

**PSY/WGS 316 The Psychology of Human Intimacy and Sexuality  
Fall 2021**

**Tue / Thurs 11:30 – 12:45 Lake Huron Hall 103**

**Instructor:** Luke Galen, Ph.D.

**Office:** 2220 ASH

**Office Hours:** Tues/ Thurs: 9:15 – 9:45 a.m.; 3:45 – 4:15 p.m.

**Online hours via Bb collaborate** Mon/ Wed 4:00 – 4:30 p.m. or email to schedule virtual apt.

**Phone:** 331-2904

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**Course Catalogue Description:** “A comparative analysis of sexual practices, reproductive strategies, and intimate relationships using competing viewpoints (e.g., cultural psychology and evolutionary psychology). Topics will include the biological and social contributions to gender identity, attraction, dating, cohabiting and marriage; sexual orientation, factors in relationship stability and divorce; sexual deviations and the social control of sexuality and reproduction.”

**Course Objectives:** Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

Objective 1: Demonstrate factual knowledge of psychological science, methodology, and research in the study of intimacy and sexuality.

Objective 2: Explain the different interpretations of the origins and function of relationships and sexual behavior; especially a contrast of the evolutionary/ biological, and social views.

Objective 3: Demonstrate awareness of cultural/ social differences in sexuality.

Objective 4: Explain the underlying similarity in the sexuality (physiology, psychology and behavior) of all humans.

**Text:** Rathus, S.A., Nevid, J.S., & Fichner-Rathus, L. (2018) *Human Sexuality in a World of Diversity* (10<sup>th</sup> ed.) Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon. ISBN-13: 9780135255117

**How to link to Revel:**

1. Go to: <https://console.pearson.com/enrollment/itl/pod>
2. Sign in to your Pearson Account or create one.
3. Redeem your access code or purchase instant access online. (Temporary access option for financial aid is also available.)

**Other readings:** Handouts and course blackboard.

**Class Format:** In- class Lecture/Discussion

**Prerequisites:** PSY 101

**Grading:** Grades will be based on 2 in-class exams and 10 quiz/ assignments. The exams will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions drawn from lecture and the book. The final exam is **non-cumulative**.

	<u>Points</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Exam I (midterm)	75	37.5%
Exam II (Final)	75	37.5%
Quiz/ Ass. (12 total, drop 2)=10 x 5	50	25%
Total	200 points	100%

**Attendance:** Attendance will not be graded (and may be moved to all online), but quizzes and exams will contain a significant amount of content that will be covered **only from class notes (i.e., not in the text)**. This means that poor attendance or failure to keep up with posted notes will likely result in poor performance on the tests. Students should read the assigned chapters **before** they are scheduled to be covered in class.

**Assignments and Quizzes:** There will be 12 class assignments or low stakes quizzes taken in class throughout the semester (i.e., about once a week). They will not be announced ahead of time and cannot be made up. The student may drop the lowest 2. They will cover the reading material and inclass slides and are specifically designed so that the student keeps up on the reading, to help them remember what we covered in class. Each quiz is worth 5 points. They are also important because they are similar to the material used on the exams. Since the student can drop the lowest 2, missed quizzes cannot be made up. Out of fairness to your fellow students, **please do not email me with requests to make up quizzes.**

**Make up assignments/ exams:** If you miss the quiz or exam deadline, this will result in total loss of points. Missed assignments due to what the university defines as legitimate or emergency situations (illnesses, death in the family, university activities) will require appropriate documentation. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor **ahead of time.**

**Extra Credit:** There will be opportunities for extra credit throughout the semester, although these will be limited in point value (less than 4 points). There is a standing offer of an extra credit point for correcting factual errors in material while showing outstanding initiative (e.g., looking up articles independently to correct errors).

**General University Policies:** <http://www.gvsu.edu/coursepolicies/>.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any evidence of cheating (e.g., using notes during exam, looking at another student's answers), or plagiarism (copying portions of the paper from other sources) will result in a failing grade in the course and any other actions as allowed by GVSU policy.

**Class Courtesy:** Please be on time and turn off cell phones and devices. Social media and internet activity is a distraction for you as well as those seated around you. A respectful and friendly atmosphere in the classroom is important for all of us. Please limit your private comments and conversations with those around you to either before or after class. Talking should be limited to comments shared with the entire class rather than with only a subgroup seated next to you. Respect classmates by listening to them as you would have them listen to you.

**Disabilities:** If you have a disability, it is up to you to determine if you wish to disclose that information and request classroom accommodations. If you wish to request educational accommodations due to a disability, you should register with the Disability Support Resources (4015 JHZ; 331-2490), if you haven't already done so. If you wish to request accommodations, please meet with me privately (e.g., during office hours) to discuss how to best meet your educational needs. This should occur early in the semester rather than later (e.g., after failing a test).

## **Tentative Class Schedule:**

<b><u>Week</u></b>	<b><u>Topic</u></b>	<b><u>Reading</u></b>
Wk 1 Aug 31 Sep 2	Perspectives on sexuality: history. Major paradigms: biological, evolutionary, socio-cultural.	Ch. 1
<b>Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> , 5:00 p.m. Last day for credit/ no credit</b>		
Wk 2 Sep 7 9	Major paradigms Research: Sampling, correlations, experimental	Ev Psych: Levay ch. on BB Ch. 1
Wk 3: Sep 14 16	Response and arousal	Ch. 7
Wk 4 Sep 21 23	Gender i.d. and intersex	Ch. 4
<b>Sept 24<sup>th</sup> 5:00 p.m. (Friday) 5:00pm drop deadline</b> for 75% tuition refund.		
Wk 5 Sep 28 30	Trans, non-binary, & 3 <sup>rd</sup> gender	ch. 4, Russo: trans kids
Wk 6 Oct 5 7	Sexual orientation Gay parents and reorientation: Regnerus vs. Van Geldern; Spitzer.	Ch. 5
Wk 7 Oct 12 14	Phys. Attraction & relationships, love,	ch. 6
Wk 8 Oct 19	Relationships, matching	1 <sup>st</sup> ½ ch. 8
<b>Wk 8 Midterm exam: Thurs Oct 21st</b>		
Wk 9 Oct 26 28	Online dating jealousy, breakups	1 <sup>st</sup> ½ ch. 8
Wk 10 Nov 2 4	Sexuality in adulthood	Ch. 11 (2 <sup>nd</sup> half)
<b>Last day to withdraw (grade of 'W'): Oct 29th, 5:00</b>		
Wk 11 Nov 9 11	Childhood and adolescence Readings: Red/Blue sex; Sex ed: Bruckner & Bearman	Ch. 11 (1 <sup>st</sup> half)
Wk 12 Nov 16 18	Sexual problems/ dysfunctions	Ch. 12
Wk 13 Nov 23	Pornography	Ch 16 (2 <sup>nd</sup> half)
<b>No class Thurs Nov 26<sup>th</sup> thanksgiving break</b>		
Wk 14 Nov 30 Dec 2	Atypical sexual variations	Ch. 14
Wk 15 Dec 7 9	Sexual coercion	Ch. 15

**Scheduled Final time: Tuesday, December 15, 10:00 am - 11:50 am.**

**Human Intimacy and Sexuality (PSY/ WGS 316)**

Fall 2021

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Year in School, Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for taking this course (Psych major elective, WGS major, general elective):

Previous coursework in psychology or related coursework (gender theme), related experience (e.g., clinical internships, volunteer), or interesting info:

Any particular topics you want to see covered in addition to, or related to those on the syllabus?