



Within this course, students will have the opportunity to make work in a variety of mediums that address desire, love, lust, romance, friendship, kinship, heartbreak and loss. We will look at work from visual artists, writers of all genres, film and performance that question and center matters of the heart and the libidinal. While placing sexual and relational dynamics at the core of our artistic endeavors we will address through readings of queer, feminist and left scholarship the social and political implications of acts of love and art. Students can make work in all artistic genres: video, writing, sculpture, performance, painting, photography, collage, drawing and mixed media. In class we will do a variety of writing and some drawing exercises; look at film, video and visual art; and discuss work read and viewed outside of class. Artists, writers, and filmmakers we will study will include Jean Genet, Juan Goytisolo, Tatiana de la Tierra, Zadie Smith, Miranda July, Honey Lee Cottrell, Mel Odom, Rainer Werner Fassbinder, Lorraine O'Grady, Ai, Eileen Myles, Ana Maria Simo and many others. Work developed can be based in autobiography or history and as much about the desire for social justice as they are about the erotic. While work

developed can be about the parent-child bond, lifelong friendships or sibling rivalry/solidarity, students should have ease in viewing, reading, discussing and critiquing art works that are sexually explicit.

Course Requirements:

Regular Attendance. Please inform instructor via email should you be ill or need to miss class for whatever reason. 12-24 hours prior is appreciated.

Reading of 5 works from the following reading list. Please discuss with Instructor if your particular project requires reading works not found on this list.

Attendance at 3 events of your choosing: a poetry reading, a visit to a museum or gallery, a lecture that is thematically resonant with your project. Instructor will provide weekly events that are free and on or close to campus.

A reading of a short excerpt from your final manuscript at a semi-public reading.

A final manuscript, pdf or Google doc or handmade art book or object.

Please do not use AI to generate your materials. You will be writing from hand in class and as you are finding your voice, subject matter, structure and revising it will not be able to capture what is unique, hard won and potentially significant in your writing.

Reading List for What's Love Got To Do With It?: Art and Desire

#### Young Adult Fiction

Michelle Tea, Mermaid in Chelsea Creek  
S.E. Hinton; The Outsiders, Rumblefish  
June Jordan, His Own Where  
Julius Lester, A Day of Tears, Time's Memory  
John Okada, No-No Boy

#### Memoirs

Diane di Prima, Memoirs of a Beatnik  
Gary Indiana, I Can Give You Anything But Love  
Trisha Low, Socialist Realism  
Myriam Gurba, Mean  
Quiara Alegría Hudes, My Broken Language

#### Novellas

Elena Poniatowska, Dear Diego  
Gwendolyn Brooks, Maud Martha  
Juan Rulfo, Pedro Paramo  
Edwin Abbott, Flatland  
Roberto Bolaño, By Night in Chile

#### Short Stories

Junot Diaz, This is How You Lose Her  
Clarice Lispector, The Complete Stories  
Angela Carter, The Bloody Chamber  
Ana Castillo, Loverboys

Dagoberto Gilb, Woodcuts of Women

## Poetry

Adrienne Rich; Diving into the Wreck, Twenty Love Poems and a Song of Despair

Adelaide Ivánova, The Hammer

Alice Paalen Rahon, Shapeshifter

Gustavo Hernandez, Flower Grand First, From His Arms

Ai, The Collected Poems,

## Triple Threats

Samuel Delaney, Dhalgren, Atlantis, They Fly at Ciron, Motion of Light in Water

Jean Genet, Miracle of the Rose, The Screens/The Blacks/The Maids, The Declared Enemy

Zadie Smith, NW, Swing Time, Intimations

Adrienne Kennedy, The People Who Led To My Plays, Collected Plays, Deadly Triplets

Octavia Butler, Kindred, Parable of the Sower, Bloodchild, Fledgling

Kae Tempest, Brand New Ancients, On Connection, The Bricks That Built Houses

Monique Wittig, The Lesbian Body, The Straight Mind, Les Guérillères

## Native Agents

Linda Hogan, Mean Spirit, Solar Storms, Power

Louise Erdrich, Love Medicine, The Antelope's Wife

Leslie Marmon Silko, Almanac of the Dead

Tommy Pico; IRL, Nature Poem, Junk

Natalie Diaz, When My Brother Was An Aztec

## Anthologies

Angry Women

The Big Aiiiii

Erotique Noir

Gay and Lesbian Poetry in Our Time

In The Life

## Prof's Select Choices

William S Burroughs, Queer

Brett Easton Ellis, Glamorama

Richard Brautigan, Trout Fishing In America, Pill Vs Springhill Mine Disaster, In Watermelon Sugar

Jonathan Lethem, She Climbed Across The Table

Gayle Jones, Eva's Song, Corregidora