

Queerseminariet/The Seminars in Queer Studies at Stockholm University
Spring 2026
Theme: Sex

11 februari, kl. 16.30-18 (Anton Juul)

Zoom

“Write with your asshole”: Gay male embodiment and anal poetics in contemporary Danish literature

Within a phallogocentric sexual hierarchy, the anus is associated with passivity, feminization, and social debasement. Different cultural, psychoanalytic, and queer theories of the anus, however, both draw on and challenge these connotations, producing a polarity between a “bad” passive anus as a threshold for bodily and social abjection and a “good” circumclusive anus with utopian potentials for queer socialities and sexualities. Through comparative readings of *Techno* (Jensby 2016) and *Romeo & Seahorse* (Lange 2022), this paper demonstrates how gay anality oscillates between good and bad, with distinct affective implications. Finally, Rasmussen’s *Huden er det elastiske hylster...* (2011) illustrates an “anal poetics,” where the technique of writing tends toward abjection yet metatextually envisions the novel’s form as a circumclusive anus, enveloping its collage-like, intertextual structure. Contemporary homoerotic writing, the paper argues, positions the anus as a productive vantage point for exploring gay male embodiment.

Anton Juul, PhD, Centre for Gender, Sexuality and Difference, Department of Nordic Studies and Linguistics, University of Copenhagen. During the presentation, he will present some of the research from his recently defended PhD dissertation: *”Skriv med røvbullet”. Læsninger af homoerotiske fortællinger i ny dansk litteratur [”Write with your asshole”. Studies in Homoerotic Narratives in Danish Contemporary Literature”]* (2025).

16 mars, kl. 16.30-18 (Robert Jacobsson)

Zoom

The Ass's Logic: Towards a Theory of Anal Eroticism

Robert Jacobsson, doctoral candidate in Gender Studies at Södertörn University, presents selected parts of the dissertation “Rectum Revelations”, focusing on the ass's logic. The dissertation examines how anal eroticism is organised, experienced and understood through 30 queer participants who wrote diaries about their practices over a three-month period. Rather than focusing on negation, refusal and abjection, the anus's affirmative capacities and autonomous agencies are explored. Robert explores how queer culture embraces rather than merely abjects anal pleasure - but that even sex-positive frameworks can be constrained by penetration-centrism and cis-phallic organisation. Through Deleuze and Guattari's concept of desire together with feminist materialist embodiment theory, the presentation addresses how power orders intersect at this bodily site. The presentation explores what empirical engagement with marginalised practices can contribute to queer theory, particularly regarding embodied practices, various anal practices, including non-penetrative dimensions, of desire and pleasure.

27 april, kl. 17.30-20 (Jenny Sundén, Susanna Paasonen, & Katrin Tiidenberg). Accelerator Café, Frescativägen 26A, Stockholm University

Hot Connections: Why Sexual Platforms Matter (Book release and discussion with the authors)

This is an invitation to a conversation and book release mingle to celebrate the publication of *Hot Connections: Why Sexual Platforms Matter* by Jenny Sundén, Susanna Paasonen, and Katrin Tiidenberg (March 2026, MIT Press). Doors open at 17.30, and the book discussion takes place 18.00-19.15.

What can we learn from including sexual platforms in definitions of social media and, by extension, from including sex in definitions of “the social” itself? *Hot Connections* explores three local sexual platforms: the Swedish Darkside, used by kink and BDSM practitioners; the Estonian Libertine Center, used mainly by non-monogamous people; and the Finnish Alastonsuomi, used for a wide variety of nude and sexual displays of self-expression. Intervening in debates on the value of sexual social media, the book discusses what it means to research sexuality when sexual data is understood as sensitive by default, what platform governance from the margins may look like, and how sex and intimacy are not the same thing in networked sexuality. Sexual platforms afford freedom of worldmaking, belonging, and a right to sexually exist. While providing vital spaces for sexual self-expression—and indeed, hot connections—platforms also involve friction as expectations and desires clash and collide.

Jenny Sundén is professor of Gender Studies at Uppsala University and Södertörn University, **Susanna Paasonen** is professor of Media Studies at the University of Turku, and **Katrin Tiidenberg** is professor of Participatory Culture at Tallinn University.

13 maj, kl. 16.30-18 (Kiin Catrine Andersson)

Zoom

Berättelser om otrohet – sex, svek, självförverkligande och vår terapeutiska tid

Otrohet har framförallt utforskats med ett psykologiskt fokus på vilka personlighetstyper som är mest otrogna, vilka riskfaktorer det finns för att otrohet ska uppstå i en parrelation och vad som är viktigt i terapi för att göra det möjligt att undvika skilsmässa efter otrohet. Även om detta gett oss viktig kunskap om individuella och relationella faktorer när det gäller otrohet, så hjälper det oss inte att förstå otroheten inifrån – dess sociala mening. I denna presentation utforskar jag otrohetens betydelse ur ett socialt perspektiv – hur otrohet blir en fråga om hämnd, sexuellt uppvaknande, självförverkligande, sexmissbruk eller en livslång utmaning att bygga upp tillit till andra. Genom analyser av 137 berättelser från personer som själva varit otrogna, haft en partner som varit otrogen, eller upplevt otrohet i sin nära omgivning, kommer jag att fokusera på några av de otrohetspraktiker som förekommer i berättelserna och som hjälper oss att förstå otrohet i ett samtida perspektiv. Vi har både parterapi och individuell terapi som erbjuder hjälp när otrohet händer – men kan vi också förstå otrohet utanför den terapeutiska kulturen och som en del av livet?

Kiin Catrine Andersson är docent i socialt arbete vid Centrum för sexologi och sexualitetsstudier vid Malmö universitet.

Queerseminariet/The Seminars in Queer Studies are interdisciplinary seminars linked to gender studies at Stockholm University and has been running since the spring semester of 1996. They deal with humanities and social science research with critical perspectives on heteronormativity. The seminars are open to anyone interested, regardless of academic level or affiliation. For more information, tips, and comments, or to be added to our mailing list, please contact Elin Bengtsson. Registration for the Zoom seminars is done by emailing Elin Bengtsson no later than the day before the seminar in question.

Contact: Elin Bengtsson, elin.bengtsson@gender.su.se