SC369 Masculinity, Femininity, and Sexuality

This course will explore contemporary constructions of gender and sexuality in American culture. How are female and male sexualities enacted and reflected in current social trends? What are the common representations of masculinity, femininity, and male and female bodies in mainstream media and in politics? Students will apply a critical and sociologically informed lens to illuminate and analyze the gendered, raced, and classed aspects of contemporary cultural phenomena including: the increasing availability and prevalence of pornography; the sexualization of fashion; cosmetic surgery and other body-work practices; and patterns of social, romantic, and sexual interaction between women and men.