

Human Development 345
Human Sexuality – 3 Credits
Fall 2009

Instructor: James M. White, Ph.D.

Time:

Sec. 001 - Tuesday and Thursday 11:00am-12:20pm

Sec. 002 - Tuesday and Thursday 12:30pm-1:50pm

Office: MAC C331

Office Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 9:45am-10:45am

And by appointment

Room: MAC111

Office Phone: 465-2782

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Course Description:

This is a course about human sexuality. It is not a health course, nor is it group therapy. This is a course in which we treat sexuality as a legitimate object of scholarly study. We will review the history of sex scholarship, and examine the state of it today from many different angles, using a variety of lenses. The overarching theme of the course is this: sex sits at the intersection of biology, psychology, and culture. Every sexual topic we can think of has these three components, and we cannot understand any sexual topic without exploring all three. However, I am not a biologist, and this is not primarily a biology class. There are wonderful courses offered on campus that focus on the biology of reproduction. If that is what you are interested in, I would be happy to direct you to those courses. In this class, we will focus much more on the psychological and sociocultural aspects of sexuality. It should be noted that this course, is by its nature sexually explicit.

Sex can be an emotional issue. We are almost certain to talk about something that makes just about everyone uncomfortable at one point or another. None of us know which issue will be hurtful or distressing or discommoding to anyone else, so we need to be especially careful in the way we word our opinions and beliefs, to ensure we will insult no one. If a subject or a comment becomes too distressing for you, please let me know as soon as possible, but remember that no one is trying to insult or hurt you, and that this course is about talking about things that are normally avoided in our culture.

Course Objectives:

This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of:

1. How human sexuality is studied, today and in the past.
2. How both sex itself and the study of it have changed over time in response to broader cultural changes.
3. How biology, psychology and culture affect the ways in which we categorize and thus conceptualize acts, body parts, and people.
4. How sexuality changes over the life course
5. How sex is practiced, and how these practices change over time.
6. How and why sex sometimes occurs in the context of violence.
7. How sex and sexuality are big business, with positive and negative effects for those involved in it.

By the end of the course, students will be able to answer questions about and explain facts and concepts from this list. However, finding definitive answers is not the primary goal this semester; my main objective for you is that you will improve your ability to ask better questions.

Essential Questions:

- To what extent is sex natural? Psychological? Cultural?
- How do these three things intertwine and affect one another?
- How much of our personal beliefs, attitudes and desires are shaped by others?
- Is there a way to objectively define what is “appropriate,” “right,” “good,” or “healthy” in regards to sexual feelings and practices?

- How do our labels, definitions and categories shape:
 - What we find appealing?
 - What we consider acceptable?
 - How we treat people?
 - How we feel about ourselves?
 - What we do?
- How can we improve our research techniques, add to the body of scholarship, sharpen our thinking about sexual matters?

Required Texts:

Gregor, Thomas

1985 *Anxious Pleasures: The Sexual Lives of an Amazonian People.* Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Hock, Roger R. (editor)

2008 *Insights in Human Sexuality.* Boston: Pearson Custom Publishing.

Middleton, DeWight R.

2002 *Exotics and Erotics: Human Cultural and Sexual Diversity.* Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press, Inc.

There will be additional readings placed on D2L for you; these are required readings!

Evaluation:

The grading for this course will be based on the following:

Midterm Exam	50 points	A	100 – 93 %	Excellent
Final Exam	75 points	A/B	92 - 88%	Very Good
Research Reports	75 points	B	87 – 83 %	Good
Discussion and Assignments		B/C	82 – 78%	Above Average
	Up to 100 points	C	77 – 73 %	Average
		D	72 – 68 %	Poor
<hr/>		F	67 – 0 %	Unacceptable in
TOTAL	300 points			quality or quantity

The grades A, B, C, etc. are assigned on the basis of an average of all course assignment points earned, according to the scale above. Students should recognize that very good work is not “A” work; average work is not “B” work, and poor work is not “C” work.

Points will be distributed in this way:

Midterm Exam:

The Midterm Exam will consist of objective (multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank) questions. Students will be required to incorporate knowledge and insights from readings, videos, lectures and class discussions in response to questions. The exam will contain 50 questions, each worth one point for possible total of 50 points.

Final Exam:

The Final Exam will consist of objective (multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank) questions. Students will be required to incorporate knowledge and insights from readings, videos, lectures and class discussions in response to questions. The final exam will be cumulative, in that it will contain questions that draw on material presented throughout the entire course. The exam will contain 75 questions, each worth one point for possible total of 75 points.

Research Reports:

This is going to be fun! Each week, as we think and talk about materials presented in lectures, readings and videos, we will generate a list of questions or things about which we would like to know more. Three times during the semester, students will select a question/issue about which they would like to know more. Then each student will spend some time in the library attempting to find answers or information about those

questions/issues. Students will fill out a form and answer some questions about the research they did and what they found (approx. 2-3 pages each). Reports will be due in the appropriate Dropbox on D2L on the days and times listed in the Course Outline and will be worth 25 points each.

Discussion and Assignments:

Generally, Tuesday and the first part of Thursday each week will be devoted to lecture and discussion of lecture. The second part of Thursday will be devoted to discussion of the week's reading with reference to the week's lecture. Associated with the discussions will be up to ten (10) assignments, each worth up to ten (10) points. If we have all ten of the discussion assignments, it will be possible to earn up to 100 points. If we have less than ten (10) assignments over the course of the semester, the final grade will be adjusted accordingly. These assignments could include, but are not limited to, quizzes, written summaries of group discussions, answers to individual essay questions, and instructor evaluation of the quality and quantity of student participation in class discussions.

Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism (including knowingly allowing someone to cheat or plagiarize from you) are defined in Chapter 14 of the University of Wisconsin System Policies and Procedures guidelines, which can be found at http://www.uwgb.edu/deanofstudents/policies_procedures/studetns/pdfs/uws014.pdf. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the rules and to ensure that they do not break them. To guard against cheating, note that during exams cell phones must not be visible; if I can see or hear your cell phone you will receive an automatic failing grade on the exam. People do get caught. These are serious crimes and will not be tolerated. Engaging in either of these activities will result in A MINIMUM of failing the course with no option to retake it. Recommendation will also be made by the instructor that those found guilty receive the fullest punishment possible, up to and including expulsion from the university.

Disability Notice

Consistent with the federal law and the policies of the University of Wisconsin, it is the policy of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay to provide appropriate and necessary accommodations to students with documented physical and learning disabilities. If you anticipate requiring any auxiliary aids or services, you should contact the instructor or the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities at 465-2671 as soon as possible to discuss your needs and arrange for the provision of services.

Withdrawal/Incomplete Policy

Official withdrawal from the class is required by the registrar to avoid a failing grade. I will not withdraw you automatically simply because you quit attending class. The Schedule of Classes lists the date that a student may withdraw from a class at their discretion without a W and the date that they may withdraw at their discretion but receive a W on their transcript for the course. After that date students may withdraw with a grade of W only at the instructor's discretion. **The instructor will only consider requests to withdraw if there are clearly mitigating circumstances, not simply because the student has skipped classes or is failing.** A grade of I or incomplete may be obtained in the course at my discretion only if a majority of work as been completed and there are mitigating circumstances prohibiting the student from completing the course.

Course Outline

This is a list of daily lecture topics, important dates for the course and the required reading schedule. The schedule is subject to some alteration; follow the instructor's classroom announcements closely. Students are responsible for completing the listed readings before the start of class on the day the readings are listed.

Topics

Readings

Unit 1: Foundations

Week 1 (9/3)

Introduction, Definitions, History of Sexuality

Hock self-test; Walling; Furlow & Thornhill; Kesling; Middleton Ch. 1

Week 2 (9/8 & 9/10) History of Sexuality, Sexual Practices	Apostolides; deSilva; Wise; Middleton Ch. 2 & 4
Week 3 (9/15 & 9/17) Sexual Practices, Introduction of Gregor	Gregor Intro. & Ch. 1
Week 4 (9/22 & 9/24) Studying Human Sexuality, History, Research Methods	Bullough; Cotton; Gregor Ch.2 & 3
Week 5 (9/29 & 10/1) Research Methods and Ethics in Research	Brandt; Donnelly <i>et al</i> ; Gregor Ch.4 & 5
<u>Unit 2: Categorizing and Representing Sex</u>	
Week 6 (10/6 & 10/8) <i>Research Report 1 due Saturday the 10th at 10am</i> Homosexuality and Other Representations/categories	Fausto-Sterling; Chase; Boswell (D2L); Rosenbluth; Johnson <i>et al</i> ; Saunders; Sanders and Reinisch; Alavi
Week 7 (10/13 & 10/15) Finish material and prepare for Midterm	
<u>Unit 3: Sexuality Over the Lifecourse</u>	
Week 8 (10/20 & 10/22) <i>Midterm on Tuesday</i> Infancy and Childhood	Zoske; Friedrich <i>et al</i> ; Simonds; Middleton Ch. 3
Week 9 (10/27 & 10/29) <i>Research Report 2 due Saturday the 31st at 10am</i> Childhood and Adolescence	Bernstein; Clark; Dan and Monagle; Moore; Gregor Ch. 6-7
Week 10 (11/3 & 11/5) Adulthood and Old Age	Gourevitch; Bulcroft & O'Conner-Roden; Gregor Interlude; Middleton Ch. 5
<u>Unit 4: Sex and Violence</u>	
Week 11 (11/10 & 11/12) Sexual Harassment and Child Abuse Incest and Rape	Grauerholz & King; Russell; Ryan and Kanjorski; Faubert & McEwan
Week 12 (11/17 & 11/19) Rape Rare or Rape Prone Mehinaku and Fraternities	Sanday (D2L); Gregor Ch. 8-10
<u>Unit 5: Sex and Money</u>	
Week 13 (11/24) <i>Research Report 3 due Wednesday the 25th at 5pm</i> Sex Industries	Gregor Ch. 11; Middleton Ch. 6; Murphy (D2L)
Week 14 (12/1 & 12/3) Sex Industries	Bullough & Bullough; Gil; Rio; Rich (D2L)
Week 15 (12/8 & 12/10) Finish material and prepare for Final	
Final Exam	
Sec. 001 – Tuesday, Dec. 15 th at 10:30am-12:30pm	
Sec. 002 - Thursday, Dec. 17 th at 10:30am-12:30pm	