Syllabus
Queer as Political Concept
MagoLego course

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1. Course Description
   a) Pre-requisites
   The course have age restriction (18+), Bachelor’s Degree or above, English knowledge (oral and written), basics of political theory, gender theory, social sciences

   b) Abstract
   This course aims to familiarize students with the core texts and key debates that have shaped queer theory. This upper division course presumes a background in sexuality, gender, and feminist theory. We will trace the expansion of the term “queer” from its early contestation with LGBT identities and politics to its current use as a broad framework that designates non-normative modes of knowledge, cultural practices, and political activism. Central to our investigation are the intersections between queer theory and feminism and critical race theory. Weaving analyses of foundational queer and feminist texts, we will explore an expansive and radical contemporary queer politics, pushing beyond narrow constructions of identity politics, anti-discrimination policy, and rights-based reforms. This class will ultimately engage Queer Theory by means of a rich philosophical and political interrogation of the meaning and content of “queer.

2. Learning Objectives
   Develop knowledge in theory and methodology of queer theory
   Develop knowledge and skills in research design

3. Learning Outcomes
   Know the key concepts and theories in the field
   Be able to analyze and resolve practical problems through queer theory concepts
   Know how to use queer theory in papers and dissertation thesis

4. Course Plan
   Each topic contains one lecture and one seminar
   Topic 1. Introduction to Queer Theory
   Topic 3. Sexualities and laws. Sexual citizenship
   Topic 4. AIDS and Queer Nation. Social movements
5. Reading List

c) Required
Michel Foucault, “Power and Sex” Michel Foucault: Politics Philosophy Culture, Interviews and Other Writings, 1977-1984, 110-124
Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, “Epistemology of the Closet,” The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader, 45-61
Duggan, Lisa. 1994. “Queering the State” Social Text, No. 39: 1-14

d) Optional
Jeffrey Weeks, “Traps We Set Ourselves,” Sexualities 2008; 11; 27

6. Grading System
Assignments and course evaluation: 30% participation, 25% homework, 15% abstract (proposal), 30% final essay.

Active Classroom Participation (30%)
Students are expected to contribute significantly to discussion each week. Please read all of the assigned readings before class, and demonstrate your comprehension of the texts by asking or responding to questions in ways that engage other students in productive discussion. Since discussion is an integral part of the learning that occurs in this class, your weekly attendance and participation are required.
Homework (25%)  
For the course, you should explore at least two LGBTQ social, political, or activist-oriented organizations working to challenge the oppression of or discrimination against LGBTQ communities. (You may do so by exploring their websites and/or other literature, or through discussion or correspondence with their staff or volunteers.) Discuss your findings in a short (approximately 500-800 words) essay, explaining what the organizations do, how they do it, and what effects their work may have on LGBTQ communities.

Final Research Paper (or Group Presentation) Assignment (15% abstract, 30% final paper)  
A research paper (or group presentation “Lip sync science battle”) is due at the end of the semester. In consultation with the instructor, please choose a topic that relates to course themes and topics. As you write your final paper, please make an effort to apply knowledge from the course to your research and writing. If you choose group presentation, perform your (group) research by lip-syncing. Project should have collected data, theory and method.

7. Examination Type  
The final grade is equal to the accumulated.

8. Methods of Instruction  
Lectures are used to provide basic concepts and principles. Seminars provide students a platform to paper discussion.

9. Special Equipment and Software Support (if required)  
PC and screen