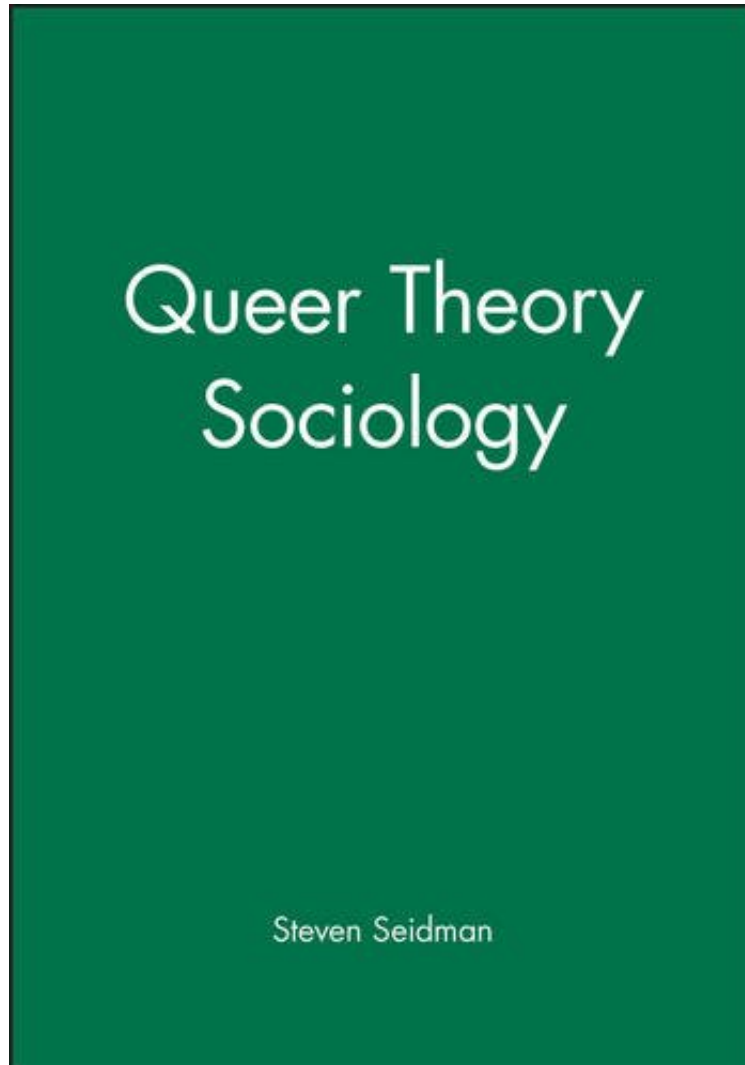


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Comparative Lit. departments never seem to get it right. The reason is simple: if you want to truly study something you need sociological skills like knowing how to do ethnographies and quantitative research. Comp lit people can't do any of that. All they can do (like the philosophy people) is just speculate. That doesn't quite cut it.

This book aims to productively engage the pioneering work of Queer theorists and point toe way towards a new sociological Queer studies. First book to bring the works of theorists and researchers in the social sciences to Queer theory which is distinctively dominated by the Humanities. Uses classic sociological essays that shaped lesbian, gay and bisexual studies and recent original works and applies these to the discursive approach of Queer Theory to create a productive dialogue between the disciplines.

From the Back Cover For the first time in one volume Steven Seidman joins two fields of scholarship, queer theory and sociology, to bring about a new understanding of the social construction of homosexual desire. Included in this volume are some of the "classic" sociological essays that shaped lesbian, gay, and bisexual studies and the discursive approach of recent work by queer theorists. Queer Theory Sociology suggests ways a sociological perspective can contribute to imaging a queer studies that preserves the critical spirit of queer theory while being attentive to the deeply institutional and structural dynamics in the formation of the sexual self and social order. Combining the works of well-known scholars with newer thinkers, Queer Theory Sociology points towards a new sociological queer studies. About the Author Steven Seidman, Professor of Sociology at State University of New York at Albany, writes extensively in the areas of social theory, cultural sociology and sexual politics. He also wrote *Contested Knowledge* (Blackwell, 1994).