

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY  
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

HEAL 325 - Health Aspects: Human Sexuality  
Section 5P3  
FALL 2012

DAY/TIME:	Wednesday 4:30 – 7:10pm	LOCATION:	Nguyen Engineering Building 1109
INSTRUCTOR:	Kyle Lafferty MST, MPH, CHES	EMAIL ADDRESS:	klaffert@gmu.edu
OFFICE HOURS:	By Appointment	PHONE NUMBER:	215-704-7837

Prerequisites: None

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

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

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

Course Overview/ Class 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 (All absences will result in a loss of points)
- 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. Laptops, iPads, Tablets, iPhones, etc. are not to be used during class (anything with an on/off switch should be off – just like on an airplane)
- 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

Nature of Course Delivery:

- Course content will be delivered face to face during class time. Participation in class is essential to student success in this course.
- See tentative course schedule below for classes that will be held in an alternative format

Required Readings:

- Crooks, Robert / Baur, Karla, Our Sexuality, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition, Belmont, California: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning c. 2008
- Hatred in the Hallways, Human Rights Watch 2001, (download PDF at <http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2001/05/01/hatred-hallways> ) **OR**
- Gold, Mitchell & Drucker, Mindy, (Eds.). (2008). Crisis: 40 Stories Revealing the Personal, Social, and Religious Pain and Trauma of Growing Up Gay in America. Austin, TX: Greenleaf Book Group Press.
- Any additional readings will be provided in class and/or on Blackboard (Please check regularly)
- Video: <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-2020029531334253002>

Evaluation:

This course will be graded on a point system, with a total of 200 points. Class participation will be worth 15 pts.

Written Assignments:

- *Sexual Messages Response Paper (1-2 pgs) – 15pts.*
- *Field Trip Response (1pg) – 10pts*
- *LGBTQ Policy Brief (3-4 pgs.) – 20pts.*
- *Technology Resource bibliography (1 pg template) – 5pts.*
- *Tumblr Post and Response (1-2 paragraphs) – 10pts.*
- *Final Assignment Options: Lesson Plans (3), OR Sexual Taboos Research paper – 25pts*
- *Final Exam – 100pts*

Grading Scale:

A = 188-200  
A- = 180-189  
B+ = 176-179  
B = 168-175  
B- = 160-167  
C+ = 156-159  
C = 148-155  
C- = 140-147  
D = 120-139  
F = 0-119

Tentative Course Schedule:

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

Class #1 – August 29<sup>th</sup>

- Intro to Class /Review Syllabus/ Expectations / Ground Rules / What is a Sexually Healthy Adult?
- *Explanation of Written Assignments*

Class #2 – September 5<sup>th</sup>

- Chapter 1 – Circles of Sexuality / What are the key messages?
- *Assignment due - Sexual Messages (1-2 pgs)*

Class #3 – September 12<sup>th</sup>

- Chapter 3, 4 & 6: Anatomy & Sexual Response
- <http://www.plannedparenthood.org/teen-talk/watch/am-normal-behind-fig-leaf-26794.htm>

Class #4 – September 19<sup>th</sup>

- Chapter 12 & 13: Sexuality throughout the lifespan
- *Field Trip Assignment Due*

Class #5 – September 26<sup>th</sup>

- Chapter 10: Contraception / Fun with Condoms
- *Tumblr Post w/ Comments Due*

Class # 6 – October 3<sup>rd</sup>

- Chapter 9: Sexual Orientation, Sexual Identity, and Sexual Behavior

Class #7 – October 10<sup>th</sup>


- Chapter 5 & Hatred in the Hallways, *Human Rights Watch: LGBTQQIA*
- <http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2001/05/01/hatred-hallways>
- *LGBTQ Policy Brief (3-4 pgs.) Due*

Class #8 – October 17<sup>th</sup>


- Chapter 7 & 8: Let's talk about Sex... Communication
- *Technology assignment due*

Class #9 – October 24<sup>th</sup>

- Chapter 11 Conceiving Children: Options, Choices, Definitions

Class #10 – October 31<sup>st</sup> (Happy Halloween!) 

- The Medicalization of Sexuality
- Circumcision Debate

Class #11 – November 7<sup>th</sup> – (Instructor in labor) 

- Guest Speaker:  
**Becky Griesse**, MPH, CHES  
National Coalition of STD Directors (NCSO)
- Chapter 15: STD's, STI's what's the diff? Risk Spectrum

Class #12 – November 14<sup>th</sup> – (Bedsider.org)

- Guest Speakers:  
**Christine Church**, Director of Marketing  
**Stefanie Boltz**, Manager of Youth Initiatives  
**Lisa Shuger**, Director of Policy  
The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy

**\*Class – November 21<sup>st</sup> – Class Cancelled** (Thanksgiving Break) 

Class #13 – November 28<sup>th</sup>

- Guest Speaker:  
**Sarah Axelson**, MSW, Management Analyst/Project Officer,  
Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program  
Division of Adolescent Development and Support  
Family and Youth Services Bureau  
Administration for Children and Families  
Department of Health and Human Services
- *Final Assignment Due (via email)*

Class #14 – December 5<sup>th</sup> Final Class

- Evaluations
- *Final Exam*

### *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.

