

QUEER EAST ASIAs

GNDR_ST 341/ASIAN_LC 390



This course will provide us with a framework for understanding the histories and cultures of queer and non-normative subjectivities in East Asia—meaning here modern and contemporary China, Japan, and Korea, respectively, and also the dynamic interactions between East Asian cultures—across time. Relying on contemporary applications of interdisciplinary queer studies and queer theory, we will begin with a series of critical reflections on issues of language, Eurocentrism, translation, and colonialism, to then move on to explore the ways in which academic discourses East and West have been constructing and circulating ideas of queerness, queer theory, and queer studies. Simultaneously, we will engage and analyze expressions and manifestations of queer East Asias in films, print, politics, and online media, looking at issues of desire, sexuality, agency, LGBTQ activism, among other topics, in order to enhance our understandings of East Asian queer cultures and identities. Previous knowledge of East Asian studies, queer theory, and gender and sexuality studies, though helpful, is not required.

Paola Zamperini

MW 2-3:20pm
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