Human Sexuality

PSY153.003

Spring 2016

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Class Meets: T-Th 12:30 -1:45 ED 263

Office Hours: T-TH 2:00 – 3:30, M & W 11:00 – 12:00


Course Description: Human sexuality is the psychology of sexual behavior as related to social conduct.

Program Learning Outcomes: This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for this major are addressed in this course.

General Education Core Curriculum Objectives/Outcomes:

Exemplary Education Outcomes (EEOs) Objective: Outcome:

1. To employ the appropriate methods, technologies, and data that social and behavior scientists use to investigate the human condition. Students should be familiar with and able to recognize different research methods and their strengths and weaknesses. These methods may include the following: case studies, naturalistic observation, surveys, correlational research and experiments.

3. To use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories. Students should be able to discuss how major principles and theories can be applied to real life situations. Students should also be able to describe the application of theory to the major areas of psychological study.
Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):

By the end of this course, students with a passing grade should be able to…

1. identify the various influences on sexuality.
2. articulate how sex research is conducted and how the research can be used to inform public policy regarding human sexuality.
3. demonstrate knowledge in key areas of human sexuality, including sexual anatomy and functioning, sexually transmitted infections, typical and atypical sexual behaviors, and reproductive options.
4. make informed decisions about their own sexuality.

Grading Policy: The final grade is averaged from the four exam grades. Students who complete the extra credit option will also have those ten percentage points averaged in as well.
A = 89.5-100 B = 79.5-89.4 C = 69.5-79.4 D = 59.5-69.4 F = 59.4 and below
This grade breakdown is final. Please do not request a change in grade.

Make Up Policy: There will be no makeup exams. The only exception to this rule is for students who have a formal (in writing) university excused absence. This means you must present an excuse that is university approved. (e.g. from the dean’s office).
If a student misses an exam due to illness or personal emergency, that student’s final grade will be averaged from three exams only if the student provides documentation to support the reason for the absence. If a student misses more than one exam, the final grade will be an F.

All exams will be online. Students can access the exams on the scheduled exam dates, on D2L. There will be four multiple choice exams of fifty questions. Students will be allotted fifty minutes to take each exam. All exams are closed-book!
**Attendance Policy:** Students are required to attend class. Failure to do so places students at risk for falling behind, and prevents them from obtaining relevant information discussed in class.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1):** Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)** Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities:** To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

**Acceptable Student Behavior:** Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.
A Word of Warning:

This course relies, in part, on the use of explicit visual teaching aids such as PowerPoint slides and video clips. Every effort is made to present those materials in a mature and scientific manner. A person who would be offended by frank discussions and/or visual portrayals of human sexual anatomy or behavior is not a good candidate for this class.

Civility in the Classroom:

This class involves sensitive topics. You should help to make the classroom a safe place to discuss opinions by presenting your own ideas in a mature way and by being open-minded and nonjudgmental while listening to others’ opinions. Threatening or violent behavior will not be tolerated and will result in your permanent removal from the class. Also, long, detailed personal stories are discouraged.

Classroom Behavior:

Please refrain from talking to your neighbor or making excessive noise during class. Although the material might be interesting, having side conversations with your neighbor is distracting to others around you. If you cannot keep quiet while Ms. Brotzen is speaking then you will be asked to leave class.

Course Calendar/Exam Schedule:

Exam dates occasionally change. I will announce these changes in class and post a message on D2L. Regular class attendance is helpful in keeping abreast of any potential changes in the exam schedule. Not knowing an exam date was changed is not an adequate reason to request a make-up exam. All exams will be taken online.

Exam # 1: Chapter 1 – Why a Course in Human Sexuality, Chapter 2 – Our Sexual reproductive Anatomy, Chapter 4 – Similarities and Differences in Our Sexual Responses (Tuesday, February 16th)

Exam # 2: Chapter 5 – Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Chapter 6 – Birth Control, Chapter 7 – Pregnancy and Childbirth (Thursday, March 10th)

Exam # 3: Chapter 8 – Becoming a Woman/Becoming a Man: Gender, Chapter 9 – Sexual Orientation, 14 Paraphilias and Sexual Variants (Thursday, April 14th)

Exam # 4: Chapter 10 Life-Span Sexual Development, Chapter 13 Sexual Problems and Therapy, Chapter, Chapter 15 – Sexual Victimization: Rape, Coercion, Harassment, and Abuse of Children (Monday, May 9th – Wednesday, May 11th)

Extra Credit Option: Students enrolled in the 100-level psychology classes are expected to earn research credits by participating in psychological studies. Students who earn ten research points will be awarded ten percentage points added to an exam grade NOT their final grade.

Students must set up a Sona account at http:sfasu.sona-systems.com to obtain access to the research opportunities.