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GLBTQ Studies

Course Outline

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to identify and compare and contrast the sub-populations represented in the GLBTQ/queer communities.
- Students will be familiar with issues pertaining to GLBTQ peoples, including:
 - o coming out
 - o education
 - o health & safety
 - o politics
 - o families & relationships
 - o workplace
- Students will be able to identify and understand the roles of various organizations that serve GLBTQ communities.
- Students will be able to identify key figures in GLBTQ history and politics.
- Students will be able to identify and explain key events and symbols in GLBTQ history and activism.

Essential Questions:

- Who are GLBTQ people?
- What is it like to have a non-heterosexual or gender non-conforming identity or question one's sexuality or gender identity in today's world?
- What are the major events in the histories of same-sex-attracted or gender variant peoples?
- Who are key figures and organizations in the history, support and activist efforts of same-sex-attracted or gender variant peoples?
- What are issues facing same-sex-attracted or gender-variant people today?



GLBTQ Studies Course Outline: Lessons

A Who are GLBTQ people?

1. Introduction to GLBTQ Studies:
 - a. Why study it?
 - b. Purpose of the course
 - c. Perspective of the course
 - d. Language of the course
2. The importance of language
 - a. Social invisibility and Language
 - b. Referring to glbtq people
 - c. Acronyms
 - d. Derogatory terms
3. Community overview
 - a. Prevalence (incl. CDC study)
 - b. Gender Identity and Gender Expression
 - c. Behaviors vs. Attractions
4. Gender identities – the continuum (“male”, “female”, “transgender,” etc. and the biology/psychology)
5. Sexual identities – the continuum (“gay”, “lesbian”, “bi”, “queer”, “straight” etc. and the biology/psychology), development, and key myths.
6. Celebrities and historical figures in and from the glbtq community

B What is it like to have a non-heterosexual or gender non-conforming identity or question one’s sexuality or gender identity in today’s world?

7. Representations in the media
 - a. Fiction
 - b. Non-fiction
 - c. News media
8. Socializing & Dating
9. Rainbow families
 - a. Adoption and other options
 - b. Raising children
10. Communities within the Community
 - a. Race and glbtq (Black, Latino, Native American)
 - b. Religion (also discussed later as a political/personal issue)
 - c. Socioeconomic status (including homeless)
 - d. Deaf/Hard of hearing
11. The Phobias
 - a. Homophobia/Heterosexism
 - b. Transphobia/Gender Conformity



- c. Biphobia/Monosexism
- d. Phobias and isms *within* the glbtq community

C What are the major events in modern histories of same-sex-attracted or gender variant peoples?

- 12. World War II and Nazi Persecution
- 13. Kinsey reports
- 14. The Early Days of glbtq civil rights
- 15. Stonewall
- 16. Post-Stonewall: Civil Rights and Feminism
- 17. Pride celebrations throughout the world
- 18. Don't Ask Don't Tell creation and repeal

D Who are key figures and organizations in the history, support and activist efforts of same-sex-attracted or gender variant peoples?

- 19. Gay rights pioneers
 - a. Rodger McFarlane
 - b. Dr. Franklin E. Kameny
 - c. Bayard Rustin
- 20. Political figures
 - a. Harvey Milk
 - b. Jared Polis & Tammy Baldwin
 - c. Mark Foley
- 21. Accidental activists
 - a. Jamie Nabozny
 - b. Judy Shepard
 - c. Family of Leteisha Green
- 22. Early Transgender activists
 - a. Harry Benjamin
 - b. Christine Jorgensen
 - c. Others
- 23. Support and political organizations
 - a. PFLAG
 - b. GLSEN
 - c. The Trevor Project
 - d. Human Rights Campaign
 - e. National Gay & Lesbian Task Force



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E Personal and political issues

24. Coming out
 - a. What does “coming out” mean?
 - b. Different models of coming out and self-acceptance
25. Family political issues
 - a. Marriage equality
 - b. Civil/domestic partnerships
 - c. Defense of Marriage Act
 - d. Proposition 8
 - e. Adoption rights
26. Government and the workplace
 - a. Government documents and census representation
 - b. Workplace issues and employee benefits
27. K-12 Education
 - a. Safety in school and bullying
 - b. Curriculum representation
 - c. GLBTQ Teachers
 - d. Unique schools and programs (GLBTQ Online, Harvey Milk School, Los Angeles)
28. Health & Safety
 - a. HIV/AIDS
 - b. Mental health and substance abuse
 - c. Hate crimes
 - d. Aging
29. Religion and glbtq
 - a. Bible passages and their interpretations
 - b. Supportive denominations
 - c. Less inclusive denominations
 - d. Religion’s role in glbtq politics

F Looking Ahead

30. Looking ahead
 - a. Growing acceptance – and backlash
 - b. Elections
 - c. Across the Nations