Osher Online

in collaboration with Northwestern University School of Professional Studies

SPRING 2025

Mainstreaming the Margins: A History of LGBTQ+ America

Over half a century after the Stonewall Uprising, the vibrant and complex history of LGBTQ+ life, culture, and movements in the US remains a focal point of rich discussion and political relevance. In this course, we will immerse ourselves in the intricate history of LGBTQ+ Americans. examining their political organizations, contributions, and the profound ways they have helped shape the nation. This course offers a comprehensive overview of key LGBTQ+ figures, events, and cultural shifts beginning in the early 20th century to the present, highlighting the emergence and evolution of LGBTQ+ identities and activism, and the challenges they have historically faced. We will uncover how a marginalized community has become a powerful force for social change, impacting every facet of American life—from grassroots politics and art to society at large. Together we will gain a deeper understanding of LGBTQ+ history and gain a renewed appreciation for the ongoing struggle towards justice, inclusion, and freedom in the US.



Click here to view promo video.

YOUR INSTRUCTOR: Adam Kocurek



Adam Kocurek is a Ph.D. candidate in History at The CUNY Graduate Center. His research lies at the intersections of LGBTQ+ history, labor history, and the history of higher education. He is an adjunct lecturer at Hunter College where he teaches modern American history. He has held fellowship positions at Queensborough Community College and Medgar Evers College, and has taught at Baruch College. He is also a tour guide for Big Onion Walking Tours, leading locals and visitors alike on innovative and exciting tours through New York's ethnic neighborhoods and historic districts. Through his research and teaching, he is committed to illuminating the complexities of American history and fostering a deeper understanding of the diverse narratives that shape our society today.

TUESDAYS, APRIL 1 THROUGH MAY 6

7am AK | 8am PT | 9am MT | 10am CT | 11am ET

Each live session is 90 minutes

- Tuesday, April 1Tuesday, April 8Tuesday, April 15
 - Tuesday, April 22
 - Tuesday, April 29
 - Tuesday, May 6

To register, please contact your local Osher Institute.