

PSY/WGS 316 The Psychology of Human Intimacy and Sexuality
Winter 2017

TR 11:30 – 12:45 ASH 1310

Instructor: Luke Galen, Ph.D.

Office: 2220 ASH

Office Hours: Mon- 10-11:00, and by appointment.

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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: Students will gain: 1) knowledge of psychological science, methodology, and research in the study of intimacy and sexuality; 2) knowledge of different interpretations of the origins and function of relationships and sexual behavior; especially a contrast of the evolutionary/ biological, and social views; 3) an awareness of cultural and social differences in intimacy and sexuality; and 4) knowledge of underlying similarity in the sexuality (physiology, psychology and behavior) of all humans.

Text: Rathus, S.A., Nevid, J.S., & Fichner-Rathus, L. (2014) *Human Sexuality in a World of Diversity* (9th ed.) Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon. **Note: there is also a 3-hole punch version and an e-textbook version of the text.**

Optional: Study guide. And www.mypsychkit.com.

Other readings: Handouts and course blackboard.

Class Format: Lecture/Discussion.

Prerequisites: PSY 101

Grading: Grades will be based on 3 in-class exams and 10 quiz/ assignments. The 3 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	35	17%
Exam II	45	23%
Exam III (Final)	70	35%
Quiz/ Ass. (12 total, drop 2)=10 x 5	50	25%
Total	200 points	100%

Attendance: Attendance will not be monitored (due to the size of the class). However, all exams will contain a significant amount of content that will be covered **only in lecture (i.e., not in the text)**. This means that poor attendance will likely result in poor performance on the tests. Students should read the assigned chapters **before** they are scheduled to be covered in class. Also, since there are 12 quiz/ assignments, poor attendance will reduce points due to missed quizzes. If you have an absence, you should try to get notes from a classmate, but you it is your responsibility to check with the instructor to see if you missed any handouts or special instructions.

Assignments and Quizzes: There will be 12 class assignments or quizzes throughout the semester. They will not be announced ahead of time, and as such, cannot be made up. The student may drop the lowest 2. They will cover the reading material and lecture and are specifically designed so that the student keeps up in the reading and attends lecture. Each assignment or quiz is worth 5 points. They are also important because some of the material on the quizzes will be used on the exams. Quizzes are usually done in the first 5 minutes of class. **To prevent students from walking in late and getting the answers to the quizzes, no quizzes will be given to late-comers, and the blank quizzes will be discarded after the class. Since the student can drop the lowest 2, no questions asked, missed quizzes cannot be made up. In the case of a take-home assignment and the student was absent during class, that will count as one of their drops.**

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.

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).

Make up assignments/ exams: Any absence on a due date will result in total loss of points. Missed assignments due to emergency situations (illnesses, death in the family) will **require appropriate documentation**. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor.

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).

Tentative Class Schedule:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
Jan 10 12	Perspectives on sexuality: history. Major paradigms: biological, evolutionary, socio-cultural.	Ch. 1 pgs: 1-29
Jan 17	Major paradigms	BB Handout on Ev Psych.
Jan 19	Research: Sampling, correlations, experimental	Ch. 2 31-53
Jan 24 26	Sexual arousal and response	Ch. 5 Pgs. 123 – 151

First exam: Tues Jan 31st

Feb 2 (Thurs) 7 (tues)	Gender i.d. and intersex	Ch. 6 153-160; 169-183
Feb 9 (thurs) 14 (tue)	Transgender, non-binary, & 3 rd gender	161-168
Feb 16 (thurs) 21 (tue)	Sexual orientation Readings gay families: Regnerus vs. Van Geldern	Ch. 10 259-289
Feb 23 (thurs)	Phys. attraction	Pgs. 185 - 193

Feb 28th (Tues) Exam 2

Mar 2	Attraction & relationships	193-195
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Spring Break March 6-10 Last day to withdraw (grade of 'W'): Mar 10, 5:00

March 14 (Tue)	breaking up/ jealousy 219-229, online dating 210-215, love 198-207	
Mar 16 (Thurs) Mar 21 (Tue)	Sexuality in adulthood	Ch. 14 400-425
Mar 23 (thurs) 28 (Tue)	Childhood and adolescence Readings: Red/Blue sex; Sex ed: Bruckner & Bearman	Ch. 13 373-397
Mar 30 (thurs) Apr 4 (tue)	Sexual dysfunctions	Ch. 15 435- 467
Apr 6 (Thurs) 11 (tue)	Atypical sexual variations	Ch. 17 505- 531
Apr 13 (thurs)	Pornography	581-591
Apr 18 20	Sexual coercion	Ch. 18 533-565

Final: Section A: Wed April 26th, 12:00-1:50

Human Intimacy and Sexuality (PSY/ WGS 316)

Winter 2017

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?