

Human Sexuality

Sociology/Psychology 160

(4 credits, online instruction + discussion section)

This course examines the multi-faceted nature of sexuality and the human experience. Through the lens of social science, we will study sexuality as part of the social constructions and everyday lived experiences of individuals and groups. Our focus will be on topics such as bodies, attractions, arousal, culture and norms about sexual behaviors; the course will familiarize students with the diversity of sex and sexuality.

Learning Goals

- Discuss how society influences and develops people's sexuality and sexual identities and how people contribute and react to changing social notions of sex and sexuality.
- Analyze how and why sexuality is socially and culturally charged and taboo in some spaces; how this results in extensive social regulation.
- Understand sexual health research and everyday sexual wellbeing, including information about anatomy, contraception, abortion, sexually transmitted infections, and sexual functioning
- Use sociology and social psychology to consider how sexuality helps us comprehend society

Required Materials

- Course readings available on Canvas (no required textbook)
- One book (selected from list) for book report
- Netflix subscription/access for videos/documentaries (\$8.99 per month or free by trial)
- Video clips, podcasts, other media available on Canvas.

Accommodations & Accessibility

As an educator, I aim to make my courses accessible to all students, regardless of ability or previous educational experiences. Students with accommodations **must present their UW McBurney documentation to the instructor within two weeks of the first day of class.** Students may do so through the online McBurney portal. This helps me provide you with the best possible experience and make all necessary accommodations. Regardless of institutional recognition, I encourage all students to discuss with me any personal situations or emergencies during the semester that may affect their performance in the course.

Classroom & Inclusion Policy

Our classroom is a learning community in which individual perspectives are valuable. It is necessary for us to respect each other's growth trajectory and always remember to discuss and critique *ideas* and never *people* themselves. We are here to learn from and with each other and thus this class must be a brave space in which we share and engage with one another:

- Intentionality is important – what do you mean to convey? Choose words that demonstrate intentions
- Never assume what other individuals are thinking or what groups they represent
- Animosity or disrespect towards any student, teacher or guest speaker is unwelcome

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Spring 2021 – Online

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Sections Meet Online Live (Thursdays)

Assignments & Expectations

Grading Criteria	% of Grade	Details & Due Dates
Discussion Section - DIS 301: Thursdays 11:00-11:50 am - DIS 302: Thursdays 12:05-12:55 pm - DIS 303: Thursdays 1:20-2:10 pm - DIS 304: Thursdays 2:25-3:15 pm Participation grades are entered 3 times per semester (after each unit) out of 10 points.	20%	Attendance & Participation - Students must attend their section meeting on Thursdays each week with their teaching assistant Assessment review section meetings are optional (x3) - Meetings will take place via Zoom through Canvas - There are 25 students per section, please be ready to meet with your camera and microphone turned on - Each section meeting will have a theme (see the schedule) and students will be asked to engage with their section, answering questions and talking about the course material - Demonstrate engagement, don't be surfing the web or using your phone during section meetings. Minimize distractions.
Online Assessments *Online quizzes completed on Canvas. Open note and open book. Students must cite where their information came from (in parenthesis). Multiple choice, true/false, select all, short/essay questions. Students may NOT work together or with tutors, etc.	60%	First Assessment (20%) - Available on Canvas: Friday, February 26th @ 5:00 pm - Submission Due: Tuesday, March 2nd @ 5:00 pm Second Assessment (20%) - Available on Canvas: Friday, March 26th @ 5:00 pm - Submission Due: Tuesday, March 30th @ 5:00 pm Third Assessment (20%) - Available on Canvas: Friday, April 30th - Submission Due: Tuesday, May 4th @ 5:00 pm
Book Report (750-1200 words) Students will not be counted off for additional pages submitted. This is a minimum suggestion for word count – does not include title, citations, etc.	20%	Part A (2.5%) Due Friday, February 12th @ 5:00 pm - Complete questionnaire assignment about your chosen book on Canvas (book, author, format, etc.) Part B (2.5%) Due Friday, March 12th @ 5:00 pm - Complete questionnaire assignment on Canvas (chapter titles/contents, why you've chosen this book, preliminary insights, citation). Final Report (15%) Due Friday, April 9th @ 5:00 pm - Papers will be run through TurnItIn.com by instructor

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		• Students must read one book from the following list and write a report about the book with summaries of chapters, key themes, findings, etc. • Reports will be graded for thorough and clear writing, evidence of having read the book, organization. • Students are expected to write at least one paragraph of personal reflection about their thoughts on the book.
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Book Report Details

Book Options (choose one!)

1. *Sexual Citizens: A Landmark Study of Sex, Power, and Assault on Campus* by Jennifer S. Hirsch and Shamus Khan (2020) W. W. Norton.
2. *Sex Fiends, Perverts, and Pedophiles Understanding Sex Crime Police in America* by Chrysanthi S. Leon (2011) New York University Press.
3. *Boys and Sex: Young Men on Hookups, Love, Porn, Consent, and Navigating the New Masculinity* by Peggy Orenstein. (2020). HarperCollins
4. *Punishing Disease: HIV and the Criminalization of Sickness* by Trevor Hoppe (2018). University of California Press.
5. *Fearing the Black Body: The Racial Origins of Fatphobia* by Sabrina Strings (2019). NYU Press.
6. *Contesting Intersex: the Dubious Diagnosis* by Georgiann Davis (2015). New York University Press.
7. *Trans Kids: Being Gendered in the Twenty-First Century* by Tey Meadow. (2018) University of California Press.
8. *Legalizing Sex: Sexual Minorities, AIDS, and Citizenship in India* by Chaitanya Lakkimsetti (2020). New York University Press.

Paper Format

The format of each written assignment must adhere to the following guidelines:

- All text is double spaced, no additional spaces between paragraphs; headings are allowed
- Each new paragraph is indented
- 12-pt font in Times or Times New Roman
- 1-inch margins
- Quotations & evidence cited according to ASA style
 - <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/583/02/>

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Assessments

Even when I am teaching in-person, my assessments are online and open-note, open-book.

- Assessments open on Fridays by 5:00 pm and are due the following Tuesdays by 5:00 pm.
- They are not open to collaboration. You may not work with other students, friends, family, tutors, teachers, etc. Doing so constitutes academic dishonesty and misconduct.
- Assessments are **not** cumulative; they only cover the content of the previous 4-5 weeks.
- They take the form of multiple choice, true/false, select all that apply and short answer questions/essays.
- There is always a reflection question at the end.
- They are **not timed**. Once you have opened the assessment (“quiz” on Canvas), you can stop, start, and return to the assessment multiple times.
- Make sure to hit submit by the deadline! **The assessment will not automatically submit anything for you.**
- TA review sections prior to assessments are optional but recommended!
- Terms lists will be available for your guidance.

Grading Standards

The grading scale for the course is as follows:

- A = 93-100
- AB = 88-92
- B = 83-87
- BC = 77-82
- C = 70-76
- D = 60-69
- F = 59 or below.

****I only “bump” grades or round up a final semester grade if you are above the 0.5 mark AND you have excellent participation and attendance.**

More About Grades...

- Grades are returned **within 21 days** of receiving the assignment (thank you for your patience).
- You must wait 24-48 hours minimum before contacting your instructor or TA to contest a grade.
- If you want to contest a grade you earned on an assignment or assessment, you must write out which elements you disagree with on the rubric in your email to set up an appointment to discuss.

Late Policy

Due dates are not suggestions – they are deadlines. These dates make the course manageable for you and for your instructor. If you have an *emergency* that requires an extension, you must consult with me *before* the due date. Short of an emergency, to turn in a paper late, you must request permission 48 hours prior to the due date.

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For each day an assignment is late, your grade will be lowered 5%. Late assignments will not be accepted past one week following the due date and will thus receive an F or no points.

Sometimes life throws you a curve ball – please be in contact with me early on!

Academic Integrity

The Office of the Dean of Students defines academic misconduct to include, but is not limited to the following:

- Seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation (**plagiarism**)
- Uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise (using notes for a closed-book online exam)
- Forges or falsifies academic documents or records (**having a friend sign you in for attendance when you are absent**)
- Intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others
- Engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance (altering test answers and submitting the test for re-grading)
- Assists other students in any of these acts

In an effort to prevent academic dishonesty, **all written assignments will be run through Turnitin.com**. This service checks your assignment against all written assignments available online, in other courses and at other universities.

If you engage in academic misconduct or dishonestly, you are required to meet with the instructor of the course. The instructor reserves the right to penalize the student with the following sanctions, depending on the situation: (1) the assignment will be given a grade of zero, (2) the assignment will be given partial credit, (3) the student will re-do the assignment for partial credit, (4) the student will fail the course. Upon receiving penalties, student misconduct is recorded by the Office of the Dean. Students have the right to appeal the instructor's decision and meet before a panel to explain their conduct.

Online Orientation

How the Course Will Operate

Taking an online course can be exciting and satisfying for a multitude of reasons -- you'll be able to work at your own pace within the assignment windows of the class, you can carry on with your careers, care-taking responsibilities, etc., and you can feel a more relaxed atmosphere, bringing the classroom to you wherever you are. Each time you "connect" with our course, you will find new content, comments on your work, discussions ongoing through Canvas, exciting news and links and more.

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Learning online presents its own rewards and challenges. Due to its unusual availability, you may find that learning online does not easily fit in your schedule the way an in-person class might, because you are responsible for setting your own time to work on the course. It may be difficult to process all the information you receive, particularly if it all lands in your lap at once. It can also be disconcerting to express your opinions in text form without having a clear mental picture of who is "listening" to you, but please rest assured that we are here for you!

Instructor Contact

The best way to contact your instructors is via our emails. Please write your emails with a "hello" or some proper greeting and make sure to sign your name as you prefer to be called so we do not incorrectly default to the UW system name gives to you. Let us know how we can help you or why you are emailing.

- Make sure to include (1) your name, (2) what class you are taking and (3) section number if it is relevant to your email.
- If we do not respond to your email within 72 hours, please send a gentle "bump" reminder to put your email back at the front of our inbox.

Lectures/Instruction

Lectures

During each week, we will hold lecture Monday/Wednesday/Friday on Zoom (CST/Madison time) unless otherwise specified in the schedule or via Canvas. Lectures will all be recorded and will have PowerPoint slides recorded with them. Lectures may be attended/viewed synchronously or asynchronously.

- You can turn your video feature on or keep it off; you must keep your microphone off.
- Asking questions:
 - You can "raise your hand" to ask a question and I will call on you by name, then you can unmute and ask your question.
 - Questions and comments may also be sent through the chat feature.
 - All content must be appropriate and abide by the discussion standards set forth on the first page of this syllabus.
- The course is a blend of asynchronous and synchronous to meet the needs of all students.
- I will not take attendance or make sure you've watched the lectures. However, please note that I can see this information for all students.
- PowerPoint slides are not available as their own file.

Section

On Thursdays, during your scheduled section time, you will meet with your TA and your sections (live, synchronously) also through Zoom. There will be a recurring Zoom link for your sections. They will not be recorded.

- Please turn your video feature on, but must keep your microphone off until you are speaking
- Using headphones is requested.
- Asking questions:
 - You can "raise your hand" to ask a question and your TA will call on you by name, then you can unmute and ask your question/engage in discussion
 - Questions and comments may also be sent through the chat feature, but please minimize your use of this feature so that we can keep an ongoing discussion going.

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- All content must be appropriate and abide by the discussion standards set forth on the first page of this syllabus.
- **Section Attendance & Participation**
 - There are 14 section meetings during the semester.
 - 3 sections are review for assessments, optional (no attendance taken)
 - All students get 1 free pass for section attendance → dropped in May
 - You will be graded on 10 total sections for the semester for attendance/participation
 - You must arrive on time and stay for the whole section to receive full attendance points.
 - **How to boost participation points?**
 - Attend reviews sections, office hours, participate in discussion boards, be active during section meetings.

Schedule & Required Content

The best place to start is with "Modules" or click "Schedule & Modules" from the Canvas home page

- The course is divided into three "Parts" that serve as markers for the assessments
- Each page you see is grouped by "Week" starting with Week 1
- Inside these pages, you'll find a schedule for Monday-Friday
 - Each day, there is a topic/theme of the class that hones our focus for readings, lectures, etc.
 - Under each day, you'll see "Required Content" which refers to readings, videos and other homework that corresponds with the lecture of that day, just like an in-person class
 - Some days also have "Action Items/Assignments" under which you will see activities or assignment links and due dates.
- I do not do "reading checks" and I don't monitor when students open or click on links
 - However, please note that I can see this information...
- If you don't keep with the day-by-day schedule, that is okay, but I suggest that you do!
- I recommend that you complete all the work assigned within the week so that you do not fall behind.
- Assignment due dates are posted and work must be submitted by those dates.

Resources

- On our home Canvas page, I have a link to UW Madison Student Resources and to writing assistance linked to my academic website.
- You are all entitled to UW services at students enrolled in a UW Madison course – this includes library services, tech services and the writing center.
- I continually update this page and will do so through the semester.

Below you will find a grid of lectures, section meetings, and assignments for our course. All required reading, watching, listening, etc. will be available on Canvas in corresponding weekly modules. *Content is subject to change by your instructor or teaching assistant with adequate notice.*

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Course Schedule

Week	Date	Description, Lectures & Assignments
UNIT 1: SEXUALITY & SOCIETY		
1	Monday, January 25 th	Introduction to the Course Sexuality Overview & Intersectional Analyses
	Wednesday, January 27 th	Sex & Gender
	Thursday, January 28 th (Section)	Introductions, Why Sexuality? Sex & Gender Discussion
	Friday, January 29 th	The Sex/Sexuality System
2	Monday, February 1 st	Origins of “Sexuality”
	Wednesday, February 3 rd	Early Sexologists
	Thursday, February 4 th (Section)	Research Methods in Sexuality Challenges of Studying Sex
	Friday, February 5 th	Modern Sexuality
3	Monday, February 8 th	Socialization of Sexuality
	Wednesday, February 10 th	Compulsive Heterosexuality
	Thursday, February 11 th (Section)	Where Do We Learn About Sex? Agents of Socialization
	Friday, February 12 th	Media & Sexuality
		Book Report (Part A) due by 5:00 pm
4	Monday, February 15 th	Sex Education (Pt. I)
	Wednesday, February 17 th	Sex Education (Pt. II)
	Thursday, February 18 th (Section)	Sex Education – What Did You Learn?
	Friday, February 19 th	The Internet & Sex
5	Monday, February 22 nd	Pornography (Pt. I)
	Wednesday, February 24 th	Pornography (Pt. II)
	Thursday, February 25 th (Section) • <i>Optional; attendance not taken</i>	Assessment Review
	Friday, February 26 th	Questions from the anonymous questions box and also from the chat during lecture. Ask us about our research, our careers, etc.

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		Questions from this lecture will be on Assessment #1.
		Assessment #1 opens @ 5:00 pm
UNIT 2: BODIES & BEHAVIORS		
6	Monday, March 1 st	Attraction
		Assessment #1 due Tuesday, March 2nd by 5:00 pm
	Wednesday, March 3 rd	Arousal & Pleasure (Pt. I)
	Thursday, March 4 th (Section)	Orgasm Gap: Socialized Sexual Scripts
	Friday, March 5 th	Arousal & Pleasure (Pt. II)
7	Monday, March 8 th	Fatness & Sex
	Wednesday, March 10 th	Disability & Sexuality
	Thursday, March 11 th (Section)	Sexual Surrogacy & Disability Bodies, Beauty & Sexual Scripts
	Friday, March 12 th	Intersex Intimacy
		Book Report (Part B) due by 5:00 pm
8	Monday, March 15 th	Pregnancy
	Wednesday, March 17 th	Birth Control (Pt. I)
	Thursday, March 18 th (Section)	Male Birth Control?
	Friday, March 19 th	Birth Control (Pt. II)
9	Monday, March 22 nd	Abortion
	Wednesday, March 24 th	Sexually Transmitted Infections (Pt. I)
	Thursday, March 25 th (Section) • <i>Optional; attendance not taken</i>	Assessment Review
	Friday, March 26 th	Sexually Transmitted Infections (Pt. II)
		Assessment #2 opens @ 5:00 pm
UNIT 3: INSTITUTIONS & REGULATIONS		
10	Monday, March 29 th	Intimacy & Relationships (Pt. I)
		Assessment #2 due Tuesday, March 30th by 5:00 pm
	Wednesday, March 31 st	Intimacy & Relationships (Pt. II)
	Thursday, April 1 st (Section)	Hook-Up Culture
	Friday, April 2 nd NO UW CLASSES	NO LECTURE.
11	Monday, April 5 th	NO LECTURE.

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		○ Book Report Writing Day ○ Extra Office Hours Offered Today!
	Wednesday, April 7 th	Sexual Violence (Pt. I)
	Thursday, April 8 th (Section)	Power & Control Wheel; Health Relationships
	Friday, April 9 th	Sexual Violence (Pt. II)
		Final Book Report Due by 5:00 pm
12	Monday, April 12 th	Children & Sexuality (Pt. I)
	Wednesday, April 14 th	Children & Sexuality (Pt. II)
	Thursday, April 15 th (Section)	Children's Sexuality Rights, Parental Authority Rights
	Friday, April 16 th	Virginity
13	Monday, April 19 th	Fetishes & Kinks
	Wednesday, April 21 st	Sexual Disorders & Deviance (Pt. I)
	Thursday, April 22 nd (Section)	Sex Offender Registries, Sex Therapy
	Friday, April 23 rd	Sexual Disorders & Deviance (Pt. II)
14	Monday, April 26 th	Sexual Work (Pt. I)
	Wednesday, April 28 th	Sexual Work (Pt. II)
	Thursday, April 29 th (Section) • <i>Optional; attendance not taken</i>	Course Reflections, Assessment Review *Please complete course evaluations! *
	Friday, April 30 th LAST DAY OF CLASSES	The Future of Sexualities + Semester Recap
		Assessment #3 opens @ 5:00 pm
Assessment #3 due Tuesday, May 4th by 5:00 pm [No Final/Cumulative Exam]		