

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY  
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

HEAL 325—Health Aspects of Human Sexuality (3)  
Section 5P1  
Spring 2012

DAY/TIME:	M 7:20 – 10:00 p.m.	LOCATION:	ST1 #126
Instructor:	Michelle Parker, MBA	EMAIL ADDRESS:	Michparker35@yahoo.com
OFFICE LOCATION:	N/A	PHONE NUMBER:	240-434-6746
OFFICE HOURS:	By appointment	FAX NUMBER:	N/A

PREREQUISITES: None

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

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

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

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, lectures, guest speakers, and open discussion with peers.
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.

#### COURSE OVERVIEW

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

- Class attendance is required. Please arrive to class on time. If a student is unable to attend class please notify the instructor prior to absence via email. Failure to attend may result in missed points that may result in a lower course grade. Athletes who may need to miss classes for university approved games and travel must submit a schedule in writing to the Instructor to be excused.
- Class participation is a portion of your grade; students are expected to come to class prepared to participate in class discussion on assigned readings.
- Please turn all cellular devices off or mute them during class.
- Please be respectful of differing opinions, values and beliefs that will be discussed throughout this semester.
- Late assignments will not be accepted without prior written approval, and will be subject to grading penalty.

- This class has a REQUIRED Blackboard component. It is important that you check Blackboard for important announcements, assignments and to access the midterm and final exam.
- Weather related announcements for class will be posted on the Blackboard page and emailed through Blackboard. It may be helpful to forward your Blackboard email to an account you frequently check.
- 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 not in this format will receive a deduction in points. Grading rubrics for each assignment will be posted on Blackboard.
- All work in this class must be your own. Use appropriate citation in work that is referenced.

## NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY

Face to face course

## REQUIRED READINGS

Crooks, R. & Baur, K. (2011). *Our Sexuality (11<sup>th</sup> edition)*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Cengage Learning.

## EVALUATION

This course will be graded on a point system, with a total of 100 possible points.

	<b>Points</b>
<b>Requirements</b>	
Exam	
#1 Midterm- Multiple choice (30 question) exam taken on Blackboard	30
#2 Final Exam - Multiple choice (30 question) exam taken on Blackboard	30
<i>Assignment</i>	20
<i>Movie Review</i>	10
<i>Participation</i>	<u>10</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

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

**Movie Review:** 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 questions posted in Blackboard. This review is a critical evaluation of the messages regarding sexuality and sex roles. The review is NOT a summary of the movie.

**In class reflection:** Throughout the course there will be at least 2 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. The reflections will assist you with your participation in class.

## Grading Scale

A = 94 – 100	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	

## TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

DATE			TOPIC	READINGS/ASSIGNMENT DUE
M	January	23	Intro to class, Review syllabus	
M	January	30	Chapter 1: Perspectives on Sexuality & Chapter 2: Sex Research: Methods and Problems	
M	February	6	Chapter 3: Female Sexual Anatomy and Physiology & Chapter 4: Male Sexual Anatomy and Physiology	
M	February	13	Chapter 5: Gender issues & Chapter 6: Sexual Arousal and Response	<b>Assignment # 1 Due</b>
M	February	20	Chapter 7: Love and Communication in Intimate Relationships	
M	February	27	Chapter 8: Sexual Behaviors	
M	March	5	<b>MIDTERM on Blackboard (taken online on Blackboard)</b>	
M	March	12	No Class <b>Spring Break</b>	
M	March	19	Chapter 9: Sexual Orientation	
M	March	26	Chapter 10: Contraception & Chapter 11: Conceiving Children: Process and Choice	<b>Assignment # 2 Due</b>
M	April	2	Chapter 12: Sexuality during Childhood and Adolescence	
M	April	9	Chapter 13: Sexuality and the Adult Years & Chapter 14: Sexual Difficulties and Solutions	
M	April	16	Chapter 15: Sexually Transmitted Diseases	<b>Movie Review Due</b>
M	April	23	Chapter 16: Atypical Sexual Behavior & Chapter 17: Sexual Coercion	
M	April	30	Chapter 18: Sex for Sale	Last Class
M	May	14	<b>FINAL EXAM on Blackboard (taken online on Blackboard)</b>	

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

### *Student Expectations*

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode/>].
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See <http://ods.gmu.edu/>].
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/1301gen.html>].
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

### *Campus Resources*

- The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu/>].
- The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>].
- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism, please visit our website [See <http://rht.gmu.edu>].

CORE VALUES COMMITMENT: The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles.

