

BS3070P  
Sex and the Bible

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Intensive unit: BS3070P  
31 July, 1, 7, 8, 9 August

### Description

This unit (1) examines the diverse views in the Bible on sex and sexuality and (2) considers ways in which biblical interpretation might benefit from sensual and queer lenses. The unit will stress the richness of the Bible, and of the tasks of biblical interpretation, by the study of selected texts and the discussion of questions such as, What makes a perspective on sexuality 'biblical'? What to do, and how, when biblical perspectives contradict? How might one assess the ways that biblical text(s) have been used as authoritative resource(s) for discussing and regulating sexual ethics, identity and practice? How do changing notions of sex and sexuality impact the way biblical texts are interpreted? What may we do to make biblical interpretation more sexy, sensual, and queer?

### Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Analyse heteronormative biblical views on sex and sexuality;
2. Assess different interpretations of biblical texts on sex and sexuality;
3. Develop skills in queer and sensual reading of selected biblical texts;
4. Utilise methodological and exegetical resources on selected biblical texts.

### Assessment

Assessment Type	Weighting
Essay (5000 words)	100%

**Pre-requisite:** 15 points in Biblical Studies

**Lecturer:** Jione Havea

### Recommended reading

\* = set texts recommended for purchase

- Althaus-Reid, Marcella. *Indecent Theology: Theological Perversion in Sex, Gender and Politics*. New York: Routledge, 2000.
- Carr, David M. *The Erotic Word: Sexuality, Spirituality, and the Bible*. New York: Oxford, 2003.
- Coogan, Michael. *God and Sex: What the Bible Really Says*. New York: Twelve, 2010.
- Douglas, Kelly Brown. *Sexuality and the Black Church: A Womanist Perspective*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1999.
- Guess, Deryn, Robert Goss, Mona West and Thomas Bohache (eds). *The Queer Bible Commentary*. London: SCM, 2006.
- Havea, Jione (ed), *Vulnerability and Resilience: Body and Liberation Theologies*. Lanham, MD: Lexington, 2019.
- Hornsby, Teresa J. and Amy-Jill Levine. *Sex Texts from the Bible: Selections Annotated and Explained*. Woodstock: Skylight, 2007.
- \*Hornsby, Teresa J. and Deryn Guest. *Transgender, Intersex, and Biblical Interpretation*. Atlanta: SBL, 2016.
- Ipsen, Avaren. *Sex Working and the Bible*. New York: Routledge, 2014.
- Kirk-Duggan, Cheryl A. (ed). *Pregnant Passion: Gender, Sex and Violence in the Bible*. Atlanta: SBL, 2003.
- Kirk-Duggan, Cheryl A. and Tina Pippins (eds). *Mother Goose, Mother Jones, Mommie Dearest: Biblical Mothers and Their Children*. Atlanta: SBL, 2009.
- \*Knust, Jennifer Wright. *Unprotected Texts: The Bible's Surprising Contradictions about Sex and Desire*. New York: HarperCollins, 2011.
- Loader, William. *Sexuality in the New Testament: Understanding the Key Texts*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2011.
- McGrow, Lauren. *Missionary Positions: A Postcolonial Feminist Perspective on Sex Work and Faith-Based Outreach from Australia*. Leiden: Brill, 2017.
- Newsom, Carol A. and Sharon H. Ringe (eds). *Women's Bible Commentary*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Rev & Updated ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2012.
- Patte, Daniel (ed). *Global Bible Commentary*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2004.
- Rashkow, Ilona N. *Taboo or not Taboo: Sexuality and Family in the Hebrew Bible*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2000.
- Scholz, Susanne. *Introducing the Women's Hebrew Bible: Feminism, Gender Justice, and the Study of the Old Testament*. London: Bloomsbury, 2017.
- Streete, Gail P. C. *The Strange Woman: Power and Sex in the Bible*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1998.
- Williams, Delores S. *Sisters in the Wilderness: The Challenge of Womanist God-talk*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 2013.

BS9070P  
Sex and the Bible

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Intensive unit: BS9070P  
31 July, 1, 7, 8, 9 August

### Description

This unit (1) examines the diverse views in the Bible on sex and sexuality and (2) considers ways in which biblical interpretation might benefit from sensual and queer lenses. The unit will stress the richness of the Bible, and of the tasks of biblical interpretation, by the study of selected texts and the discussion of questions such as, what makes a perspective on sexuality 'biblical'? What to do, and how, when biblical perspectives contradict? How might one assess the ways that biblical text(s) have been used as authoritative resource(s) for discussing and regulating sexual ethics, identity and practice? How do changing notions of sex and sexuality impact the way biblical texts are interpreted? What may we do to make biblical interpretation more sexy, sensual, and queer?

### Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Analyse biblical views on the matters of sex and sexuality;
2. Assess different interpretations of biblical texts on sex and sexuality;
3. Develop skills in queer and sensual -reading of selected biblical texts;
4. Utilise methodological and exegetical resources on selected biblical texts;
5. Articulate a critical understanding of the rich views in the Bible on sex and sexuality.

### Assessment

Assessment Type	Weighting
Essay (6000 words)	100%

**Pre-requisite:** 15 points in Biblical Studies

**Lecturer:** Jione Havea

### Recommended reading

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- Althaus-Reid, Marcella. *Indecent Theology: Theological Perversion in Sex, Gender and Politics*. New York: Routledge, 2000.
- Carr, David M. *The Erotic Word: Sexuality, Spirituality, and the Bible*. New York: Oxford, 2003.
- Coogan, Michael. *God and Sex: What the Bible Really Says*. New York: Twelve, 2010.
- Douglas, Kelly Brown. *Sexuality and the Black Church: A Womanist Perspective*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1999.
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- Ipsen, Avarn. *Sex Working and the Bible*. New York: Routledge, 2014.
- Kirk-Duggan, Cheryl A. (ed). *Pregnant Passion: Gender, Sex and Violence in the Bible*. Atlanta: SBL, 2003.
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- \*Knust, Jennifer Wright. *Unprotected Texts: The Bible's Surprising Contradictions about Sex and Desire*. New York: HarperCollins, 2011.
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- Streete, Gail P. C. *The Strange Woman: Power and Sex in the Bible*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1998.
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