

Toxic Masculinity, Singapore, Performance  
Professor Lim Eng Beng  
Thur 1430-1730p  
Preliminary syllabus – subject to change.

This course examines how toxic masculinities are produced as state, capitalist, and patriarchal formations in the comparative contexts of Singapore, the U.S., and their constitutive diasporas. It is interested in literary, visual, performance as well as queer and theoretical responses to these toxicities. Students will learn to identify and critique toxic formations of masculinity, including queer versions, from a historical, feminist as well as postcolonial perspective. Our overall objective is to arrive at a critical understanding of toxic masculinity and its contemporary manifestations in comparative and global frameworks using a range of key figures and characters as well as policies and infrastructures.

Grade breakdown:

In-class Presentation: 20%

Class participation and Weekly responses: 25%

Final Project: 20%

Final Paper: 25%

Attendance: 10%

Course expectations: TBA

Reading Schedule:

Week 1 Introduction

- Week 2 Patriarchal Formations, State Formations, Feminist Critiques  
- PDF readings by Heng, Grewal, Mohanty, Alexander, et al to be assigned
- Week 3 Singaporean Intersectionality  
- PDF readings by Crenshaw, et al to be assigned
- Week 4 Read *The Art of Charlie Chan Hock Chye* by Sonny Liew  
- Purchase at bookstore  
- Required viewing: SIFA production
- Week 5 Read *Fun Home* by Alison Bechdel  
- Purchase at bookstore
- Week 6 Read *Crazy Rich Asians* by Kevin Kwan  
- Purchase at bookstore
- Week 7 Read *Brown Boys and Rice Queens* by E-B Lim

- Purchase at bookstore

Week 8 Pink Dot & Homonationalism

- PDF readings by Puar, Treat, Duggan, et al

Week 9 Megastructures I: The Singapore Story: Memoirs of Lee Kuan Yew

- Purchase on your own

Week 10 Megastructure II: Gardens by the Bay

- PDF readings by Lim et al

Week 11 38 Oxley Pl.

- Selected articles, TBA

Week 12 Final Presentations

Week 13 Consolidation