# Reading/ Screening Desire

Fall '15 English 210-02 M/W/F 2-2:50pm

### Course Description

This class is about love, desire, happy endings and guilty pleasures. Over the course of the semester we will examine the representation of relationships across popular culture. The class will examine a variety of media texts, including: *It Happened One Night, Before Sunrise, Looking, The L Word*, and *True Blood*.

This course asks: How do popular media represent gender, sexuality, and partnership? If genre is a space where we work through and rework cultural norms, what conversations are romantic stories having with us? How do happy endings and romantic fantasies intersect with the realities of class, race and sexual orientation? What social conflicts do these stories seek to mediate? Finally, how are relationship stories constructed for different audiences and organized across different media forms?

The class takes up these questions by examining the role of genre in our culture and exploring what relationships look like in print, on film, and on the television screen.

### Required Texts

Readings will be available as pdfs on MyCourses. 1-2 popular novels will also be assigned. Anticipate a \$5-15 cost (total) for these books. Film and television screenings will be available on reserve at the library.

#### More Info?

Contact Katie Morrissey: kemorrissey@rit.edu.

## Good for Gen ED & Art Immersion Credit.