Third Ward Trill, Baddie Bey, and Sasha Fierce. Felicia the Goat, Cindy Mayweather, and a Tupac Hologram. Rachel Gentile, Jordan Davis, and Korryn Gaines. How do these figures disrupt our understandings of black gender and sexuality? How do they reflect the conditions under which black bodies are differently gendered and sexed?

Through objects of popular culture this course examines how the intersections of sex, gender, class, and sexuality shape blackness as a socio-political, embodied, and lived category. Through a black feminist, queer, and trans lens we will explore how slavery and its afterlives, racial capitalism, and structural violence are the conditions that shape social and bodily configurations of gender and sexuality. We will explore how notions of blackness have been shaped by ideologies of gender and sexual pathology and how blackness has been integral to constructions of gender and sexuality. We will focus on deep thinking, theoretical analysis, historical contextualization, and creative expression as we interrogate the historical and shifting conditions of gender and sexuality.