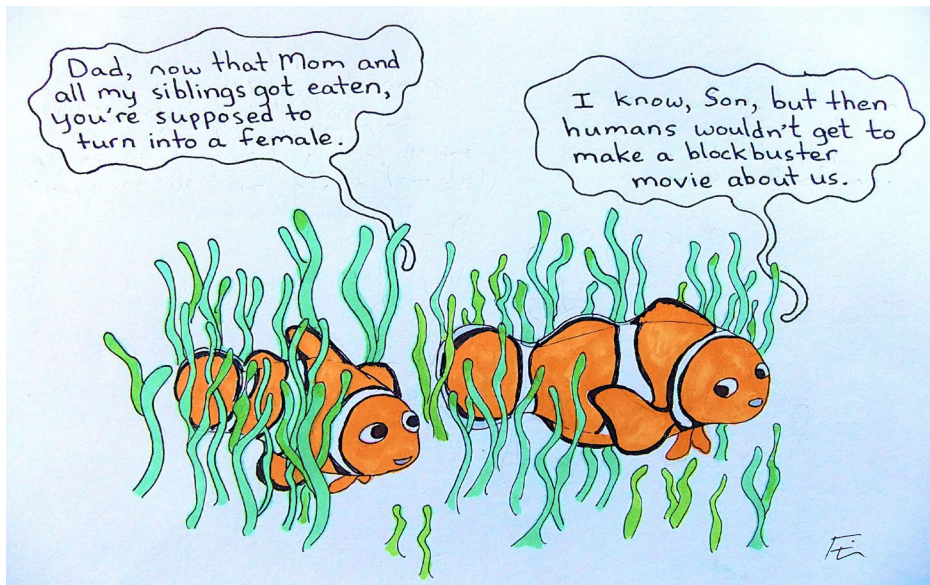


**History 346, Fall 2019: Trans/Gender in Historical Perspective**  
**Professor Finn Enke**  
**TR 11:00-12:15**



Throughout history, humans have constituted sex/gender categories of maleness and femaleness. At the same time, many cultures have elaborated more than two categories for sex and gender. Even cultures that have appeared to mandate binary sex/gender have often permitted a wide range of gender variation. Yet no matter how a given culture may have defined sex and gender categories, there were always some people who exceeded or refused those definitions and norms.

This course focuses on sex/gender crossings in a variety of historical contexts, from the TransAtlantic world, countries of Asia and the Pacific Rim, South Africa, and Iran, to North America. We will consider the perspectives of people who themselves crossed, transitioned, transed, or otherwise exceeded binary sex/gender appearances. Alongside, we consider the ways that dominant social institutions reinforced sex/gender norms and permitted variation and exceptions. We will examine social histories, medical and legal perspectives, gender theory, popular culture, and the work (including art, music and film) of trans and nonbinary communities across centuries.

Along the way, we will ask: How have sex/gender been infused with notions of age, race, dis/ability, nationality, legal status? How have contacts across cultures through migrations, slavery, colonization, appropriation and cross-fertilizations affected people's understanding of sex/gender possibilities?

Our sources include historical monographs, memoir, medical and legal documents, queer and transgender theory, *manga* and *anime*, and social movement treatises.