GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND RELIGION

THEOREL 211/311

Course description

An introduction to understandings of the intersections between gender, sexuality and religion.

We will look at a number of current issues and debates surrounding gender and sexuality as they are expressed within religious communities, religious writings, teachings, and theologies, as well as in ‘secular’ politics, academia, the media and popular culture.

We will consider the different meanings and significances of the terms *gender* and *sexuality*, and the various ways that these are understood within religious traditions.

Weeks 1 and 2: definitions and debates

Week 3: Policing bodies 1 - Purity culture, modesty and dress

Week 4: Policing bodies 2 - desires and intimacies

Week 5: Queer identities and religion 1 – religion and heteronormativity

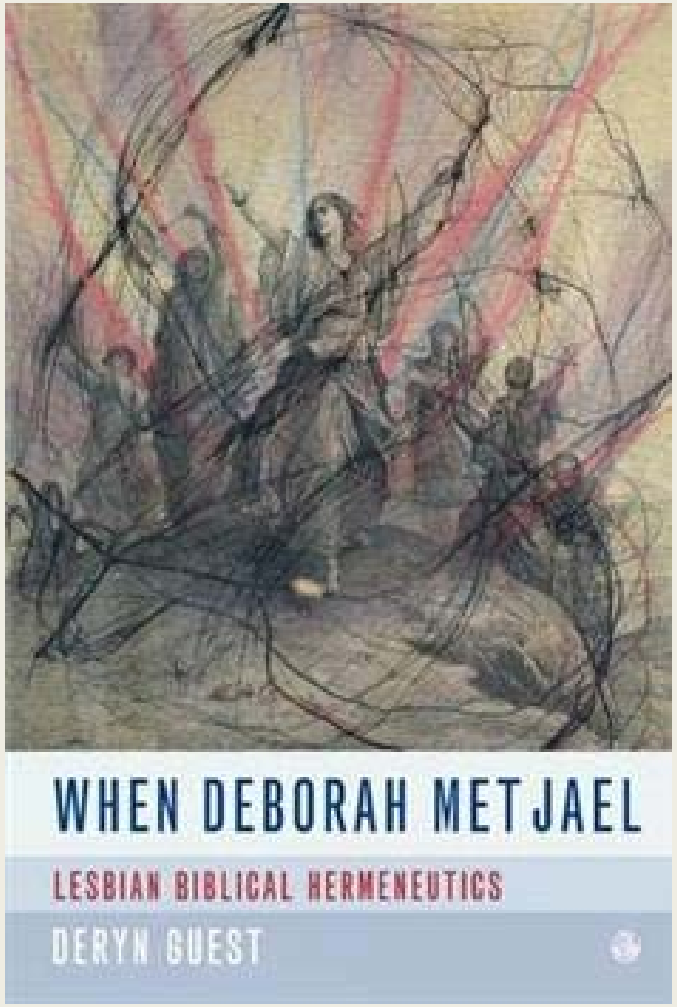
Week 6: Queer identities and religion 2 - queer spiritualities and queer theologies

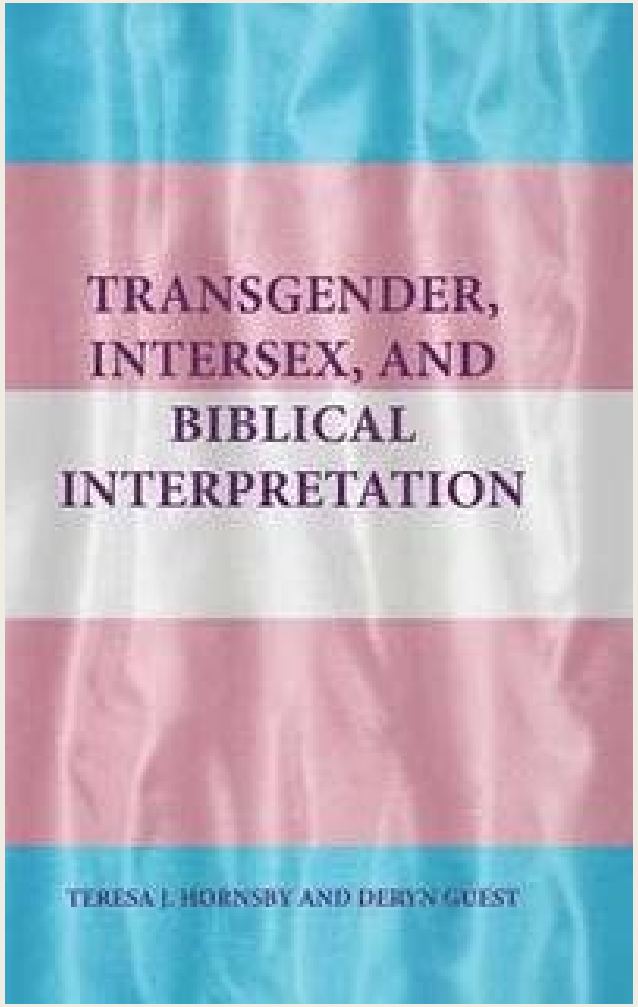
Week 7: Gender binaries in religious traditions

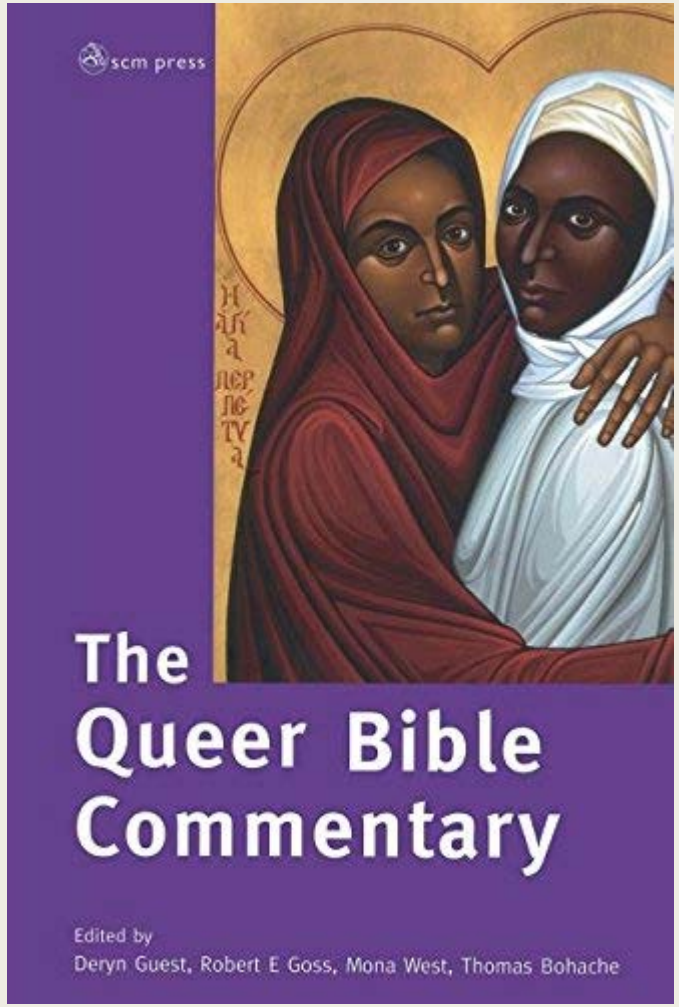
Week 8: Gender violence and religion

Week 9: The making of moral panics: religious rhetoric in HIV/AIDS discourses

Week 10: Reading Sacred Texts Queerly







Week 11: Religion, gender, and sexuality in pop culture

Readings

- Essential readings: most important for the weekly topic.
- Further readings: FYI and to help with assignments
- Tutorial readings: see notes on reading list and read these in preparation for the tutorial.

Assignments – full instructions on Canvas

- 211/311 – reflective diary (due 16 June)

- 211 – worksheet (due 14 April)
- 311 – critical review (due 14 April)

- 211/311 – essay (due 9 June)

Late policy and extensions – see Canvas homepage

Please come to class!