THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF AIDS:

SOCIAL JUSTICE PERSPECTIVES OF THE ONGOING CRISIS

GNDR_ST 372



avery r. young performing in front of Howardena Pindell's *Separate but Equal Genocide/AIDS* (1991-1992) Image by Anthony Hirschel, December 3, 2016

This course utilizes an intersectional lens to unpack the complexities posed by the ongoing AIDS crisis in the contemporary North American territories. Whereby much of the study suggest that AIDS is today "a manageable condition," the course problematizes the disease as a systemic problem; it explores how the disease interacts with sexism, racism, transphobia, classism, ableism, and other types of

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discrimination, as well as white supremacy, poverty, corporate greed, and the lack of access to healthcare and information. Through lectures and group discussions, the students will engage in an analysis of art, activism, and grassroots organizing to deepen their understanding of historical, social, economic, cultural, and political conditioning of AIDS. While examining how the ideas about AIDS have been shifting over the last three decades, the analysis of cultural and activist production is going to be supported by scholarship from feminist, gender and sexuality studies, performance studies, queer of color critique, art history, visual cultures, biopolitics, HIV epidemiology, and public health. By the end of the course, students will become familiar with the urgency of AIDS and understand the multiplicity of its scope. Ultimately, the course will equip students to conduct a socially engaged project that will contribute towards the work of social justice related to AIDS.