



Macaulay Honors College
The City University of New York
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For Immediate Release

CUNY's Macaulay Honors College Adds Fall Course on Transgender Studies

(June 8, 2015, New York, NY) - Macaulay Honors College at The City University of New York has added a new course for the fall with Visiting Professor Elizabeth Reis teaching **Transgender Studies**, a lecture and discussion course to introduce students to the new interdisciplinary field of transgender studies.

"I first taught my Transgender Issues class in 1998 at the University of Oregon, and very few of the students in the class had ever heard of 'transgender,'" said Prof. Reis. "Now, of course, we are at the 'transgender tipping point,' according to a recent article in *Time Magazine*. As famous celebrities come out as transgender, they open up the gender conversation more and more."

Professor Reis joins Macaulay from the University of Oregon where she serves as Chair of the Women's and Gender Studies Department. She is the author of *Bodies in Doubt: An American History of Intersex* and the editor of *American Sexual Histories: A Social and Cultural History Reader*. Professor Reis was also a Visiting Scholar in the History of Science Department at Harvard University during the academic year 2012-2013.

Students taking the course will delve into questions, such as: How has our understanding of gender variance changed over time? Where do transgender politics fit in the larger political landscape of LGBT activism? How does race and class affect access to medical care? How should parents handle the impending puberty of transgender children? What is "normal" and how might we move forward to embrace difference and protect dignity in all forms?

The course is open only to Macaulay Honors College students.

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