

# LGBTQ ART & ACTIVISM IN THE U.S.

GNDR\_ST 361 & ENGLISH 385

SPRING  
2023



From the Civil Rights Movement to the AIDS crisis to the legalization of gay marriage, LGBTQ art and activism have been deeply intertwined. Queer writers in the U.S. have negotiated ever-shifting priorities and stigmas to represent queer life in literature and media. Yet stories have always been a way to have a voice, to account for oneself and one's community, and to connect to others who share one's experience. LGBTQ literature might be outward facing—representing queerness to a straight audience—or it might face inwards, speaking to a queer community of readers. This class will consider the relationship between sociopolitical movements and the art and literature that were produced from or around them. Focusing on flashpoints in the history of LGBTQ rights and culture in the United States, students will leave this course with a concrete sense of recent history, artistic diversity, and intersectional queer studies. In addition to a core set of literary and historical texts, students will give queer culture presentations on each of the primary periods this class covers. These presentations will provide the opportunity to bring in objects from outside of the class, which will supplement our understanding of queer art and activism.

Hannah Chaskin

TTh 2-3:20pm  
Univ Hall 218