Please see the course schedule for assignment due dates, and exam dates.

One of the basic tenets (and requirements) of the course is that everybody be both open-minded and respectful of one another’s ideas and that we be non-judgmental while maintaining intellectual rigor. We assume that LGBTQ identities and issues are an important area of study. Regardless of any personal opinions held by professor or class members, we will not engage in the debate over whether they are “right” or “wrong”. Enrolling in this course means you will abide by these statements.

Software Required for this Class
The University supports Microsoft Word. University computers are not able to read documents created in WordPerfect. If you are creating documents on WordPerfect, it may be helpful to save them in Rich Text Format, but this is not always successful and formatting is often not preserved- grades may be lowered for incorrect formatting on written assignments.

Course Description
This is an introductory course to marriage and family, including psychological, physiological, and social aspects of close personal relationships. The topics include dating, courtship, marriage, family life, dual career marriages, single parenting, and other contemporary issues. This is an approved General Education course.

Pathway Description
Gender and Sexuality Studies, is a pathway focused on the exploration of diversity and the development of critical thinking. Few of us are aware of just how complex and fascinating gender and sexuality actually are. Sexuality includes all aspects of our sexual desires, behaviors, and identities. This could include whom we are attracted to and why, what excites us, what we choose to do about that, and anything to do with biological reproduction. Gender, on the other hand, has more to do with social and cultural expectations, and we are bombarded by messages about gender everywhere-from our families, at our schools, and in the media for example. There are many stereotypes and assumptions about gender and sexuality, so we investigate related scientific, intellectual, and creative work. We come to understand how sexuality and gender are related to practically every academic major, profession, and aspect of life. We learn about the significance of promoting gender and sexuality for all people, including those who don’t fit neatly into the mainstream gender and sexuality identities of our culture, for example LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning). Finally, in this pathway we can become more comfortable and sensitive working with a broad spectrum of people, thereby becoming more successful in our diverse world.
Course Objectives

1. To introduce student knowledge about historical and theoretical perspectives of marriage and family relationships, including issues of human rights and personal responsibility related to human rights.
2. To increase student understanding of the variations in marriage and family relationships, including issues of composition, age, culture, gender, sexuality, and function.
3. To increase student knowledge about the dating process and other issues concerning intimate relationships including issues of composition, age, culture, gender, sexuality, and function.
4. To increase student awareness of the physiological, psychological, and social contributions of intimate relationships in marriage and the family.
5. To help the student make informed decisions in his/her own life regarding marriage and family issues, including aspects of personal identity, gender expression, family, religion, and profession.
6. To facilitate student appreciation of and respect for various paired relationships and family lifestyles in cultures across the globe.

Gender and Sexuality Studies Pathway SLOs covered by this course

Upon completion of this Pathway, students will be able to:

1. Identify, understand and discuss (orally and in written form) various theories, perspectives and methods of studying gender and sexuality. This SLO is assessed through exams.
2. Recognize and describe historical and current human rights movements that relate to issues of gender and sexuality. This SLO is assessed through exams and assignments.
3. Apply knowledge of complexity of sexuality and gender in order to make informed decisions in all areas of daily life, including personal identity, gender expression, relationships, family, religion, profession, politics, recreation, and enjoyment of the arts. This SLO is assessed through assignments.
4. Comprehend and respect the diversity of sexualities, gender expression, and gender performance in cultures and cultural expression across the globe. This SLO is assessed through exams and assignments.

General Education SLOs

The GE Program promotes student learning and engagement with academic course content conducive to developing intellectual and practical skills. This course addresses the following GE student learning objectives (SLOs).

Critical Thinking: Identifies issues and problems raised in written texts, visual media and other forms of discourse, and assesses the relevance, adequacy and credibility of arguments and evidence used in reaching conclusions. In this course, you will analyze, synthesize, and evaluate perspectives of gender and sexuality, including social, cultural, cognitive, and biological perspectives. Critical thinking will be assessed through assignments.

Personal and Social Responsibility: Demonstrates knowledge and skills necessary to take responsibility for one’s own life and actions, and to recognize opportunities and responsibilities to become engaged in our various local, regional, national, and international communities. This SLO will be assessed through assignments.

Diversity: Diversity within families and partnerships is an underpinning of the course. Within all course assignments, activities, and discussions, attention to the wide range of practices and ideas about families and partnerships will be represented. Diversity will be a component the exams and assignments.
**Student Responsibilities**

1. Students are responsible for attending class. If a student misses a class, it is the student’s responsibility to determine what needs to be done to keep up with the class and make up missed work.

2. Students are responsible for knowing the content of the syllabus and the course schedule.

3. Students are responsible for knowing university policies regarding plagiarism. Students are expected to turn in *original work that was completed independently* unless otherwise indicated in individual assignment instructions (group work).

4. Students are responsible for following the instructions set forth in the assignment and for submitting assignments by the due date. If you anticipate computer problems in submitting an assignment in Blackboard, make sure to submit before the student computing help desk closes, so they can help you in the event of a problem. Students are responsible for contacting student computing in the event that you experience technical difficulty. This contact information is on the BbLearn course page. *Write this number down and keep it near your computer in the event that you can’t access Bb Learn. I can not solve your computer problems.*

5. Students are responsible for being aware of announcements and emails that the instructor sends to you. You should check Bb Learn for announcements and emails on a daily basis, Monday through Friday, and once on the weekend.

6. Students are responsible for submitting assignments in the format designated by the university. The university supports MS Word, and assignments will be given to you in that format. If your computer does not support this format, then you can submit in .rtf. *Do not submit documents in .wps. This format is not supported by the university and submissions in this format will not be graded. These submissions will receive a “0.”*

7. Students are responsible for being able to navigate Bb Learn to the extent that is required in this course.

8. Students are responsible for managing the circumstances of their lives. Do not ask for special accommodations other than due to illness (with a Drs note).

**Instructor Responsibilities**

1. The instructor is responsible for answering your questions in a timely manner. Most emails and phone calls during the week will be answered in 48 hours. Emails and phone calls over the weekend may take up to 72 hours.

2. The instructor is responsible for being available during office hours.

3. The instructor is responsible for creating a positive learning environment. I will make every effort to create an atmosphere conducive to student engagement. This includes my interaction with you and student-to-student interaction.

4. The instructor is responsible for providing correction to student work that is conducive to student improvement, and for providing such feedback in a timely manner.

5. The instructor is responsible for giving instruction regarding the course content and how student work is to be submitted.

6. The instructor is responsible for answering specific questions regarding assignments; therefore, the instructor will *not* proofread or edit any portion of your assignments for you. The instructor is *not* responsible for giving instruction regarding spelling, semantics, grammar and syntax. In other words, *do not* ask the instructor to “read over” parts of your assignments.

**Class Structure**

Course material will be housed within the Chico State Connection Portal- Bb Learn section. Adobe Reader can be downloaded from [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com). There are known conflicts with the AOL access and the University’s programs, students who use AOL to access their accounts need to be aware of these difficulties.
Disability Services at the Accessibility Resource Center (ARC)
If you have a documented disability that may require reasonable accommodation, please contact ARC for coordination of your academic accommodations. They can be reached at 898-5959. Students who require accommodations for testing or for turning in assignments should see me personally at the beginning of the semester so that arrangements can be made. More information about their services can be found at http://www.csuchico.edu/arc

Instructions for Submitting Assignments to TURNITIN
In addition to hardcopies or electronic copies, you may be instructed to submit your assignment through Turnitin. This link is available in the Assignments folder. A separate link is used for each assignment.

Do not go to the Turnitin web site. Links for individual assignments will be found under links that include the word “Turnitin” at the end of the title. Turnitin provides a link whereby you may upload your assignment.

Turnitin: The objective for using this program is to provide students with feedback regarding potential copyright errors that may arise in the course of normal academic writing assignments. I strongly encourage students to use feedback from the reports generated by Turnitin.com to make corrections to their assignments prior to submitting final versions of their assignments for grading. Submit prior to the due date so you have time to make corrections if needed. Papers with an originality match over 20% may be returned to the student for corrections prior to grading and late points will apply. Your originality report should be “in the green.”

Course Policies

PLEASE NOTE: Your enrollment in this class implies that you agree to these policies. Do not ask for these requirements to change due to your personal circumstances; such requests are unfair to your fellow students and are contrary to University policies.

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices
All electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class.
1. Out of courtesy to your classmates and the instructor, turn off cell phones in class. Cells phones may not remain on top of the desk during class. Students who text during class will be publicly asked to stop or will leave for the remainder of the class. Do not leave class to answer you cell phone (which is just as disruptive as a ringing cell phone). Here’s one reason why-- recent research found that it takes at least 15 minutes to refocus on concentrated mental activity after answering a cell phone. Studies also show that the brain can not focus on two things at once (such as texting and taking notes at the same time). So it’s not smart to interrupt your college education to answer a cell phone or to text (and aren’t you paying a lot for this?).
2. You may not use your computer during class.

Participation
Participation is expected and encouraged, but please stop chitchatting when class begins. Please share your questions or comments with the class; they may help others as well.

Class Behavior
The college classroom is a professional environment. Students are expected to treat each other and the professor with respect. Failure to do so will result in being asked to leave class and the student may be reported to student judicial affairs. These behaviors are considered disruptive and are grounds for the instructor asking you to leave the classroom: disrupting class (e.g., making loud or inappropriate noises, interrupting the professor, rudeness), using unapproved electronic devices (cell phones, computers, MP3 players, etc.), using a computer for
unapproved purposes, talking while the instructor is teaching, disturbing fellow classmates, and making aggressive, racist, or discriminatory remarks. Students may be reported to Student Judicial Affairs.

**Academic honesty**

Have integrity. Students are expected to follow university policies for academic honesty, and are expected to report to me classmates who violate university policies. Violations have serious consequences. Copying another student’s work of any kind, helping another student cheat, cheating on an exam or having unauthorized access to test material and assignments constitutes violations, and such students will be reported to university authorities. Plagiarism involves copying material or ideas and presenting that material as if it were your own, without appropriate citation or quotation marks. Misuse of sources involves inaccurately citing sources. Students who plagiarize or misuse sources will earn a “0” on that assignment. This includes internet sources and papers that other students have written. Students who cheat on exams or assignments earn a “0” for that exam or assignment, and will be referred to judicial affairs. Two violations of any kind earns an “F” in the class. Please see the following site for university policies regarding academic integrity and for definitions of cheating, plagiarism, and misuse of sources. It is your responsibility to know university definitions when you enroll and to practice academic integrity.

[http://www.csuchico.edu/prs/EMs/EM04/em04_36.htm](http://www.csuchico.edu/prs/EMs/EM04/em04_36.htm)

*Please note this wording is taken from the judicial affairs website:*

1. All written work is to be individually produced unless otherwise noted in the assignment.
2. Plagiarism is the use of the written work of others (either direct copies or close paraphrases) as one’s own original work. If quotations and/or passages from other works are used in papers, they must be accorded the proper citation in order to avoid any misunderstandings about plagiarism.
3. When there is evidence that a student has committed plagiarism, copied the work of others, allowed others to copy their work, cheated on an exam, altered class material or scores, or has inappropriate possession of exams, or sensitive material, the incident will be investigated by Student Judicial Affairs. The consequences for academic dishonesty are severe.

**Grading Policies and Penalties – Assignments and Evaluation**

**Exams**

Exams consist of multiple choice/true-false/short answer questions and are based upon class notes and text reading. They must be taken at the assigned times and dates unless the student is sick. A make up is allowed **ONLY** with a Drs excuse.

**Assignments**

Assignments consist of exercises/questions/quizzes to add insight and introspection, such as gender and sexuality issues in relationships. They will involve written responses and consist of both in class and out of class work. You must be attending class on the specific date it is due or completed to receive credit. No make-ups are permitted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Point Values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>60 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (4 @ 75 points each)</td>
<td>300 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total points possible</strong></td>
<td><strong>360 points</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Total points will be converted into a percentage and calculated for the final grade as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93 - 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 - 92.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 - 89.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84 - 86.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 - 82.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 - 79.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74 - 76.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 - 72.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67 - 69.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>*60 - 66.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*60% is the minimum grade to pass the class

Make-ups and late submissions of student work
1. No make-up of assignments will be allowed. Late assignments will not be accepted. Students will receive credit (points) for in-class assignments only on the days that they are scheduled to be worked on in class.
2. If you are sick the day of an exam, get a doctor’s excuse to make up the exam. All makeup work must be completed by the last day of class. Make up exams in the case of illness with a Drs excuse will be scheduled during office hours within 1 week of a student returning to class.

Incompletes
Students must speak with me in person regarding the possibility of an incomplete. Incompletes are given only if:
1. the student has a passing grade for all other work at the end of the semester
2. the student is up-to-date on previous work, and
3. other University criteria are met.