ENG 2324/4364: Homotextuality ("Queer lit")
Assessment guidelines Spring 2022

Instructor: Dr. Rebecca Scherr

Course Structure:

The course consisted of 12 weeks of seminar; we discussed the books and articles listed below, as well as some additional articles I added along the way.

Required reading (Spring 2022):

Books:

- *De Profundis*, Oscar Wilde
- *Maurice*, E.M. Forster
- *Lifting Belly*, Gertrude Stein
- *Zami*, Audre Lorde
- *Freshwater,* Awaeke Emezi
- *Moonlight*, dir Barry Jenkins (Film)
- *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*, Ocean Vuong

Articles and excerpts:

- Shioban Sommerville, "Queering the Color Line"
- Marita Sturken, "AIDS and the Politics of Representation"
- J. Halberstam, excerpt from *Female Masculinity*

Exam and general assessment criteria for the BA students:

This is a 3-day take home exam consisting of two parts; short answer and essay:

- Part I: the students are required to answer 4 short answer questions (they choose 4 out of 9.) These answers should be ¾ to 1 page in length, and therefore this section of the exam should be 3-4 pages total. 50% of grade.

- Part II: The second part of the exam is a short essay. Students choose 1 question and write a 3-4 page response. They are not required to consult secondary sources for this, although many will choose to do so. This section of the exam should be 3-4 pages total. 50% of grade.

- Total length of exam is 6-8 pages. Students will not be penalized for writing more than 8 pages, although writing too little can be grounds for failure.

- Students must turn in both parts of the exam (short answer and essay) in order to pass.

Exam and general assessment criteria for the MA students:

The 3-day take home exam consists of 2 essays:

- Students are required to write 2 short essays. They will choose the topics from the exam questions. They are required to use at least 2 secondary sources per essay; it is fine for them to use the theoretical pieces from the course reading list. Each essay should be 3-4 pages; the total length of the exam is 6-8 pages. Each essay is worth 50% of the grade.

- Total length of exam is 6-8 pages. Students will not be penalized for writing more than 8 pages, although writing too little can be grounds for failure.

The grade can be lowered if the student does not include two secondary sources per essay.

<u>General assessment for both BA and MA exams:</u>

The academic quality/grade of the exam is measured by the common expectations for literature studies:

- The level of analytical skills
- The student's grasp of the significance of the primary and secondary materials
- The student's ability to relate the texts to the course topic and to the questions they are answering
- The clarity and organization of their writing (essays should follow standard essay format)
- The use of the English language

Note on language: Students are expected to write clearly, concisely, and in an appropriately academic style. Common language errors are subject-verb concord, verb tense, prepositions, comma usage, genitives, idioms, spelling, and incomplete sentences with no finite verb. You need to ask if these errors are so numerous and serious that they impair the student's ability to communicate. Language counts as part of a total assessment but not given any specific percentage of the final grade.