This class will explore the construction of gender and its relationship to love and sexuality in the ancient world through literature and art. Students will read excerpts from epic poetry, drama, ancient novels, satire, as well as inscriptions and graffiti. They will also analyze visual evidence from ancient sculptures and paintings. Additionally, the course will introduce students to the history of ancient gender scholarship. Topics to be covered include the ancient gender spectrum, homoeroticism, social concepts related to female sexuality, ancient sex work, and the construction of alternative gender and sexual identities.

The class will be taught on campus, and all readings will be in English. Please note that this course will include frank discussion of some very difficult topics, including pederasty and sexual assault.