PSY 2311: Psychology of Human Sexuality

3 Credit hours

Instructor

Course Instructor: Rachel Farley
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Course Description

A psychological and physiological examination of human sexual experience from conception through old age. Current research findings serve as a basis for study. Major consideration is given to the human sexual system, sexual act, sexual attitudes and behavior, and sexual complications.

Course Goals

The goal of this course is to examine the complex interplay of psychological, sociocultural, and biological factors in the development and expression of sexual attitudes and behaviors. We will cover a wide variety of topics, including the major psychological theories of sexuality, patterns of sexual arousal and response, the development of gender and gender identity, variations in sexual orientation, attraction processes and romantic love, sexual dysfunctions and sex therapy, typical and atypical sexual behaviors, as well as the psychological effects of pornography. Every effort will be made to present the relevance and applicability of each course topic to your own life. By the end of the semester, you should have a greater understanding of your own and others' sexual functioning and practices. You should also develop an appreciation for different perspectives on sexuality, as well as improve your ability to communicate on this topic.
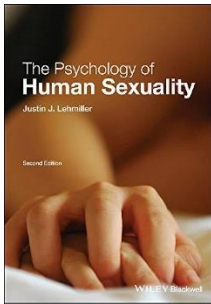
Course Objectives

After the completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a greater understanding of your own and other's sexual practices.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of differences in perspectives of sexuality.
3. Improved ability to communicate about the topic of human sexuality.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the function and purpose of human sexuality.
5. Identify your own set of sexual values.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of sexual health and practices to maintain sexual health.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of variations in sexual behaviors and their treatments.

Course Materials

The required textbook for this course is:

The Psychology of Human Sexuality, *2nd* edition, 2017
Authors: Justin J. Lehmiller
Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell
ISBN-13: 978-1119164715
ISBN-10: 1119164710

This textbook is available is an eBook format as well as a paperback format.

Assessments and Assignments

This course examines the psychology of human sexuality through readings, assignments, reflections, and activities designed to increase your understanding of the material. In addition to the required readings, the course consists of self-assessments and quizzes, written assignments and two exams: a midcourse and a final.

Please note:

- *You may complete no more than two lessons per week.*
- *You may not resubmit a written assignment after it has been graded.*

Self-Assessments: Self-assessments are objective assessments designed to help you gauge your readiness for the assignments and exams. *They are not required, but completing each of these will award you 1 additional point on your exam.* As soon as you submit a self-assessment, you should check your answers to determine which areas you may need to focus on further.

Quizzes: At the end of each lesson, you will submit a quiz with 15 multiple-choice questions worth 1 point each. Please complete your readings prior to taking the quiz to
Reflections: After completing the lesson and reviewing the material, you will reflect on the content you have reviewed thus far and answer the prompts.

Assignments and Mini Essays: Some lessons consist of matching, or drag and drop activities, and some lessons consist of a mini essay assignment. Instructions for these assignments and essays can be found in the rubrics for these assignments.

Sexual Values Paper: The course's final assignment before taking your final exam is the sexual values paper. This assignment asks you to reflect on what you have learned throughout the course and how it has impacted your sexual values.

Online Proctored Exams

You will take two exams for this course: a midcourse exam and a final exam. Both will be taken online and are proctored using Examity. Examity has the following system requirements:

- Chrome web browser
- Functioning webcam
- Functioning microphone
- Windows, MacOS, or ChromeOS

In addition to submitting all assignments, you must earn 60% or better on the final exam to pass the course.

Grading

Be sure to complete the *Course Pacing Guide* within two weeks of your course start date.
For all graded assignments, you students should submit assignments within the Canvas course site.

		Grade Scale	
Assignments: 7 @ 20 points each = 15% total		A	90% or better
Reflections: 6 @ 15 points each = 10% total		B	80% - 89%
Quizzes: 7 @ 15 points each = 15% total		C	70% - 79%
Midterm: 100 points = 25% total		D	60% - 69%
Final: 100 points = 25% total		F	Below 60%
Sexual Values Paper: 50 points = 10% total			

Communication Policy

All e-mail communication between instructor and student should use the Inbox tool in Canvas. The instructor will respond to student communications within 48 hours (excluding holidays and weekends).

Students Requiring Accommodation through the Office of Disability Services

Students who require special accommodations need to provide verification of their disability to the Office of Disability Services, Suite 5-5.1 LBJ Student Center, 512.245.3451 (voice/TTY). Students should then notify Online & Extended Programs at corrstudy@txstate.edu of any disability-related accommodation needs as soon as possible to avoid a delay in accommodations.

Texas State Honor Code

The Texas State Academic Honor Code applies to all Texas State students, including correspondence students. The Honor Code serves as an affirmation that the University demands the highest standard of integrity in all actions related to the academic community. As stated in the Texas State Student Handbook, Violation of the Honor Code includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.