

Queer and Crip Spatialities

Spring 2025

Queer and Crip are not only identity categories, but verbs. Both refer to applying a queer or disability-justice perspective... And they mean much more than that too.

To queer is to challenge dominant heterosexist discourse, to distort and 'make the solid unstable', or to complicate "the taken-for-granted heteronormativity of everyday practices, spaces, and discourses"*



Banner Alice Sheppard & Kitty Lunn with Infinity Dance Theater
Screen captures from Them video with Nyle DiMarco and Chella Man

To crip can mean to spin "mainstream representations or practices to reveal able-bodied assumptions and exclusionary effects."

Like queering, criping can include "everyday practices deployed to challenge oppressive norms, build community, and maintain the practitioners' self-worth."*

*Encyclopedia of Diversity and Social Justice

What We Will Do

This class celebrates the queer (LGBTQIA2s+, GNCP, NB, etc.) and crip (we can debate what this word includes).

All authors identify as both LGBTQI+ and crip/neurodivergent/autistic or autigender or neuroqueer.

You'll have multi-modal final project, and no long papers or exams.

Readings Include:

- Mills & Sanchez** (2023) Crip Authorship
 - Smilges** (2023) Crip Negativity, (2022) Queer Silence
 - Schalk** (2022) Black Disability Politics
 - Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha** (2022) The Future Is Disabled
 - Giesecking** (2020) A Queer New York
 - Yergeau** (2017) Authoring Autism: On Rhetoric & Neurological Queerness
 - Kafer** (2013) Feminist Queer Crip
 - McRuer** (2006) Crip Theory: ... Queerness and Disability
- And podcasts, videos, comics, and graphic novels!**

GEOG 672

Dr. E.C. Kaufman

Tu/Th 11:00-12:15

Email ekaufman@towson.edu
w/ questions or to express
online-only preference