



9-4-2012

September 4, 2012: Halperin talk on new book (Ann Arbor--9/11)

Department of English

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Tuesday, September 4, 2012

[Halperin talk on new book \(Ann Arbor--9/11\)](#)



DAVID HALPERIN
W. H. Auden Distinguished
University Professor of the History
and Theory of Sexuality

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012
Noon–1:30 PM
2239 Lane Hall, 204 South State Street
This event is free and open to the public.

DISCUSSANTS
DAVID CARON Romance, Languages and
Literatures, Women's Studies
LISA DISCH Political Science, Women's Studies
HELMUT PUFF Germanic Languages and
Literatures, History, Women's Studies

How to be Gay contends that gayness is a specific way of being that gay men must learn from one another in order to become who they are. Main homosexuality is a cultural practice, expressive of a unique subjectivity and a distinctive relation to mainstream society. Halperin maintains that the genres of gay culture reside in some of its most despised features: its aestheticism, scabbiest melodrama, adoration of glamour, calculations of wit and witlessness with mothers. The insights, ingenuity, and unflinching critical intelligence displayed by gay culture, Halperin argues, have much to offer the heterosexual mainstream.

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Posted by [CCN](#) at [7:10 PM](#)