This course introduces students to theories and debates about representations of gender and sexuality on television. We will grapple with questions like: how have commercial news and entertainment television represented LGBTQ identities, lives, and community issues? In turn, how have LGBTQ folks responded to these images and used television programing to represent their own experiences? We will consider significant moments in the history of LGBTQ television, including the first programs to include queer and transgender characters in their content, as well as the ways in which LGBTQ activists have protested against and/or worked alongside cultural workers in the media industries to shape these images. As our class moves through television history, we will examine historical shifts in the visibility of LGBTQ people, paying close attention to the ways in which race, gender, class, and trans status shape representational dynamics. We will assess how the evolution of television programming—via broadcast, cable, and digital networks—has shaped the possibilities for the production, distribution, and reception of LGBTQ television. This course will interweave queer and feminist theory, LGBTQ history and cultural politics, and media studies to analyze and critique the programs we watch.