Title

Sexuality and Social Control

2a. Module Leader

Mirna Guha

2b. School

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty

Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level

6

3b. Module Type

Standard (fine graded)

a. Credits	
5	

4b. Study Hours	
150	

5. Restrictions				
Туре	Module Code	Module Name	Condition	
Pre-requisites:	None			
Co-requisites:	None			
Exclusions:	None			
Courses to which this module is restricted:	None			

6a. Module Description

This module provides a critical exploration of the range of discursive practices which are deployed to explain sex and sexuality in Western culture. It examines longstanding claims about the 'naturalness' of heterosexuality as a reproductive drive linked to the survival and reproduction of the human 'species' and the implications of this for the gendered sexual order, for various non-conventional sexualities and for particular social groups. Drawing on a 'social constructionist' approach the module examines religious, biological, psychological and sociological explanations of sexuality. It uncovers how sex and sexuality are understood, practiced and regulated and in doing so, exposes the ideological and discursive foundations of ideas about sex and sexuality in relation to gender, ethnicity, age and disability. Through a series of lectures, seminar readings and video recordings students will have the opportunity to examine and deploy a range of perspectives in an effort to understand how ideas about sex and sexuality are shaped historically, vary cross culturally and impact on us as individuals and members of particular social groups.

6b. Outline Content

- Religious, biological, psychological and sociological accounts of sexuality
- Essentialism and Social Constructionism.
- Labelling and stigma, punishment, treatment and resistance
- Heterosexuality, homosexuality, lesbianism and bisexuality
- Sexuality, gender and sexual identity.
- Ethnicity and ethno-sexual relations.
- Children, sexuality and sex education.
- Sex, body and disability.
- The commodification of sex.
- Sexuality and public/private space.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)			
No.	Туре	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:	
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Display a sophisticated knowledge and understanding of the range of discourses seeking to explain and regulate sexuality and sexual practices in late modern Western Society.	
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Show an in depth appreciation of how social structures, cultural arrangements and discursive practices generate particular norms and values which impact unequally on different members of society.	
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate independent critical assessment of theoretical perspectives and substantive data on issues of sexuality and social control.	
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Evaluate the moral implications and assess the relative strengths and weaknesses of key issues relating to sexuality.	

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	ence Period Loc		Mode of Delivery
2025/6	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence				
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments	
Lectures	12	1-4	1hr lecture and 1hr seminar per week. Seminars will be structured around group presentations on key issues linked to the weekly lecture.	
Other teacher managed learning	12	1-4	1hr lecture and 1hr seminar per week. Seminars will be structured around group presentations on key issues linked to the weekly lecture.	
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Guided general reading, reading for seminar preparation, preparation and submission of assessment.	
TOTAL:	150			

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Essay: 3000 words. This will take a standard essay format. Students will be given questions at the beginning of the module and written and verbal guidance and at an appropriate point during the teaching period.					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above (b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]