

# MASCULINITIES

Hazing, Homosociality & the Construction of Sexuality



MAY 2 - 3, 2024  
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

**S P A N**  
the Sexualities Project at Northwestern

# THURSDAY, MAY 2

**Keynote, 5 pm - 6:30 pm** (followed by reception)

Trienens Forum, Kresge 1-515, 1880 Campus Dr, Evanston, IL

“The Fallaciously Primordial Male: Desires, Norms & Links”  
Matthew Gutmann (Brown University)

# FRIDAY, MAY 3

Panels, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Trienens Forum, Kresge 1-515, 1880 Campus Dr, Evanston, IL

**8:30 am - 9:00 am** | Continental Breakfast (provided) in Kresge 1-525

**9:00 am - 9:15 am**

Welcome by Nick Davis (Director, Gender & Sexuality Studies)

Introduction by Héctor Carrillo (Co-Director, SPAN)

**9:15 am - 10:45 am | Panel 1 Presentations + Q&A**

*Adolescent Development & the Linguistic Encoding of Masculinities*

“From Homophobia to Heteronormativity:  
Thinking through shifts in teenage masculinity & sexuality”  
C.J. Pascoe (University of Oregon)

“Voice, Stance, Figure: Words & Discourse Strategies  
in American Hegemonic Masculinities”  
Scott Kiesling (University of Pittsburgh)

Session Chair: Paola Zamperini (Asian Languages & Cultures)

Graduate Student Commentators: Miguel Chavez &  
Khoah Phan-Howard

**10:45 am - 11:00 am | Break**

**11:00 am - 12:30 pm | Panel 2 Presentations + Q&A**

*Hazing, Masculinity & Homosocial Bonding in Campus Life Contexts*

“Does hazing actually increase group solidarity?  
A longitudinal test among fraternity members”  
Aldo Cimino (Kent State University)

Session Chair: Amy Partridge (Gender & Sexuality Studies)  
Graduate Student Commentators: Angad Singh &  
Sino Esthappan

Post-talk conversation with Annie Wilkinson (SPAN Postdoc) &  
Rebecca Ewert (Sociology)

**12:30 pm - 1:15 pm | Lunch (provided) in Harris 108**

**1:15 pm - 2:20 pm | Panel 3 Presentations**

*Anxieties & Contestations over Definitions of Masculinity*

“Performing Virility: Consumption, the Media, and Ongoing  
Attempts to Fetishize Heterosexual Masculinity”  
Kristen Barber (University of Missouri-Kansas City)

“Do You Even Lift, Bro?": Body Anxiety and the  
Sexual Politics of White Nationalism”  
Casey Ryan Kelly (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

Session Chair: Rebecca Ewert (Sociology)  
Graduate Student Commentators: Facundo Suenzo &  
Morgan Barry

**2:20 pm - 2:40 pm | Break**

**2:40 pm - 4:30 pm | Panel 3 Q&A + Panel 4**

*Trans Masculinities*

“Disrupting Geographies of Racialized (Trans)Masculinities:  
Insurrections, Uprisings, and the Urban/Rural Political Divide”

Miriam J. Abelson (Portland State University)

Session Chair: Marquis Bey (Black Studies, Gender & Sexuality Studies)

Graduate Student Commentators: Walker Brewer & Tubanji Walubita

Post-talk conversation with Martha Robinson Rhodes (SPAN Postdoc) &  
Marquis Bey (Black Studies, Gender & Sexuality Studies)

**Workshop Discussion & Closing Remarks**

**5 pm | Art Tour of masculinities mini-exhibit at  
The Block Museum**

## SPEAKER BIOS

### Keynote Speaker

**Matthew Gutmann** is Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at Brown University. His research and teaching have focused on men and masculinities; sexuality; public health; politics; and the military in Mexico, the United States, and China. His books include *The Meanings of Macho: Being a Man in Mexico City* (1996/2006); *Mainstreaming Men into Gender and Development: Debates, Reflections, and Experiences* (with Sylvia Chant; 2000); *The Romance of Democracy: Compliant Defiance in Mexico City* (2002); *Changing Men and Masculinities in Latin America* (ed.; 2003); *Fixing Men: Sex, Birth Control and AIDS in Mexico* (2007); *Breaking Ranks: Iraq Veterans Speak out Against the War* (with Catherine Lutz; 2010); *Global Latin America: Into the 21st Century* (ed. with Jeffrey Lesser; 2016), and *Are Men Animals? How Modern Masculinity Sells Men Short* (2019).

## Panel Speakers

**Miriam J. Abelson** (PhD Sociology, University of Oregon) is Associate Professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Portland State University. Her research focuses on the intersection of race, sexuality, and gender in rural and urban spaces, masculinities, and queer and transgender studies. Her book, *Men in Place: Trans Masculinity, Race, and Sexuality in America* was published with the University of Minnesota Press.

**Kristen Barber** is the Martha Jane Phillips Starr Distinguished Professor in Women's and Gender Studies at University of Missouri-Kansas City. Her research explores those mechanisms that perpetuate gender inequality and power by studying norm violation.

**Aldo Cimino** is one of the foremost experts on hazing and the only living anthropologist who specializes in the study of the phenomenon. This specialization has been his focus since graduate school and has included experimental and cross-cultural studies on the phenomenon. Dr. Cimino was the first researcher to publish experimental studies of hazing motivation and is among a select few who have earned enough trust from a fraternity to be allowed to directly observe their hazing practices. His fieldwork with fraternities has yielded rare qualitative and quantitative insights, including work on hazing's relationship with solidarity and group attrition.

**Casey Ryan Kelly** (he/him) is Professor of Rhetoric and Public Culture in the Department of Communication Studies at the University of Nebraska. He is author of 40 articles and 5 books, including *Caught on Tape: White Masculinity and Obscene Enjoyment* (Oxford University Press, 2023) and *Apocalypse Man* (Ohio State University Press, 2020). He is the recipient of numerous awards from the National Communication Association, including the Karl R. Wallace Memorial Award and the Franklyn S. Haiman Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Freedom of Expression.

**Scott Kiesling** is Professor of Linguistics at the University of Pittsburgh and holds a secondary appointment in the Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program. He has researched language and masculinities, and in particular the language of White fraternity men, for over 30 years. He is the author of the textbook *Language, Gender, and Sexuality: An Introduction* (2019, 2nd edition in press, Routledge). He has also studied the Pittsburgh regional White dialect and Australian English.

**C.J. Pascoe** is an associate professor of sociology at the University of Oregon and expert on inequality, youth and schooling. She is the author of the award-winning book, *Dude, You're a Fag: Masculinity and Sexuality in High School* and *Nice is Not Enough: Inequality and the Limits of Kindness at American High School*.

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## Graduate Student Commentators

**Morgan E. Barry** (she/her) is a PhD candidate in Northwestern's History Department and a Fellow of Northwestern's Gender and Sexuality Studies Program. Her dissertation examines how race, gender, and sexuality shaped surveillance and political repression in Chicago, 1940s–1970s. Right now, Ms. Barry is developing a chapter that surveys how ideas about white masculinity influenced an alliance between the Chicago Police Department and a local white power organization called the Legion of Justice. Her most recent published work—"SUBJECT's Wife": The Racialized Gender Logics of Anticommunism and State Surveillance"—can be found in *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture & Society*, Summer 2023.

**Walker Brewer** (they/them) is a 2nd year PhD student in the Media, Technology, and Society program in the School of Communication. Their research broadly explores the intersection of political communication, critical theory, and identity politics. Their current research projects include examining the transnational exchange of misinformation around transgender rights between the United States and the United Kingdom, as well as the tension between religious community and political identity within American church communities.

**Miguel Chavez** (he/him) is a third-year PhD student in Sociology and a Gender and Sexuality Studies Mellon Cluster Fellow at Northwestern University. His research exists at the intersections of cultural sociology, globalization, gender, sexualities, and masculinities. Through an ethnographic analysis of *lucha libre* events in Mexico City and Chicago, Miguel's current project explores how hybrid masculinities are discursively constructed in diverse ways across national and classed contexts.

**Sino Esthappan** (he/him) is a PhD candidate in the Sociology Department at Northwestern University. Sino uses tools from cultural sociology to explain how new institutional policies and technologies affect the reproduction of inequalities in colleges and universities, criminal courts, and online social networks. His research is published in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *Men and Masculinities*, and *Violence Against Women*.

**Khoa Phan-Howard** (he/him) is a PhD Candidate in Sociology at Northwestern University. He broadly researches how institutions shape intimate life, and how people make sense of intimacy within and beyond these institutions. His dissertation investigates divergences in contentious politics around abortion policy at the U.S. state level. His previous project, published on *Social Problems*, explored intertwining sexual and racial intimacies in a gay interracial friendship group.

**Angad Singh** (he/him) is a third-year PhD student in the English department at Northwestern University. He is pursuing graduate certificates in Black Diaspora studies and Gender and Sexuality studies. His research interests include global anglophone literature, queer theory, affect theory, and the archive.

**Facundo Suenzo** (he/him) is a Ph.D. candidate at Northwestern who is interested in issues of gender, sexuality, and technology. His dissertation explores the evolving social dynamics and sexual practices among queer men in Argentina, tracing the impact of new media technologies from the early days of the Internet to the present-day proliferation of dating platform services.

**Tubanji Walubita** (she/her) is a PhD student in the Health Sciences Integrated PhD Program. Her research focuses on understanding and improving health outcomes and health experiences among sexual and gender minority populations, with a focus on communities of color. Through her research, Tubanji is committed to refining methodologies that embrace intersectionality and promote greater understanding of the social and structural determinants of a diverse range of health outcomes. Tubanji's mission is to foster inclusive and impactful change within healthcare systems, while advancing health equity.

Learn more about SPAN at [sexualities.northwestern.edu](https://sexualities.northwestern.edu)

Or email us at [sexualities@northwestern.edu](mailto:sexualities@northwestern.edu)