



# The Program in Sexuality Studies

Spring 2012 Fact Sheet

## Mission

The Program in Sexuality Studies creates opportunities for students at Carolina to research and study human sexuality in all of its diversity and from a wide variety of perspectives. The Program encourages the development of new courses, supports student and faculty research, awards prizes and fellowships to undergraduate and graduate students, and hosts public programs designed to foster a vibrant intellectual community.

## Impact

**Thirty** faculty members from **fourteen** departments are now affiliated with the program. In 2010–2011, we offered **twenty-six** courses and a record **twelve** minors graduated. Private gifts allowed us to award four prizes and fellowships to support student research and two grants to create new courses.

## “Equality Matters” Lecture Series

In 2011–2012, the Program hosted a series of public lectures from leading experts in a range of disciplines to share the latest research on marriage and to reflect upon its significance. Three members of the law school faculty launched the series in September. Since then we have heard from economist **Lee Badgett** (University of Massachusetts), demographer **Gary Gates** (UCLA), historian **Nancy Cott** (Harvard), psychologist **Mark Hatzenbuehler** (Columbia). In April, historian and public policy expert **Stephanie Coontz** will speak about the recent developments in the marriage and other forms of domestic relationships.

## Course Development Grants

Privately funded course development grants allow faculty to create important new courses. Last year, we awarded two grants:

**Karen Booth** created WMST 111: *An Introduction to Sexuality Studies*, which she is currently teaching for the second time.

**Sahar Amer** is now developing a new course in Asian Studies: *Gender and Sexualities in Arab and Islamicist Cultures*.

These new courses are in addition to our other popular offerings, serving both Sexuality Studies minors and hundreds of other undergraduates annually. Examples include:

AMST 269: *Mating and Marriage in American Culture*

ENGL 140: *Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Culture and Literature*

HIST 395: *Sex on Trial: A Research Seminar in Legal History*

HIST 566: *The History of Sexuality in America*

POLI 218: *Politics of Sexuality*

RELI 244: *Gender and Sexuality in Western Christianity*

SOCI 124: *Sex and Gender in Society*

WMST 388: *The International Politics of Sexual and Reproductive Health*

## Undergraduate Prizes

Private support allowed the program to fund prizes to undergraduates for research or creative work like:

**Matthew Karkutt '11**, the first-ever interdisciplinary major in Sexuality Studies, who wrote a terrific thesis on “AIDS in the Age of Genocide.” **Anqi Li '11** received a prize for her journalism honors thesis on the uses of history in media coverage of the Proposition 8 trial—a work that is now forthcoming as a book from Mellen Press.

## Graduate Research Fellowships

Private support allowed the program to give two modest fellowships to support research travel for two graduate students:

**Mark Hornburg '10**, (History Ph.D. candidate) who traveled to Germany to research the experience of men imprisoned by the Nazis for being gay.

**Jennifer Donnally** (History Ph.D. candidate) who traveled to Wichita, Kansas to conduct oral histories as part of her dissertation on conservative anti-abortion organizing in the mid-1980s.

For more information about these and our other activities, visit <http://sexualitystudies.unc.edu>