

Course Description Form

Course number and section: CULT 400
Course Topic: Drag and Popular Culture
Credits: 3

Term: Fall: CULT 400N/ENGL 493N

Instructor: Cameron Crookston

Course Description (aim for no more than 80 – 100 words for your course description):

This course examines the evolution of drag as a queer cultural practice and form of popular entertainment over the last century. Drawing on examples from live performance, film, and television, classes will examine the relationship between drag and queer subcultures, mainstream representation of queerness, and trans visibility in the media. We will consider the relationship between drag's contemporary popularity and earlier historic instances of mainstream interest in drag. We will also examine how drag intersects with queer politics, the evolution of LGBTQ2+ communities, identity politics, entertainment technologies, and consumer culture.

Tentative Reading List: (Be as concise as possible with your reading list, but please also specify the genre of each required text. See sample below)

Selections from:

Marlon Bailey. *Butch queens up in Pumps: Gender, Performance, and Ballroom Culture in Detroit*. University of Michigan Press, 2013.

Mark Edward and Stephen Farrier. *Contemporary Drag Practices and Performers*. Methuen, 2020.

Jack Halberstam. *Female Masculinity*. Duke University Press, 1998.

Susan Stryker. *Transgender History*. Seal Publishing, 2008.

Other: