

HISTORY OF RACE AND SEX IN AMERICA (512:366)

Summer Session 1

TUESDAY / THURSDAY 6:00 PM – 9:40 PM



Everything in our contemporary moment has a historical precedent – including today’s #MeToo movement. This course explores the ways that race, class, gender, ethnicity and sexual orientation have intersected to shape American lives. Spanning the early American period through to the present, this course uses the concept of intersectionality to understand the relationship between identity, power and citizenship over time. How are categories like blackness/whiteness, manhood/womanhood, and heterosexuality/homosexuality historically constituted? In what ways have these binaries been challenged and disrupted? What’s sex got to do with it all? Using digitized primary sources alongside secondary material, students will explore topics such as interracial marriage, sexual consent, affirmative action and civil rights in historical perspective.