This course seeks to shed light on the experiences of gender and sexual rebels, many of whom have come to call themselves lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or queer (LGBTQ), in the United States during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. We will consider definitions of gender and sexuality from LGBTQ perspectives and we will read first-person accounts, political manifestos, fiction and poetry, and historical accounts of LGBTQ lives in order to understand how LGBTQ individuals and communities struggle with culturally dominant definitions of their sexuality and/or gender and fight the discrimination that faces them.

This course is an ideal supplement to the introductory course in Gender and Women’s Studies—GWST 2123 (Intro to Gender Studies) or 2113 (Transnational Women’s Studies)—but it is also open to any students with experience and/or interest in Gender and Women’s Studies.

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