

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

HEAL 325 Human Sexuality (3)
Section 5P2
Fall 2010

DAY/TIME: T 7:20- 10:00 PM LOCATION: Robinson Hall A101
PROFESSOR: Diana Karczmarczyk, EMAIL ADDRESS dkarczma@gmu.edu
MPH
PHONE NUMBER: (provided in class)
OFFICE HOURS: Available by appointment

PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Covers biological, behavioral, and sociocultural factors in human sexual behavior.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Develop a solid basic understanding of biological, social, and psychological components of their human sexuality.
2. Form and express educated attitudes and viewpoints on several aspects of human sexuality through the interpretation of readings,
3. Form and express rational and responsible decisions concerning their human sexuality and development.
4. Write and discuss the value of human sexuality education with professional teachers as well as the community.

WARNING:

This course relies, in part, on the use of explicit visual teaching aids such as slides, films and video clips. These materials may portray nudity, masturbation, and examples of sexual behavior. 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 behavior may not a good candidate for this class.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to a college classroom. Any student whose behavior is inappropriate or destructive to the learning environment will be asked to leave the class.

CLASSROOM POLICIES:

- Please be on time to class. If you need to come in late- please do so quietly as to not disrupt others. It is expected that you attend all classes. Failure to attend may result in missed points that may result in a lower course grade.
- This class has a Blackboard component. It is important that you check Blackboard for important announcements, grades and to access the midterm and final exam.
- Weather related announcements for class will be posted on the Blackboard page and emailed (if possible) through Blackboard. It may be helpful to forward your Blackboard email to an account you frequently check.
- Be an active participant- listen, ask questions, and share ideas. It is your participation that will help to make this class more valuable. Sleeping in class is not a form of participation and you will be asked to leave.
- Please create a safe environment for people to openly communicate.

- Respect that each person is entitled to their own belief system.
- Complete all assignments on time. All written assignments are due at the beginning of class. Work may be emailed, submitted in Blackboard or turned in at the start of class. Late assignments will be accepted with points deducted for each day the assignment is late. If you miss class on a day when an assignment is due, please note that the assignment **MUST** be received by the Instructor via email prior to the start of class or points will be deducted.
- Type, spell check and proofread all papers. All papers must be typed with a font size of 12 points and a margin of 1 inch. All work must be double-spaced. Papers that are turned in that are not typed will receive a deduction in points.
- All work in this class must be your own. Use appropriate citation in work that is referenced.
- You may bring food and drink items to class, but please take all trash with you at the end of the class and dispose of properly.
- Cell phones must be muted or turned off during class. You are not to answer any calls in class or send any text messages. Video recording of any lecture is only allowed with the approval of the Instructor. Pictures are only allowed with the approval of the Instructor. Audio recording of lectures is allowed.
- Laptops are allowed in class to take notes on the lectures. Playing computer games and checking Facebook are examples of not participating in class. These behaviors will not be tolerated. If having a laptop in class is a possible source of this type of distraction please reconsider bringing the laptop to class.
- Make the Instructor aware of any disabilities or extenuating circumstances that will inhibit you from learning and participating. Every effort will be made to help with valid concerns.
- To facilitate positive class discussions the class will discuss and agree on “ground rules” for the class discussions that will occur. These “ground rules” will be added to the syllabus and a complete syllabus will be provided to all students in week 2.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Crooks, Robert and Baur, Karla, *Our Sexuality*, 11th Edition. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Cengage Learning. 2011.

**Additional readings will be provided in class and/or on Blackboard

EVALUATION:

This course will be graded on a point system, with a total of 105 possible points. Students may earn up to 105 points, but the course will only be graded out of 100 points.

<u>Requirements</u>	<u>Points</u>
<i>Exams</i>	
# 1 Midterm- Multiple choice exam taken via Blackboard	30
# 2 Final Exam (not cumulative)- Multiple choice exam taken via Blackboard	30
<i>Assignments (3 total at 5 points each)</i>	15
<i>Movie Review (1 at up to 10 points)</i>	10
<i>In class reflections (5 at 3 points each)</i>	15
<i>Bonus Points (1 at up to 5 points)</i>	5

Grading Scale

A+ = 100

A = 94 – 99

B+ = 88 – 89

C+ = 78 – 79

D = 60 – 69

A- = 90 – 93

B = 84 – 87

C = 74 – 77

F = 0 – 59

B- = 80 – 83

C- = 70 – 73

Assignments: There will be 3 assignments due in the course. Details for each assignment will be provided throughout the course of the semester. Assignments will include reviewing internet sites, watching television clips and analyzing the content, and interviewing 2-3 people and analyzing the responses.

RUBRICS for ASSIGNMENTS:

0 Points = Assignment was not submitted, submitted more than 2 days after due date, assignment did not meet page length requirement and/or assignment did not answer the required questions provided in class and/or Blackboard

1 Point = Assignment was submitted 2 days after the due date, Assignment did not meet page length requirement and/or Assignment did not clearly answer the required questions provided in class and/or Blackboard

2 Points = Assignment was submitted 1 day after the due date and/or Assignment provided general response to the required questions but was lacking deep analysis and personal reflection

3-4 Points = Assignment was submitted on time and clearly answered the required questions with deep reflection based on classroom material, readings and class discussions, minor. Good writing style with minor mechanical, grammar or stylistic errors.

5 Points = Assignment was submitted on time and did an exemplary job at answering the required questions with deep reflection based on classroom material, readings and class discussions. Good writing style, free of mechanical or stylistic errors.

Movie Review: Throughout the textbook that is used in the course, there is at least one suggested movie/film in each chapter. Each student will be required to watch one of the films suggested throughout the textbook and submit a 3-4 page review analyzing the film and providing responses to the following questions. This review is a critical evaluation of the messages regarding sexuality and sex roles. It is NOT a summary of the movie.

1. BRIEFLY describe the movie's plot.
2. Describe the lead characters, focusing on physical and personality characteristics. Include a description of the values each character placed on sexuality.
3. How did the movie portray the leading female actors? Were there any sex-role stereotypes? If so, what were they? If not, how did these actors differ from the stereotypes?
4. How did the movie portray the leading male actors? Were there any sex-role stereotypes? If so, what were they? If not, how did these actors differ from the stereotypes?
5. In what ways were the lead characters similar to and different from any people you know in real life who hold the same occupational, social status, etc?
6. Do you think that the lead characters would make good parents? Why or why not?
7. What was the underlying moral and/or philosophical view depicted in this movie?
8. In what ways was the movie representative of American culture and society?
9. In what ways was the movie NOT representative of American culture and society?
10. Describe the audience in terms of sex, age, appearance, and responses to the movie (if applicable) or describe the intended audience, in your opinion, in terms of sex and age.
11. How might such a movie be used as a teaching example for this, or for future classes in human

sexuality.

RUBRICS for MOVIE REVIEW

Exemplary paper (9-10 points): Appropriate topic addressed from the film, thorough and thoughtful purpose and responses to required questions with appropriate citations as needed. Deep demonstration of analysis of content within the movie as it related to the class. Good writing style, free of mechanical or stylistic errors.

Adequate paper (8 -8.9 points): Good overall paper, lacking in one or two of the required questions for an exemplary paper. Not entirely reflective or thoughtful, or minor writing style errors may be present. Lacking some analysis of how the movie is related to the class.

Marginal paper (7-7.9 points): Overall, acceptable but with one or more significant problems. Contains some useful information, but may have substantial problems with evaluation, appropriate reflection, lacking required two or more required parts of the final paper, writing style unclear or inappropriate description of implementation of project. Lacking clear analysis of how the movie is related to the class.

Inadequate paper (6-6.9 points): Paper with substantial problems in important areas such as writing, procedures for evaluation of results, or overall thoughtfulness. Contains little or no information of value.

Unacceptable/no paper (0 -5.9 points): Paper with no value whatsoever relative to the assignment, or no paper turned in at all. May describe a film review of no value that was not approved for this assignment

In class reflection: Throughout the course there will be opportunities for written reflection. This is a way to share your feedback about the topics discussed and ask any remaining questions you may have. These are your thoughts! These reflections may occur in the middle of the class or at the end of class. These reflections are NOT scheduled and can occur at any time throughout the semester. There will NOT be opportunities to make-up these reflections so attendance is critical.

RUBRICS for IN CLASS REFLECTION (Attendance):

0= Student not present and/or did not complete in class activity

3= Student present in class and completed in class activity

* Note that there will NOT be any make-ups offered for these reflections.

Bonus Points: Students may work in pairs to each receive up to 5 additional points by developing a 60 second recorded commercial by the end of the semester. Commercials are due to the Instructor one week in advance and may be shown at any time during the course at the Instructor's discretion. The commercial must be educational, creative and provide correct information. Any persons in the video must have provided written permission to be recorded. The commercial should address the question of "Why should someone take the Human Sexuality class at George Mason?"

RUBRICS for BONUS POINTS

5 Points: This is an exemplary video/commercial that provides correct content to viewers. The commercial is mature and respects the thoughts and values of others. The commercial is no longer than 60 seconds and in a creative way answers the required question.

4 Points: This is a good commercial, but may be too short/vague to thoroughly provide an accurate answer to the required question. The commercial lacks some creativity. The commercial is no longer

than 60 seconds.

3-0 Points: The commercial not does adequately answer the required question in a mature, educational and creative manner. The commercial may be offense to others. The commercial provides incorrect information.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:

8/31 Intro to class, Review syllabus, Develop contact cards/class pictures

9/7 Chapter 1: Perspectives on Sexuality & Chapter 2: Sex Research: Methods and Problems,

9/14 Chapter 3: Female Sexual Anatomy and Physiology & Chapter 4: Male Sexual Anatomy and Physiology

9/21 Chapter 5: Gender issues & Chapter 6: Sexual Arousal and Response **Assignment # 1 is Due**

9/28 Chapter 7: Love and Communication in Intimate Relationships, **Assignment # 2 is Due**

10/5 Chapter 8: Sexual Behaviors

10/12 FALL BREAK! No Tuesday class!

10/19 **MIDTERM on Blackboard (taken online via Blackboard)**

10/26 Chapter 9: Sexual Orientation

11/2 Chapter 10: Contraception & Chapter 11: Conceiving Children: Process and Choice, **Assignment # 3 is Due**

11/9 Chapter 12: Sexuality during Childhood and Adolescence

11/16 Chapter 13: Sexuality and the Adult Years & Chapter 14: Sexual Difficulties and Solutions

11/23 Chapter 15: Sexually Transmitted Diseases, **Movie Review is Due**

11/30 Chapter 16: Atypical Sexual Behavior & Chapter 17: Sexual Coercion, **Bonus Points (Videos) are Due**

12/7 Chapter 18: Sex for Sale

12/14 **FINAL EXAM on Blackboard (taken online via Blackboard)**

Class format will consist of group discussions, lecture, film, guest speakers and class discussion.

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary.



- ❖ All students are held to the standards of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/apolicies/#Anchor12>]
- ❖ University policy states that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the professor
- ❖ Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and inform the instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See www.gmu.edu/student/drc]
- ❖ For additional School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism information, please visit the website at <http://rht.gmu.edu>