

LGBTQ IDENTITY BASICS

GENDER IDENTITY



- Female/Woman/Girl
- Male/Man/Boy
- Other Gender(s)

GENDER EXPRESSION



- Feminine
- Masculine
- Other Gender(s)

SEX ASSIGNED AT BIRTH



- Female
- Male
- Other/Intersex

PHYSICALLY ATTRACTED TO



- Women
- Men
- Other Gender(s)

EMOTIONALLY ATTRACTED TO



- Women
- Men
- Other Gender(s)

LESBIAN

Someone who identifies as a woman and is sexually attracted to other people who identify as women.

GAY

Someone who is attracted to people who share their gender identity; most often refers to men who are attracted to men although many women also identify with this term.

BISEXUAL

Someone who is sexually attracted to more than one gender; it often can refer to individuals who are attracted to individuals of a gender similar to their own and individuals of a gender different from their own.

QUESTIONING

Someone who is unsure or exploring any aspect of their sexual, gender, or romantic identity; is sometimes but not always a transitional period in between multiple identities; does not negate the validity of any previous or future identities an individual may hold.

ASEXUAL

Someone who experiences no or infrequent sexual attraction; is not the same as celibacy or abstinence; does not mean individuals cannot form meaningful relationships.

QUEER

A constellation term for sexual and gender minorities; a word for the LGBTQ+ community; someone who is romantically and/or sexually attracted to all genders; once used as a slur against the community but now reclaimed.

TRANSGENDER

A constellation term for gender identities that are non-cis identities; denotes someone who does not identify with the gender society assigns to the sex they were assigned at birth.

INTERSEX

An individual who has a biological difference in hormones, chromosomes, or secondary sex characteristics from the perceived sex categories of "male" and "female." No medical complications or emergencies arise as a result of these traits.

PANSEXUAL

Someone who experiences sexual attraction regardless of gender; alternatively, someone who is sexually attracted to all genders.

AROMANTIC

Someone who experiences no or infrequent romantic attraction; does not mean individuals cannot form meaningful relationships or cannot display emotion.

MANY MORE

This is only a brief overview of the identities present within the LGBTQ+ community. As a rule of thumb, always ask how someone identifies and what that identity means to them!



LGBTQ & ALLY
EDUCATION PROGRAM

Located: SSC 1075

Questions? Contact jmulgbta@jmu.edu