

CAS WS 305

TRANS STUDIES



MARSHA P. JOHNSON & SYLVIA RIVERA. NYC PRIDE MARCH, 1989.

This course focuses on the complex and still evolving field of trans studies through a diverse range of texts and media—both foundational and new. We will chart how the field of trans studies has grown exponentially alongside the increasing precarity and hypervisibility of trans bodies in public life. Drawing on legacies of activism and interdisciplinary scholarship, this course will explore the contested meanings of “trans” or “transgender” alongside related terms of gender variance. Our primary geographic focus will be North America, but we will situate discussions within broader global conversations and transnational political movements.

This course will familiarize students with issues such as trans healthcare, history, cissexism, bathroom legislation, trans media, book bans, and more – paying particular attention to frameworks of disability, decoloniality, and trans of color critique. Throughout the semester, we will question how knowledge is created, taken up, and disseminated, examining identities as both critical orientations as well as lived experiences.

SPRING 2025

Tu Th 5:00 – 6:15 PM

Dr. Tesla Cariani