

Sexuality and Globalisation (A002320)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 2)	Dutch	Gent	independent work lecture
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Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Claes, Tom	LW01	lecturer-in-charge
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Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Science in Communication Science	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Gender and Diversity	5	A
Elective Set Culture and Society	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

sexuality, globalisation, culture, law, international institutions, sexual rights, reproductive rights, sexual identity, gender, sexual health, internet, migration, trafficking, sex work, sex industry, sex tourism, sexual customs, ethics

Position of the course

This course helps students to acquire knowledge, insight and intellectual and ethical competencies concerning the major global restructuring of sexualities and its impact and effects. The course aims at sharpening the research skills of the students in order for them to be able to better understand and gauge the structural, existential and ethical impact of 'global sexualities.'

Contents

The first part of the course consists of a general introduction to the subject of globalization and sexuality. We'll be looking at, e.g., how different approaches to globalization and types of globalisation theories tend to single out different 'global sexualities' and how these are evaluated accordingly. We also will be looking at some of the pioneering texts that have defined the field of 'global sexualities studies.'

During the second part of the course we'll be looking in greater detail at some of the core issues related to global sexualities, like, e.g., global commercialization of sexuality and global migration (trafficking, sex work, sex tourism, ...), the formulation of and global activism related to sexual and reproductive rights and sexual health (and disease), the rise of global sexual identities and the impact of, e.g., the internet and the media on 'global sexual subcultures,' etc.

In the third part, the students play an active role by writing, debating and presenting on these and other themes of their own choice.

Initial competences

No course-specific initial academic competencies are required.

Final competences

- 1 Having insight into the development of human sexuality under the influence of globalisation.
- 2 Having insight in the relations between perspectives on globalisation, globalization theories and the identification and evaluation of 'global sexualities.'

- 3 Having knowledge of the relation between global commercialization of sexualities, global migration and sexuality (e.g.trafficking, sex work and sex tourism).
- 4 Having knowledge of the emergence of the notions of and activism related to sexual and reproductive rights, sexual health (and disease).
- 5 Having knowledge of the emergence of 'global sexual identities' and their impact.
- 6 Being able to set up and communicate about an explorative research project concerning the relation between sexuality and globalisation

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Lectures
- Seminar: research paper

Study material

Type: Syllabus

Name: Sexuality and Globalisation

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

In addition to extra material via Minerva, selections from:

- Adams, Vincanne & Stacy Leigh Pigg (eds) (2005) *Sex in Development: Science, Sexuality and Morality in Global Perspective*. Durham: Duke University Press
- Altman, Dennis (2001) *Global Sex*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Binnie, Jon (2004) *The Globalization of Sexuality*. London: Sage.
- Cornwall, Andrea, Sonia Correa, and Susie Jolly (eds) (2008) *Development with a Body: Sexuality, Human Rights and Development*. London and New York: Zed Books.
- Padilla, Mark B. et al. (eds) (2007) *Love and Globalization: Transformations of Intimacy in the Contemporary World*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press.

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive supervision and support of the students' personal research by lecturer, via, a.o., personal appointment, minerva, email, zotero, etc.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

The lecturer selects a part of the available material as the basis for the open book exam.

The student writes a research paper, based on the information given during the plenary lectures, additional material (via Ufora) and personal research.

Calculation of the examination mark

The open book exam counts for 75%, the research paper for 25%

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:

- 1 Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
- 2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- 3 Feedback can be given during an appointment during office hours

Extra information:

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy