Human Sexuality

PSY153.002

Fall 2017

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Department: Psychology

Class Meets: ED 263  T-Th 2:00 – 3:15 PM

Office Hours:  (M & W 2:30-4:00)  (T & TH 11:30-12:30)

Text and Materials: Human Sexuality Today, 8th Edition: Bruce M. King

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.
5. To analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on the area under study. Students should be able to identify and appreciate the possible influences of some or all of those factors listed above on the behavior and experience of individuals.

8. To differentiate and analyze historical evidence (documentary and statistical) and differing points of view. Students show an appreciation for the role descriptive and inferential statistics play in psychological research.

9. To recognize and apply reasonable criteria for the acceptability of historical evidence and social research. Students will develop an ability to think critically about claims people make and the issues in the discipline.

12. To identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures. Students will develop an appreciation of the differences and similarities in behavior and experience as it relates to culture.

**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.

\[ A = 89.5-100 \quad B = 79.5-89.4 \quad C = 69.5-79.4 \quad D = 59.5-69.4 \quad F = 59.4 \text{ and below} \]

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: (Thursday, 09/21/17)

Chapters: (Why a Course in Human Sexuality), (Our Sexual reproductive Anatomy), & (Similarities and Differences in Our Sexual Responses)

Exam # 2: (Thursday, 10/19/17)

Chapters: (Sexually Transmitted Infections & Sexually Related Diseases), (Birth Control), & (Pregnancy and Childbirth)

Exam # 3: (Tuesday, 11/14/17)

Chapters: (Gender Identity & Gender Roles), (Sexual Orientation), & (Paraphilias and Sexual Variants)
Exam # 4: Will open on Monday, 12/11/17, and close on Wednesday, 12/13/17.

**Chapters:** (Love & relationships), (Sexual Problems and Therapy), & (Sexual Victimization: Rape, Coercion, Harassment, and Abuse of Children)

**R Points Requirements:** Students in 100-level psychology courses are expected to earn 12 research points (R-Points) by participating in psychological studies or completing a comparable alternative assignment. The purpose of this requirement is to allow students the opportunity to participate in and learn about real research to help them better understand theories and principles described in class. Students should sign up for research participation R-Points through the Department of Psychology’s SONA Software (http://sfasu.sonasystems.com). Participants earn 1 R-point every 30 minutes of participation. Students who have an objection to participating in psychological research or who will not turn 18 before the end of the semester may opt to complete the alternative assignment to fulfill their R-point requirement.

**Some important notes about research participation:**

1. **There are two deadlines for R-points.** Six (6) R-points will be due by the end of the seventh week of class. An additional six (6) R-points will be due by the end of the last week of classes (i.e., “dead week”).

2. For each of the two R-point deadlines, **students are encouraged to try to obtain at least half of their R-points from in-person (also called lab) studies.** The remaining R-points can be earned by completing online studies.

3. It is essential that you sign up only for studies for which you are eligible (if it says ‘psychology majors only’ but you are a physics major, you are NOT eligible). There are a variety of studies from which to choose. Pick ones that you are interested in and that fit your schedule.

4. It is not acceptable to miss class due to participation in a study.

5. If you sign up for a study, you are expected to attend that study. If you’d like to cancel, please do so online at least 24 hours in advance.