

PSYC/SOCI 2306 Human Sexuality Spring 2013 Syllabus and Schedule

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Course Description:

An in-depth study and examination of human sexuality and the theories and characteristics of sexual diversity in America. Prerequisite: None.

Required Material: Text: Yarber, W.L., Sayad, B.W., & Strong, B. (2010). *Human Sexuality: Diversity in Contemporary America*. New York, NY: McGraw Hill.

Course Objectives: Human Sexuality is intended to provide students with an understanding of the psychological theories around sexuality in humans with a full integration of modern research and a **contemporary "sex-positive" approach that encourages students to become proactive in and about their own sexual well-being**. The course stresses and provides for critical thinking about human sexuality and represents the contemporary, diverse world that students encounter outside of the classroom. With a strong focus on inclusion, the course offers a sex-positive approach to health and well-being and the freedom to think critically about high interest topics in sexuality such as sexual pleasure, intercourse, birth control, and sexual diversity. The course will allow students to think about the role of sexuality in American popular culture and media, explain scientific methods for studying human sexuality, explain male/female anatomy, gender and gender roles, theories of love and relationships, contraception and fertilization as well as fetal development and parenting, and STI epidemiology.

Spring 2013 Schedule for Human Sexuality

Date (2013)	Module	Discussion Board	Assignment/Exam
January 22 – January 27	Module 1 Chapter 1: Perspectives on Human Sexuality; Chapter 2: Studying Human Sexuality	Introductions; Sexual Attitudes	No assignment/exam
January 28 – February 3	Module 2 Chapter 3: Female sexual anatomy, physiology, and	Female and Male sexuality	No assignment/exam

	response; Chapter 4: Male sexual anatomy, physiology, and response		
February 4 – February 10	Module 3 Chapter 5: Gender and gender roles	Gender identity	Scholarly Paper 1: Gender
February 11 – February 17	Module 4 Chapter 6: Sexuality in childhood and adolescence; Chapter 7: Sexuality in adulthood	Sexual issues in childhood, adolescence, and adulthood	Project 1 Topic Submission: *Project 1 Topic Submission is worth 20 points*
February 18 – February 24	Module 5 Chapter 8: Love and communication in intimate relationships; Chapter 9: Sexual expression	Characteristics important for relationships; Sexual scripts	Test 1
February 25 – March 3	Module 6 Chapter 8: Love and communication in intimate relationships; Chapter 9: Sexual expression	Characteristics important for relationships; Sexual scripts	Project 1 Outline *Project 1 Outline is worth 60 points*
March 4 – March 10 **Please note March 11 – 17 is Spring Break**	Module 7 Chapter 10: Variations in sexual behavior	Sexual addiction and morality	Scholarly Paper 2: Contraceptive Choices

March 18 – March 24	Module 8 Chapter 11: Contraception, birth control, and abortion	Birth control	Project 1 Due *Project 1 Final Submission is worth 100 points*
March 25 – March 31	Module 9 Chapter 12: Conception, pregnancy, and childbirth	Pregnancy today	Scholarly Paper 3: Becoming A Parent
April 1 – April 7	Module 10 Chapter 13: The sexual body in health and illness	Societal pressures on body perfection	Project 2 Topic Submission *Project 2 Topic Submission is worth 20 points*
April 8 – April 14	Module 11 Chapter 14: Sexual function difficulties, dissatisfaction, enhancement, and therapy	Psychological causes of sexual function difficulties and dissatisfaction	Test 2
April 15 – April 21	Module 12 Chapter 15: Sexually transmitted infections AND Chapter 16: HIV and AIDS	The STI epidemic	Project 2 Outline *Project 2 Outline is worth 60 points*
April 22 – April 28	Module 13 Chapter 17: Sexual coercion: harassment, aggression, and abuse	Sexual harassment today	No assignment/exam
April 29 – May 5	Module 14	Sexually explicit	Project 2 Due

	Chapter 18: Sexually explicit materials, prostitution, and sex laws	materials	*Project 2 Final Submission is worth 100 points*
May 6 – May 11	Module 15	No discussion	Preparation for Final Exam
May 13 – May 16	Module 16	No discussion	Final Exam

The course is designed in a modular format. Each week includes one module that contains the discussion, assignments, and quiz for that week. EACH “Week” will be from Monday to Sunday. See Weekly Modules button.

Module 1 will be open until Sunday, February 4 (for 2 weeks) so that everyone has time to get a great start in the course. For the rest of the semester, however, your work/assignments for each Module are posted on Monday of the week indicated and all work must be completed by midnight the following Sunday (1 week).

So, as you can see, Modules 1 and 2 BOTH must be completed by Sunday, February 4.

Please note however, that Module 1 runs for the first 2 weeks of class and therefore overlaps with Module 2.

Specific information on Project 1 and Project 2, tests, as well as your three scholarly papers will be sent to you throughout the semester via Blackboard.

Grading Criteria (points - grade range)

Letter	Point Range
A	1198 -1260
A-	1134 -1197
B+	1096 - 1133
B	1046 - 1095
B-	1008 - 1045
C+	970 - 1007

C	920 - 969
C-	882 - 919
D+	844 - 881
D	794 - 843

Grading – Grading is based on the cumulative points earned from the following:

• Weekly Discussions (14 x 25 points each)	350 points
• Tests (2 x 100 points each)	200 points
• Assignment: Scholarly paper 1	50 points
• Assignment: Scholarly paper 2	50 points
• Assignment: Scholarly paper 3	50 points
• Project 1	180 points
• Project 2	180 points
• Final Exam	200 points
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Total:	1260 points

Discussion Assignment Grading Guidelines

Important: Generally, discussion assignments will be posted on Monday morning of a given week and your initial response will be due Wednesday by 11:59 PM of the same week. You are required to respond to at least one of your classmates by Sunday no later than 11:59 PM of the same week. Keep in mind that the earlier you post these the more effective the course room discussion will be.

Each discussion assignment is divided into a Response portion and a Participation portion. Discussions are worth a total of 25 points – 15 points for your own initial response and 10 points for your participation response to one of your classmates. Naturally, discussion responses should be well-written. For both the response and participation portions, write like you would for any traditional graded paper assignment. Do not write like you might in a chat room, text message, or blog. This is an institution of higher education and you are expected to write clearly and carefully. I definitely will award more points for thoughtfully composed assignments. For example, those discussions free of spelling and grammar errors, substantive and involving critical thinking of the material, with proper in text citations and references, will receive the maximum points.

Submitting assignments: writing assignments will be prepared in word processing documents, in APA format and saved in files that are submitted through Blackboard. They will NOT be accepted by email. All documents should be double spaced and have your name on them. You should also conduct a spell –

check on all assignments. Save a copy of all assignments on a flash drive.

Communication Policies:

Students should use the General Discussion board (accessible under all Modules) for all communication related to the course. This includes questions, comments, and requests for clarification. Please note, however, if the answer to a student question is to be found within the course web site, she will be returned to the site to continue to look for the answer to the question.

Students must put their names and PSYC 2306 on all emails.

Computer skills:

Students should be able to navigate the Internet and conduct required research, create word processing documents and navigate the course web site. Students must also be able to use email, attach files and use various features of Blackboard.

Specific Policies and Procedures:

Attendance Policy: students are required to attend class each week as well as check in to the course at least once each week. The course entry page is the Announcements page. Students should also check their OC email accounts and the General Discussion Board at least 1 time each week. You should read all posts there.

If you have any specific questions, please feel free to email me as I check those regularly throughout the day and unless there are extenuating circumstances or it is the weekend, I will respond to you within 24 hours.

Do not use a texting style of communication/writing ("c u"; "ur") in group discussion nor in Writing Assignments. This is a college class, and academic writing is expected.

Late Submission Policy:

Late work is not accepted except under special circumstances. Acceptance of late work is up to the **instructor's discretion**. **If you feel you have** a unique situation/circumstance that prohibits your meeting a deadline, you should communicate it to me privately via email. Students are strongly encouraged to communicate any problems to the instructor in a timely manner.

Incomplete Policy:

A grade of "Incomplete" may be given only if (1) the student has passed all work completed, and (2) he/she has completed a minimum of 75% of the required coursework. A grade of "I" will only be assigned when the conditions for completions have been discussed and agreed upon by the instructor and the student. A contract between student and instructor must be signed.

Statement of Academic Dishonesty:

Ethics, Cheating and Plagiarism "Using someone else's ideas or phrasing and representing those ideas or phrasing as our own, either on purpose or through carelessness, is a serious offense known as plagiarism. "Ideas or phrasing" includes written or spoken material, of course, from whole papers and paragraphs to sentences, and, indeed, phrases. but it also includes statistics, lab results, art work, etc. "Someone else" can mean a professional source, such as a published writer or critic in a book, magazine, encyclopedia, or journal; an electronic resource such as material we discover on the World Wide Web; another student at our school or anywhere else; a paper-writing "service" (online or otherwise), which offers to sell written papers for a fee." (statement taken from <http://webster.commnet.edu/mla/plagiarism.shtml>)

I do not tolerate cheating in any form. If you plagiarize an essay or cheat on an exam once, that assignment will receive a "0." If you plagiarize or cheat the second time, you will receive an "F" in the course.

Cutting and pasting any information from any Internet source is considered cyberplagiarism and will result on a 0 for the first offense and an F in the course for any subsequent offenses.

See the section on "Scholastic Dishonesty" in the updated Odessa College *Student Handbook*.

See: <http://www.riosalado.edu/library/tutorials/Pages/avoidingPlagiarism.aspx> for plagiarism and citation information.

Statement of Special Accommodations:

In accordance with federal and state laws and regulations, Odessa College does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the recruitment and admission of students, the employment of faculty and staff, and the operation of any of its programs and activities. Students with a disability should contact *ADA Accommodation/Support personnel*/Becky Rivera-Weiss @ 432-335-6861 or brivera@odessa.edu

Student Support/Success Coaches:

The Odessa College Student Success Coaches will help you stay focused and on track to complete your educational goals. If an instructor sees that you might need additional

help or success coaching, he or she may submit a Retention Alert or a Starfish Alert. A Student Success Coach will contact you to work toward a solution.

Preparation for Computer Emergencies

Computer Crash

Not having a working computer or a crashed computer during the semester will NOT be considered as an acceptable reason for not completing course activities at a scheduled time. NOTE: Identify a second computer that you can use when/if your personal computer crashes.

Server problems

When the Blackboard server needs downtime for maintenance, the Blackboard administrator will post an announcement in your course informing the time and the date. If the server experiences unforeseen problems your course instructor will send an email.

Complete Loss of Contact

If you lose contact with me completely (i.e. you cannot contact me via Blackboard or email), you need to call me at 432-352-3773, and explain the reason you cannot contact me and leave me a way to contact you.

Lost/Corrupt/Disappeared files

You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external disk or personal computer. In the event of any kind of failure (e.g., Blackboard server crash or virus infection, students own computer crashes, loss of files in cyberspace, etc) or any contradictions/problems, I may/will request you to resubmit the files. In other words, if you submit a document to me, and I either do not receive it (lost in cyberspace) or it is corrupted when I open it, it is incumbent upon you to resend it to me, corrected, with **little or no “downtime” in regard to the timeline for submission.**

Computer and System Requirements:

Please see <https://www.odessa.edu/OCGlobal/blackboard/requirements.htm>

Email: Students enrolled in Odessa College must use an Odessa College email address. Please go to <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>