

Human Development 345-001, 002
Human Sexuality – 3 Credits
Spring 2012

Instructor: Jill White, Ph.D.
Office: MAC C323
Office Hours: TW 9-12
And by appointment

Time: In-class on five M & W, 5:15-8:15pm
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Course Description:

This is a course about human sexuality. In it we will 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. 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 we will use the expertise of the professor and stress the latter two foci more than the first. It should be noted that this course, is by its nature sexually explicit.

UWGB General Education Learning Outcomes

Have the ability to communicate effectively through listening, speaking, reading, writing, and use of computers.

Have the ability to think critically.

Have a fundamental understanding of the Social Sciences, including the impact that social institutions and values have on individuals and groups in a culture.

Have a fundamental understanding of the causes and effects of stereotyping and racism, and an appreciation of cultural diversity within the United States.

Human Development Learning Outcomes

Primary

Conceptualize the field in terms of the complexity or reciprocal biopsychosocial interactions.

Understand the basic principles of research designs from the variety of relevant disciplines.

Understand and be able to apply key components of cultural diversity.

Secondary

Learn to evaluate alternative approaches to promoting optimal human development.

Have the ability to critically assess the merits of basic and applied research.

Understand the ethical issues involved in research.

Develop an understanding of the ways in which historical periods influence human development.

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:

King, Bruce M.

2011 *Human Sexuality Today*. 7th Ed. Pearson Publishing. New York, NY.

There is an additional electronic component to this text which is **required**.

What You Need to Enroll in your Instructor’s Online Course

- ✓ **A Course ID:** _____white08912_____ (Your instructor will give you this.)
- ✓ **A valid email address that you check regularly**
This address will be used to confirm your registration and for other communication about the course. Your instructor will also use this email address to communicate with you.
- ✓ **A student access code** (Or, you can pay with a credit card or a PayPal account.)
This pre-paid code is printed inside the Student Access Code Card. The code card may be packaged with your new textbook or it may be available for purchase separately from your school’s bookstore.

To Register and Sign in to Your Instructor’s Course the First Time

- Go to www.pearsonmylab.com
- Click **Student** under Register.
- Enter your Course ID and click **Continue**.

Evaluation:

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

			A	100	93 %	Excellent
Forum Posts & Replies	130 points	(22.5%)	A/B	92 -	88%	Very Good
Weekly Quizzes	130 points	(22.5%)	B	87	83 %	Good
Midterm	100 points	(17%)	B/C	82	78%	Above Average
Final	125 points	(21%)	C	77	73 %	Average
In-Class Assignments	50 points	(8.5%)	D	72	68 %	Poor

Online Assignments	50 points	(8.5%)	F	67	0 %	Unacceptable in
TOTAL	585 points	(100%)				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.

Additional Information

1. Teaching Philosophy

You should know a little about where I am coming from. You will learn about my training and my disciplinary background. But here are a few things I believe about teaching:

- Students are not empty heads into which I, the instructor, pour information.
- Learning is not passive; students will only learn by engaging and being active.
- Students must bring their own energy and desire to learn to this work.
- The final outcome will be a new way of thinking, not just memorization of lessons.
- The text is a resource, not “received Truth.”

2. Teaching and Learning Strategies:

As a hybrid this course presents unique challenges for all of us. We will use lecture, discussion, and video in order to explore our topic, along with group and individual assignments. Much of your work will take place outside of our in-class meetings. My goal as an instructor is to provide you with the tools to strengthen your ability to think holistically and contextually, and to improve your critical thinking skills. Doing so much work outside of class does mean that you are responsible for your own education. Doing the reading, thinking about it, and participating in discussion are the ways in which you take ownership. To help motivate you to do that, those components are built into the evaluation for the course.

3. Attendance and Participation: When all of you are present, more ideas and opinions will be expressed, which will make for more interesting and helpful discussions. Attendance at the five in-person meetings is therefore an essential component of the course. You will also need to be “present” on-line, by checking the home page of D2L for course announcements, following directions to read additional lectures when they are posted, taking weekly quizzes and sharing your thoughts and understandings in your weekly discussion forum. Participation is more than simply showing up. Borderline final grades will be determined based on my subjective evaluation of your performance in these categories. To do well you must demonstrate that you have read the material by being able to ask and answer questions, engage in respectful discussions with me and your classmates, and give the outward appearance of being engaged in the material.

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.

4. Quizzes: You will note that this is one of the largest grading categories. However, it is also very easy to earn points here. Students must take a quiz on the reading assigned for the week. Quizzes are on MyDevLab. There will be 10 questions worth one point each every week. Quizzes MUST be taken by Friday evening of the week the reading is due. For example, in week three, the assigned reading is King, chapters two. The quiz covering that chapter will be available from Sunday at 6 am through Friday at 11:00 pm.

5. **Connection Forum Posts:** Each week you will need to create one post (5pts) in your group discussion forum about the text(s), lectures and any other materials. In order to receive credit, your post must be original (so you need to read what your group mates have posted first) and must reflect a knowledge of the assigned material. **You must also post a reply to one other person's post (5pts).** It is my hope that you will find the forums very useful for asking one another questions and assisting each other to deeper understanding. Discussions will open on Sunday mornings at 6 am, and students will receive credit for initial posts that are received through Wednesday at 11pm. Students have until Sunday at 11pm to make replies to other students' posts.
6. When we get together in person, we will have activities that help us digest what we are learning. Sometimes these will be individual writing assignments; for example, I might ask you to respond to a piece that we read the week before, or to connect a lecture point with a reading. At other times you will work in small groups to discuss and respond to various prompts. Assignments are usually worth 5 points each.

7. Exams

Exams will consist of objective (multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank) questions. They will be available for a period of three days (see the syllabus Course Outline), during which you can decide when to take them. Once you decide to take the exam, the exam will remain open for only one hour. **YOU ONLY HAVE ONE TRY; NO SECOND ATTEMPTS.** Obviously, you will have access to your books and notes, but as the exam is timed, you will need to know the material to make relatively rapid choices about how to answer questions. Students will be required to incorporate knowledge and insights from readings, 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.

D2L

We will rely a great deal on the two sets of software D2L and MyDevelopmentLab. You will need to check both of them regularly, as I will use them to post class announcements, and you will be able to view the syllabus, check your grade, ask questions, chat with fellow students, and view links to other sources. You can access D2L through the UWGB home page (<http://www.uwgb.edu>), by clicking on the Current Students link, and then selecting D2L. Your username and password are the same as for all computer access on campus.

Use d2l for checking your grade, discussion posts and replies

Use MyDevelopmentLab for taking quizzes, pre and post tests, study aids, lectures, assignments, videos, links, and chatting

Make-up Assignments and Classes

Because we only meet five times this semester, it is essential that you be in class on the scheduled days. If there is an emergency (such as a winter storm) that requires a class cancellation, we will reschedule class the following week, and students will be expected to do all they can to attend the make-up session. If a student must miss class for an emergency they must document the emergency and present the documentation to the instructor immediately in order to avoid failing the assignments missed and/or the course.

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.

Academic Integrity:

The highest ethical standards are expected in class. You are expected to conduct yourself not only in an ethical manner, but also as professional, mature individuals. Any form of disrespect, whether it is among students or between students and faculty will not be tolerated. Any determined or suspected dishonesty will result in a “0” for the assignment and will be referred to the University for disciplinary action. *Cheating includes both receiving and giving answers or help to questions on individual assignments when students are expected to be working alone.* Also, it is unethical to ask for any unfair advantage in grading, such as:

- Tell the instructor that you "need" a certain grade (you must earn it)
- Request extra assignments for the purpose of raising your grade
- Ask that the grade be raised because it is very close to the next higher grade
- Ask that the grade be raised because you did well on one part of the course
- Request a higher grade because you don't like the grading scheme
- Ask to turn in an assignment late – even a few minutes late
- Ask to be treated better than other students by making an exception to these rules
- Plagiarize any of your work. The following lists the penalties for plagiarism at UWGB:

[HTTP://WWW.UWGB.EDU/DEANOFSTUDENTS/POLICIES_PROCEEDURES/STUDENTS/PD/FS/UWS014.PDF](http://www.uwgb.edu/deanofstudents/policies_procedures/students/pd/fs/uws014.pdf)

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.

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

Week One (1/23-1/25)

Meet in Person

Intro to course and the study of human sexuality

King Chap. 1

Unit 1: Foundations

Definitions, Studying Human Sexuality, Methodology

Week Two (1/30 - 2/1)

History and Culture in Sexuality

King Chap. 1

Week Three (2/6 -2/8)

Unit 2: Anatomy and Physiology of Sex

King Chap 2

Week Four (2/13-2/15) Meet in Person

Hormones & Chemistry

King Chap 3

Week Five (2/20-2/22)

Sexual Response

King Chap 4

Week Six (2/27-2/29)

STIs and STDs

King Chap 5

Week Seven (3/5-3/7) Meet in Person

Unit 3: Sexuality Over the Life Course

Sex, Gender and Gender Roles

King Chap 8

Midterm Exam Available March 8 at 6 am thru March 10 at 11:59 pm

Week Eight (3/12-3/14)

Spring Break

Week Nine (3/19-3/21)

Sexual Orientation

King Chap 9

Week Ten (3/26-3/28) Meet in Person

Lifespan Development

King 10

Week Eleven (4/2-4/4)

Unit 4: Sexual Practices

Adult Sexual Behavior & Attitudes

King 11 & 12

Week Twelve (4/9-4/11)

Sexual Problems

King 13

Week Thirteen (4/16-4/18) Meet in Person

Paraphilias

King 14

Week Fourteen (4/23-4/25)

Unit 5: Sex and Violence

King 15

Week Fifteen (4/30-5/2)

Unit 6: Sex and Money

Wrap Up and Review

King 16

Final Exam Available May 5, 6 am thru May 9, 11:59 pm