

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

HEAL 325—Health Aspects of Human Sexuality
Spring 2010

DAY/TIME:	T: 7:20 p.m.- 10:00 p.m.	LOCATION:	Fine Arts Building B110
PROFESSOR:	Christianne Johnson, MA, CHES	EMAIL ADDRESS:	
OFFICE LOCATION:	N/A	PHONE NUMBER:	617-785-0341
OFFICE HOURS:	By appointment only		

PREREQUISITES

None

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Covers biological, behavioral, and socio-cultural aspects of human sexual behavior.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Develop a solid basic understanding of biological, social, and psychological components of 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 human sexuality and development.
4. Write and discuss the value of human sexuality education with professional teachers as well as the community.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Crooks, Robert, Baur, Karla, *Our Sexuality*, 10th Edition, Redwood City California: Benjamin Cummings Publishing Co., Inc.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Additional short readings (i.e.: newspaper, blog, or magazine articles) may be assigned throughout the course. The instructor will provide these as handouts or they will be posted on blackboard.

COURSE OVERVIEW AND REQUIREMENTS

Ground Rules: One of the main goals of this class is to facilitate open and honest communication about sexuality. For this reason, students are encouraged to express themselves in class openly and honestly and add to discussions. Class members are free to express their personal opinions (especially in writing assignments) and perspectives. However, **hateful speech or expression of disgust will not be tolerated**. Among other things, this means: don't say "ew" when we're discussing something not to your liking or use derogatory language.

Class sessions will involve lecture, small and large group discussion and activities, and videos.

Exams: Each exam is composed of 50 multiple-choice questions. The tests will be based on the content of the text as organized and presented in classroom lecture, including material presented in class presentations, videos, readings and guest speakers. Each test will be graded 0-100 points (2 points per question). To best prepare for the tests, students should use their lecture notes to help focus their attention on important content. Exam questions will

measure students' abilities to identify/recall, differentiate, apply and analyze subject material.

Presentation: Students will form small groups of 3 or 4 and present on information found in part two of the text: *Biological Basis*. Each group will be assigned a portion of a chapter (chapters, 4, 5, and 6) to focus their presentation on. Presentations should be based on the group's interpretation of the text, but should also be expanded to include information from other sources. Presentations should be creative and include use of supplemental material, such as videos, skits, games, readings, group activities, discussions, etc. that will enhance group learning. Each presentation should be approximately 30 minutes. The presentation will be graded on accuracy of the information presented (10 points) and creativity (10 points). All group members are expected to participate equally in the preparation and presentation. Each student will complete an evaluation form for the other members of their group.

Papers: Both writing assignments (detailed below) are due in class OR can be emailed prior to the start of class. Papers emailed after the class in which they are due (even later that day) will be marked late. Late papers are marked down by 1 point each day they are late. All papers are graded on the thought put into them, as well as grammar and structure.

Sex in Pop Culture Response Paper: Students will complete a response or reaction paper on a subject of their choice related to the portrayal of sex in American popular culture. Examples of subjects include songs, movies, TV shows, newspaper, magazine, or scholarly articles, etc. Response papers are meant for you to reflect on and engage with what you are reading/viewing/hearing. A response paper is NOT a summary paper. Guidelines will be provided for the paper and will be graded 0-20 points based on how well the student follows the guidelines.

Psychosexual Paper: Students will complete a psychosexual development paper. Guidelines will be provided for the paper and will be graded 0-50 points based on how well the student follows the guidelines. The development paper requirement is based on cognitive, affective and psychomotor learning experiences and will reinforce the important subject material in the course.

Participation credit involves being in full attendance during each class day. However, if you are sick or unable to attend class for another reason, email the instructor prior to the class session. Students are expected to be actively involved in class activities and discussions. Participation is worth 10 points.

EVALUATION

This course will be graded on a point system, with a total of 300 possible points.

Requirements	Points
Exam	
1	100
2	100
Biological Basis Group Presentation	20
Sex in Pop Culture Response Paper	20
Psychosexual Development Paper	50
Participation	10
TOTAL	300

Grading Scale

A+ = 98 – 100	B+ = 88 – 89	C+ = 78 – 79	D = 60 – 69
A- = 94 – 97	B = 84 – 87	C = 74 – 77	F = Below 60
A- = 90 – 93	B- = 80 – 83	C- = 70 – 73	

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS/ASSIGNMENT DUE
January 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class introduction and overview 	
January 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 1 and 2 Form groups for presentations 	
February 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 3 Time to work in groups on presentations 	
February 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentations covering chapter 4 and 5 	Group 1 and Group 2 presentations (team evaluation forms due by end of class)
February 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentations covering chapter 6 Chapter 7 	Group 3 presentations (team evaluation forms due by end of class)
February 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 8 and 9 Review for Exam 1 	
March 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exam 1 (covering chapters 1-9) 	Exam 1
March 9	Spring Break: No Class	
March 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 10 	
March 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 11 	Response paper topic due (topic and related information must be submitted to instructor by the end of class)
April 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 12 and 13 	
April 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 14 and 16 	Response paper due at beginning of class
April 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 15 	
April 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 17 and 18 Review for Exam 2 	
May 4	Reading Day (no class)	Psychosexual development paper due (must be submitted to instructor via email by 5 p.m.)
May 11	Exam 2 (covering chapters 10-18))	Exam 2

Note: Class schedule is tentative and is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.



- ❖ All students are held to the standards of the George Mason University Honor Code
- ❖ 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 Office of Disability Services (ODS) 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>