*Ancient Egypt*

*The Old Kingdom tomb of two men named Niankhkhumn and Khnumhotep at Saqqara has been cited as the earliest documented evidence for a same-sex couple, despite the fact that our understanding of society’s acknowledgment and identification, much less the acceptance of, homosexuality is extremely limited. (And despite the fact that their tomb is also the resting place of both of their wives and their children and grandchildren are mentioned in the tomb too!)*

*Instructions*

*Construct an essay on this topic by responding to Chapter 15 (p. 205-217) in our textbook: Wilkinsons’ The Egyptian World plus the following 4 articles (PDFs can be found in the Essay menu on Blackboard) on the tomb and what we know of homosexuality in ancient Egypt, compose an essay that argues whether or not Niankhkhumn and Khnumhotep should be viewed as a same-sex couple, taking into consideration Egyptian cultural and social views on gender and sexuality.*

*• T.G. Wilfong, “Chapter 15: Gender and Sexuality,” p. 205-217 in T. Wilkinson (ed.), The Egyptian World. New York, NY: Routledge Press (2007).*

*• L. Evans and A. Woods, “Further Evidence that Niankhkhnum and Khnumhotep were Twins.” Journal of Egyptian Archaeology 102 (2016) pp. 55-72.*

*• R.B. Parkinson, “‘Homosexual’ Desire and Middle Kingdom Literature.” Journal of Egyptian Archaeology 81 (1995) pp. 57-76.*

*• G. Reeder, “Same-Sex Desire, Conjugal Constructs, and the Tomb of Niankhkhnum and Khnumhotep.” World Archaeology 32.2 (2000) pp. 193-208.*

*• V. Vasiljevic, “Embracing His Double: Niankhkhnum and Khnumhotep.” Studien zur Altagyptische Kulture 37 (2008) pp. 363-372.*