

ENG 4/585: *Television Studies* Spring 2018  
Tuesdays and Thursdays 4 - 5:50pm MCK 214 [LIB 41]

Prof. Miller | qmmiller@uoregon.edu  
office hours PLC 529 | TH 8-11am

This course analyzes situation comedies about consumer culture as works of art that explore U.S. cultural politics from a queer perspective. Examining sitcoms as inquiries into privilege and inequality, we discuss aesthetics, the economics of the media industries, the interdisciplinary field of TV studies, and the intersections of sexuality, gender, race, class, ethnicity, and ability. We read TV criticism and scholarship in queer media studies to develop critical thinking and writing skills and to work on *In the Life*.

| Read and study assigned texts in preparation for class. | Prepare questions and comments for class discussion. | Arrive to meetings on time. | Respect your classmates' space, backgrounds, contributions, names, pronouns, and different frames of reference.

**course work/evaluation** Attendance and Participation [10 pts.]  
Classwork/Homework/Labs [30 pts.]  
*In the Life* Essay (5pp.) [30 pts.] due 5/9 \*  
Sitcom Essay (5pp.) [30 pts.] due 6/6 \*

grad students: expanded essay (10-20pp.) due 6/14 \* submit in print: PLC 529

**Policies** | Your final grade drops if you miss more than two class meetings. After two, each absence will lower your final grade a notch (A- to B+, etc.). All assignments must be submitted in order to pass the course. Contact the professor at least two days in advance to ask for an extension. Essay grades drop a full mark for every day past due. You are responsible for meeting Student Conduct Code and Community Standards.

**Texts under study may include** nudity, sex, slurs, violence including coercive sex and misgendering, and a variety of sensitive issues such as social and sexual taboo transgression, expressive sexuality, sex work, discrimination, and oppression. If this may present a problem for you, please see me, speak up, +/- or register for another class. I attempt to CW/TW, but challenging material will also appear without notice of content.

\* Please discuss with me any concerns; absent yourself for trigger mitigation; avoid plagiarism; and let me know as soon as you can of any accommodations you may need.

| Students who observe religious holidays at times when academic requirements conflict with those observances must inform instructors in advance of the holiday. Students are responsible for making up missed work according to a schedule determined with their instructor. | If bad weather or an emergency requires cancelling a class, I will notify you by email or put a note on the door. | Always use your own discretion in class + en route.

| Reading assignments are available on the course **canvas** site. (Grades are not.)

**Course Schedule** subject to change

1.1 t 4/3	introduction
1.2 th 4/5	“The Beverly Hillbillies”
2.1 t 4/10	“Genre Study and Television”
2.2 th 4/12	“A Queer Children’s Show”
3.1 t 4/17	Library 41 “Genre Study and Television”; “Who Are Producers?”
3.2 th 4/19	Library 41 “In the Life”; “Unghosting (Lesbian) Histories”
4.1 t 4/24	Library 41 “Sisters in the Life”
4.2 th 4/26	Library 41 “The Freeway, The Mall, TV”
5.1 t 5/1	Library 41 “The Meaning of Memory”
5.2 th 5/3	Library 41 “The Americanization of Molly”
6.1 t 5/8	“Daytime TV”; “Supporting ‘Character’”; “What If?”
	<b>essay due</b> 5/9 in print to PLC 529 by 5pm
6.2 th 5/10	“Two <i>Different Worlds</i> : Television as a Producer’s Medium”
7.1 t 5/15	“Laughing Out Loud”
7.2 th 5/17	“In Living Color”; “Television Interaction and Race”
8.1 t 5/22	“Lucy and Desi”
8.2 th 5/24	“Great American Class Struggle”
9.1 t 5/29	“Nobody’s Woman”
9.2 th 5/31	“From the Dark Ages to the Golden Age”
10.1 t 6/5	“Mallpisode”
	<b>essay due</b> 6/6 in print to PLC 529 by 5pm
10.2 th 6/7	“The Exoticization of Lesbian Sexuality”
	<b>grad students: essay due</b> 6/14 in print to PLC 529 by 5pm