

Masculinities, Health, and (Dis)Order
Spring 2013 * University of Notre Dame
ANTH 45811-01/GSC 45105-01

Meeting time: TR 11:00am-12:15pm

Meeting place: 925 Flanner Hall

Instructor: Holly Donahue Singh

E-mail: Holly.D.Singh.34@nd.edu

Office location: 640 Flanner Hall

Office hours: M 10:30-11:30 am, Th 1:30-2:30 pm, or by appointment

Course Summary:

This course centers on how masculinities influence health outcomes in the contemporary world. Our topics will include: making gender and gendered bodies; sexuality and changing gender roles; family and male honor; men's health; and masculinities in religion, nationalism, violence, and global commerce. Ethnographic examples and case studies will focus on Asia and North America.

Required texts (available at the Bookstore):

1. *The Men and the Boys* by R. W. Connell (University of California Press, 2001)
2. *Moral Materialism: Sex and Masculinity in Modern India*. Penguin: New Delhi. 2011.
3. *Gender, Sexuality and Body Politics in Modern Asia* by Michael G. Peletz
4. Other readings on Sakai

Course Requirements:

Study Guide	20%
3 reflection/response papers	15%
Article Presentation	15%
Final project	30%
Attendance & Participation	20%

Study Guide: The primary means by which we will construct knowledge is the study guide. We will construct one together for every class using Sakai. Every class three people will be assigned to construct the study guide for that class (don't worry you will each do your own separate piece). You will enter your own piece into the wiki and when complete it becomes available to every student in the class. The 3 components of the study guides are: summary of the reading, questions for discussion, key words. A schedule of assignments and instructions are forthcoming.

Reflection/Response papers: Your response should focus on analysis of one reading from that section in the context of class themes and in comparison with previous class

readings and should be submitted on the day the selected article/chapter will be discussed in class. No late response papers will be accepted.

Article Presentation: You and one of your classmates will collaborate to present one article or chapter during this course. Please take this assignment seriously as the article that you present will be included on the quizzes. Read the article and prepare an outline of the key points in the article. In class, make a brief (about 15 minute) presentation of the article. Then pose a few questions connecting your article to the course topics to get discussion going. Please distribute some sort of handout on the article to your classmates.

Final Project: You will conduct a major research project for this course. The project will be in two parts:

1. First, you will conduct research (largely library-based) on one particular configuration of masculinity in one specific setting in Asia and its implications for health. You will write a research paper of 8-10 pages, double-spaced on your research, which should integrate perspectives from class readings. Your paper should include at least 8 sources, apart from class readings. You will submit a one-paragraph project proposal and preliminary list of references by Thursday, February 28th. Everyone will meet with me during the week of April 2nd to consult about the progress of the project overall. The final paper will be due on April 23rd. You will give a short presentation during one of the final two class meetings on the results of your research.

2. Second, you will compare the case examined in your research paper with one instance of masculinity in the United States. In this part of the project, you will conduct systematic observation of masculinity as performed in a public space, over a total of 3-5 hours. You will take fieldnotes to record your observations. You will conduct other research, using library resources and/or other available materials (internet, audio/video, newspaper/magazine, etc.) to supplement your direct observation. You will then write a reflective paper of 4-5 pages comparing and contrasting the case examined in your research paper (part 1.) with the material you gathered about masculinities and their implications for health in the United States. This paper will be due during the scheduled exam time (W 5/8, 10:30 am). You will give a brief oral presentation (3 minutes) about your work to the class, which will be followed by a general discussion of project findings.

All written and oral components of the project will be part of the final evaluation.

Attendance: Attendance and participation comprise a portion of your grade for the course. I may not take attendance every day, but I will do so periodically and keep a record. Pop quizzes on reading assignments, writing assignments given during class time, and other activities will count towards your grade in attendance and participation. In order to encourage participation and preparedness, I may occasionally ask that you to come to class with 2 or 3 written questions on the day's readings/topics. If you are not in class, you cannot participate in these activities and you will not have the opportunity to make up the work. If you have an absence excused because of participation in an approved off-campus event or because of illness, you may be excused from having that particular assignment count towards your grade. Excessive unexcused absences will

result in a lowering of your grade in A&P; extremely excessive absences will lead to failure in the course.

Course policies:

Equity and Respect: Throughout the term, I challenge you to critically think about the body, power, gender, race, sexuality, etc. I expect class to be dynamic and, at times, controversial. Please ask questions of and challenge your classmates and instructor through meaningful comments. As you experience self-discovery and learn about your classmates, I encourage you to respect and appreciate differences. This classroom needs to be open and hospitable to all class members. If computer usage becomes a distraction from our collective engagement, I will ask you to put away computers. Please do bring paper and a writing implement, which you may need for note-taking or in-class assignments.

Academic Honesty: All students must familiarize themselves with the Honor Code on the University's website and pledge to observe its tenets in all written and oral work, including oral presentations, quizzes and exams, and drafts and final versions of essays. Entering Notre Dame you were required to study the on-line edition of the *Academic Code of Honor*, to pass a quiz on it, and to sign a pledge to abide by it. The full *Code* and a *Student Guide to the Academic code of Honor* are available at:

<http://www.nd.edu/~hnr/code/docs/handbook.htm>. Perhaps the most fundamental sentence is the beginning of section IV-B: The pledge to uphold the *Academic Code of Honor* includes an understanding that a student's submitted work, graded or ungraded – examinations, draft copies, papers, homework assignments, extra credit work, etc. - must be his or her own.

Individual Challenges: If you have any sort of physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability and feel that you may have need for some type of academic accommodation in order to participate fully in this class, please feel free to contact the Sara Bea Learning Center for Students with Disabilities at 631-7157 <http://disabilityservices.nd.edu> and also to discuss your concerns with me in private. Reasonable accommodations will be arranged at the recommendation of and in collaboration with the coordinator of Disability Services. Students with disabilities who will be taking this course and may need academic accommodations are encouraged to make an appointment to see me as soon as possible.

COURSE OUTLINE (All Readings Should Be Completed Prior to Class on the Date Listed. Dates and topics are tentative, so please pay attention in class and on Concourse/Sakai for updates.)

T 1/15 Introductions to the course

In-class film: Paradise Bent: Gender Diversity in Samoa

Recommended:

- Anne Fausto-Sterling, "How to Build a Man." *Reader in Cultural Criticism, Gender*, ed. By Anna Tripp.
- Anne Fausto-Sterling, "The Five Sexes: Why Male and Female Are Not Enough." *Sciences* March/April 1993, p. 20-24
- Anne Fausto-Sterling, "The Five Sexes, Revisited." *Sciences*, Jul/Aug2000, Vol. 40 Issue 4.

R 1/17

- *Gender, Sexuality and Body Politics in Modern Asia* (Peletz)
Ch. 1, "Introduction" 1-8
Ch. 2, "Dynamics of Gender and Sexuality" 9-42

T 1/22

- S Tim Carrigan et al., "Toward a New Sociology of Masculinity" (151-162)
- Connell, Ch. 1 (3-14)
- S David Gilmore, "Action and Ambiguity: East and South Asia" (169-86)

R 1/24

➤ *Reflection/Response paper #1 due*

History and Masculinities

- S Carla Petievich, "Making 'Manly' Poetry: The Construction of Urdu's 'Golden Age'" (231-250)
- S Premchand, "The Chess Players" (choose the English translation or the original Hindi or Urdu version) (133-148)

T 1/29

- S T. S. Avinashilingam, "Vivekananda" (27-33)
- S Heather Streets (2004), "Martial races: the inter-imperial uses of a racially gendered language" (156-185)

R 1/31 Family Life, The Life Course

- S M.N. Srinivas (1976), "The Sexes and the Household" (137-163)
- Connell, Ch. 2, "New Directions in Theory and Research" (15-36)

T 2/5

- S Steve Derne (1993), "Equality and Hierarchy between Adult Brothers: Culture and Sibling Relations in North Indian Urban Joint Families" (165-187)
- S David Mandelbaum (1988), "Purdah-Izzat and Variations" (20-42)

R 2/7 *Meeting with research librarian in Hesburgh 222

T 2/12

- S David Lindholm (1982), "From Child to Adult" (161-207)

R 2/14

- *Moral Materialism: Sex and Masculinity in Modern India* (Alter)
 - Ch. 1, "Introduction: Sex, Substance, and Embodied Identity" 1-20
 - Ch. 2, "Celibacy and Sexuality: Transformations of Gender into Nationalism" 21-54

T 2/19

- *Reflection/Response paper #2 due*
- *Moral Materialism: Sex and Masculinity in Modern India* (Alter)
 - Ch. 3, "Seminal Truth: A Modern Science of Male Celibacy" 55-86
 - Ch. 4, "The Celibate Wrestler: Sexual Chaos, Embodied Balance and Competitive Politics" 87-120

R 2/21

- *Moral Materialism: Sex and Masculinity in Modern India* (Alter)
 - Ch. 5, "Uninhibited Modifications of the Mind: Yoga, Sex and the Politics of Knowledge" 121-48
 - Ch. 6, "Gymnastic Asana—Competitive Yoga: Physical Philosophy, Sex and the Problem of Perfection" 149-178

T 2/26

- *Moral Materialism: Sex and Masculinity in Modern India* (Alter)
 - Ch. 7., "Conclusion: Signs of Sex and the Sex of Signs" 179-212
- S Lawrence Cohen (1997), "Semen, Irony, and the Atom Bomb" (301-303)

R 2/28

- *Proposal/preliminary resources for final project due*
- S Deepak Mehta (1996), "Circumcision, Body, and Community" (215-242)
- S Ellen Goldberg, "Ardhanarisvara and Hathayoga" (57-72 and 87-90 [skip 73-86])

T 3/5 **Sex/gender/sexuality and identities**

- ❖ In-class film: *Guardians of the Flutes*
- S Michael S. Kimmel, "Masculinity as Homophobia: Fear, Shame, and Silence in the Construction of Gender Identity" (266-85)
- S Gayatri Reddy (2005), "Cartographies of Sex/Gender" (44-77)

R 3/7

- Connell, Ch. 7, "Man to Man: Homosexual desire and practice among working class men" (102-127)
- S Gayatri Reddy (2004), "Crossing 'Lines' of Subjectivity: The Negotiation of Sexual Identity in Hyderabad, India" (147-64)

3/12-3/14 SPRING BREAK

T 3/19

- ❖ In-class film: *Beautiful Boxer*
- *Gender, Sexuality and Body Politics in Modern Asia* (Peletz)
Ch. 3, "Bodies, Pleasures, and Desires: Transgender Practices, Same-Sex Relations, and Heteronormative Sexualities" 43-68
- Connell, Ch. 10, "Men's Health" (177-195)

R 3/21

- Connell, Ch. 3, "Masculinities and Globalization" (39-56)
- Connell, Ch. 4&5, "Globalization and Men's Bodies" and "An Iron Man" (57-85)
- Austin PF. Is neonatal circumcision clinically beneficial? Argument in favor. *Nat Clin Pract Urol.* 2009;6(1):16-18.
- Van Howe RS. Is neonatal circumcision clinically beneficial? Argument against. *Nat Clin Pract Urol.* 2009;6(2):74-75.
- Farley SJ. Neonatal circumcision: the controversy rages on. *Nat Clin Pract Urol.* 2009. 6(1):59.

T 3/26

- *Reflection/Response paper #3 due*
- S R.W. Connell, "The Social Organization of Masculinity" (67-86)
- S Deniz Kandiyoti, "The Paradoxes of Masculinity: Some Thoughts on Segregated Societies" (197-212)

R 3/28

- S Whitney Azoy (2003 [1982]), "The Buzkashi Too!" (39-70)

T 4/2 *Meetings on final projects. Sign up for a time to meet at instructor's office. No full class meeting.

R 4/4 *Meetings on final projects. Sign up for a time to meet at instructor's office. No full class meeting.

T 4/9

- S Thomas Blom Hansen (1996), "Recuperating Masculinities: Hindu Nationalism, Violence, and the Exorcism of the Muslim 'Other'" (137-67)
- *Gender, Sexuality and Body Politics in Modern Asia* (Peletz)
Ch. 4, "Bodies on the Line" 69-84 and Ch. 5, "Conclusion" 85-88

R 4/11

No full class meeting

Assignment: Watch film *Father, Son, and Holy War, Part II*. Watch streaming video on Sakai site (under Resources tab).

- Pradeep Jeganathan (2000), "A Space for Violence: Anthropology, Politics, and the Location of a Sinhala Practice of Masculinity" (37-65)

T 4/16

Discussion of *Father, Son, and Holy War, Part II*, as well as Jeganathan and other readings on nationalism and masculinities in recent South Asian histories.

- S Sikata Banerjee (2005), "Cultural Nationalism, Masculine Hinduism, and Contemporary Hindutva" (75-109)
- Nagel, J. 1998. "Masculinity and Nationalism: Gender and Sexuality in the Making of Nations." *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. 21:242-269

R 4/18

- Courtenay WH. (2000). "Constructions of masculinity and their influence on men's well-being: A theory of gender and health." *Soc Sci Med*, 50 (10), 1385-1401.
- Lohan M. "How might we understand men's health better? Integrating explanations from critical studies on men and inequalities in health." *Soc Sci Med* 2007;65(3):493-504.

T 4/23 *Final papers due.

In-class film: *The Bro Code*

- Messerschmidt, J.W., 2000. "Becoming 'Real men': Adolescent Masculinity Challenges and Sexual Violence." *Men and Masculinities*, 286-307.
- Connell, Ch. 8, 11, & 12, "Cool Guys, Swots, and Wimps," "The Politics of Change in Masculinity," and "Arms and the Man: The Question of Peace"

R 4/25 Presentations of final projects, part I.

T 4/30 Final class meeting

Presentations of final projects, part I.

Final exam: Wednesday, May 8th, 10:30am-12:30 pm

Final paper, part II due. Discussion of final projects.