**Course Name**  
GNDS 215/3.0 Introduction to Sexual and Gender Diversity

**Contact Hours**  
Online. Students can expect to spend 10-12 hrs per week on coursework.

**Course Description**  
This course is an introduction to critical studies in sexuality and gender diversity and is designed to familiarize students with a myriad of theories and topics in the field. Students will learn about classical and contemporary theories of sex, gender, and sexual difference and explore a spectrum of identities and experiences, including (but not limited to): lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and transsexual, queer, Two-Spirit, intersex, non-binary, and asexual. Students will furthermore examine how these diverse gender and sexual identities intersect with experiences of race, culture, nationhood, class, age, and (dis)ability.

**Required Course Materials**  
- Steady, reliable internet connection.

**Course Objectives**  
By the end of the course, students should be able to:
- Critically analyze theories and discourses of gender and sexual difference that have emerged since the 19th century;
- Explain the role of power and context in shaping knowledge about sex, gender, and sexual diversity;
- Apply an intersectional lens to explain how experiences of gender and sexuality are bound up with experiences of race, class, age, (dis)ability, culture, and nationhood;
- Discuss how systems of privilege and oppression have created social hierarchies among different genders and sexualities;
- Identify strategies for activism and social justice work with LGBTQ2S+ communities.

**Course Evaluation**  
Quizzes (4) 20%  
Current Events paper 10%  
Film Response 15%  
Writing Exercise #1 10%  
Writing Exercise #2 15%  
Final Paper 30%

**Topics in Course Outline**  
Theories of sexual and gender diversity  
Scientific Discourses of Difference  
Power/Knowledge  
Intersectionality theory  
Social constructions of sex, gender, sexuality  
Queer theory, queer politics  
Identity and Community  
Sex Work  
Activism with LGBTQ2S+ communities  
Diversity in sex: intersex and dyadic  
Diversity in gender: cisgender, transgender, transsexual; masculinities, femininities, Two-Spirit, agender, non-binary, genderqueer, gender fluid  
Diversity in sexuality: gay, lesbian, bisexual, queer, pansexual, asexual, (Two-Spirit), questioning, straight, “heteroflexible”  
SXGD and intersections with race, culture, nationhood, (dis)ability, age, class