

Fringe

URBAN NARRATIVES

VI Reading Group
Workshop:
(Trans)Feminist Urban
Studies

5 & 6 March 2026

PROGRAMME

All times shown in CET (Paris/Barcelona).

Links to texts and Zoom are distributed separately to registered participants.

Organizers: Patricia García and Olga Springer

Questions and registration: olga.springer@dcu.ie

THURSDAY, 5 MARCH, 14H-17H

14.00: Welcome by Patricia García, FRINGE Urban Narratives network director

14.15: SESSION 1. SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Discussion on:

Podcast – “Queer Cities”, with Davy Knittle (28 Sept 2021). *QueerLit* by Lena Mattheis

<https://www.spreaker.com/episode/queer-cities-with-davy-knittle--46141754> (44min)

Critical prompts: see the questions that Lena Mattheis suggests at the podcast description

- How does Davy define the term city? Can you think of different ways to define it?
- Please give an example of heteronormative architecture or urban planning from your own life. How does this example affect queer living? How does it affect other marginalized people who do not identify as queer?
- What is Richard Florida's gay index? Why is it problematic?
- What does Davy say about the relationship between literary and urban studies?
- Can you think of an example of a queer text, film or series that depicts urbanity as central to queer life?

15.00: SESSION 2. THEORETICAL ANCHORS – PRINCIPLES OF HOPE IN DARK TIMES

Discussion reading: José Esteban Muñoz, “Introduction: Feeling Utopia”, pp. 1-19, *Cruising Utopia* (2009).

Critical prompts:

- You might particularly enjoy his urban reading of Frank O’Hara’s poem “Having a Coke with You”.
- How can we map his concept of utopia into one novel, film or into urban texts in general?

15.45: Coffee break

16.00: SESSION 3. THEORETICAL ANCHORS – INTIMACIES AND THE URBAN

Discussion reading: Ara Wilson, “Infrastructures of Intimacy”, *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* 2016, vol. 41, no. 2, pp. 247-280.

Critical prompts:

- How does the text represent intimacy as something that is produced, or constrained by urban infrastructures rather than as a purely private or interpersonal way of relating?
- How can we map Wilson’s theory of intimacy into one novel, film, or urban texts in general?

FRIDAY, 6 MARCH, 14-16.15H CET

14.00: SESSION 4. SITUATED APPROACHES

Discussion reading: Susan Stryker's city-based essays from the 1990s, "Los Angeles at night" and "Dungeon Intimacies", *When Monsters Speak* (2024)

Critical prompts:

- The night and the urban condition. Consider how the night reshapes gender norms.
- Survival, freedom, desire.
- The dungeon as space of intimacy? As a utopia?

14.45: Coffee break

15.00: SESSION 5. LITERARY DISCUSSION

Discussion reading: Short story: "Sabrina's Wedding", *Las Biuty Queens*, Iván Monalisa Ojeda (2021, English translation)

16.00: Concluding discussion



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