

California State University, Chico
HUMAN SEXUALITY
HCSV 265-01 Fall 2009

Professor: **Dr. Lyndall Ellingson**
 E-Mail: lellingson@csuchico.edu

Office: Butte 637
Telephone: 898-6310

Office Hours: Mondays 9-11 am; Fridays 11am - 2 pm

***About e-mail and telephone messages:** If you have an emergency that requires you to miss a class without prior notification, it is a good idea to leave me a message before you leave town. However, leaving a message does not negate your responsibilities for attendance and timely submission of papers. You are welcome to ask me questions about the class, your group, or personal health issues over e-mail or during my office hours.

COURSE SPECIFICS

Time & Location: Wednesdays, 11am – 1:45 pm Plumas 106

Required texts:

- Strong, Yarber, Sayad, Devault, Human Sexuality: Diversity in Contemporary America
- Reading Packet on VISTA

Required Access: VISTA to submit papers and access grades

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

Overview of human sexuality, including psychosexual development, gender roles, reproductive systems, pregnancy and childbirth, contraception, abortion, sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS, relationships, sexual orientation, sex and the law, sexually explicit materials and sexual difficulties. This is an approved General education course and includes a 2500 word writing requirement.

The objectives of this course are:

- 1) To facilitate an atmosphere of learning, communication, and development of knowledge for life-long learning and understanding of human sexuality.
- 2) To present a forum for discussion of current sexuality issues including controversial topics such as abortion, rape, sexual orientation, pornography, contraception and conception.
- 3) To present the anatomy and physiology of human sexuality and reproduction and to dispel misinformation and/or myths regarding these areas.
- 4) To present, explore, and discuss issues pertinent to sexuality regarding the college student.

The course utilizes both lecture and small group discussion techniques. Lectures will emphasize the cognitive aspects of the subject, the discussion sessions will provide an opportunity to explore attitudes, feelings, and communication. It is hoped that as a result of your experience in this class, you will

*Be more aware and accepting of your own individual sexuality and value systems;
develop an intelligent and responsible sexual lifestyle;
and
be more aware and accepting of the sexual value systems of others.*

General Education & Life-long learning

HCSV 265 satisfies Area E – Life learning designed to equip human beings for life-long learning understanding and development of themselves as integrated physiological, psychological, and sociological entities. Part of General Education should provide instruction that fosters understanding of the self as a complex, integrated being. Each course, therefore must:

- 1) address issues that are likely to be important to most of our students throughout most of their lifetime;
- 2) significantly incorporate and integrate theory, data, and perspectives from each of the three broad areas of human life: physiological, psychologically and social;
- 3) have substantial written projects that ask the student to: a) integrate the ideas and materials of the course and apply these ideas and materials of the course to themselves and their own projected life course.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1) **Attendance will be taken randomly throughout the semester.** You may miss 1 class period without penalty. For each absence over 2, your final grade will be reduced 1/3 letter grade. You must be in class for the entire class to receive credit.
- 2) **Respect:** Respect the diversity of experience, values, and thoughts presented and explored in class.
- 3) **Professionalism:**
 - a) Arrive on time, prepared and ready to discuss readings and issues.
 - b) Submit high quality assignments on time via VISTA. Assignments must be submitted before 11 am on the day noted in the syllabus. If you are unsure that your VISTA submission was successful, email it to me via VISTA email. No papers will be accepted outside of class. You are allowed one VISTA submission failure (sent as an attachment on VISTA email) after that you must expend all efforts to correct or access a usable VISTA interface, software, etc.
 - c) No use of electronic communication devices during class

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Discussion Group Participation (10 @ 10 pts each)

We will meet in small discussion groups at the end of almost every class session. Attendance at each discussion group earns 10 points. To earn the points for these you must be 1) present and 2) productively involved. You must be present for the entire session to receive credit. The purpose of these activities is on developing skills of verbal ease of communication about sexual matters, responsible listening to other persons, and openness in exploring and accepting divergent views.

Article Response (3 @ 25 pts)

Prepare for discussion by reading, answering questions and reflecting on article assignments in the course reading packet. Submit your answers via VISTA by 11 am on the date assigned. **NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** The questions are available on the VISTA course homepage: "Article Questions". Use the "Assignment" tool to submit your answers. Your submissions should include:

- article # & title
- The review questions (abbreviated). Please answer using the numbered question format.
- Your answers to the questions in the course packet
- Any opinions, disagreements or comments regarding the reading

Your answers will be graded on:

- 1) Use of sources (it should be clear that you have read and understand the readings). Unless only your opinion is requested, there are right and wrong answer to the questions. Read carefully and respond thoughtfully, giving significant evidence that you have read the article thoroughly.
- 2) When your opinion is requested be thoughtful and thorough.
- 3) Clarity of response – organizationally, grammatically, and expressively,
- 4) General effort – format, typography, and grammatically accurate. ANSWER using the structure provided.
- 5) Thorough assignments are usually 2 – 3 full pages

You MUST be able to successfully submit assignments via VISTA. You are allowed only **ONE** "problem" submission (wrong software, etc.) that results in you having to submit as an attachment on VISTA email.

Assigned Articles (PDFs on Vista):

#1: **Moral Sexuality Education and Democratic Values** (Fay & Gordon, 2000, Theory into Practice)

#2: **The Five Sexes, revisited** (Fausto-Sterling, 2000, The Sciences)

#3: **Comparison of men's and women's attempts to dissuade sexual partners from the couple using condoms** (Oncale & King, 2001, Archives of Sexual Behavior)

InBrief: Eroticizing Safer Sex Project (25 pts)

What would your undies say if they had the last word in safe sex and STI prevention? Communication is key to your sexual health - a simple chat BEFORE you get naked can help stop the spread of STDs, HIV and unplanned pregnancies. Start the conversation now by designing a pair of boxers or panties with a design or message that says that YOU'RE GOING TO PLAY SAFE. Your artwork and slogan must focus on a truth or fact about STD/HIV transmission or prevention, sexual consent, or sexual health. Any medical information presented must be scientifically accurate (ISIS; InBrief; <http://www.undiescontest.com/>). Entries that are lewd, obscene, pornographic, disparaging of individuals or groups will be returned without earning a grade.

Submit one pair of underwear decorated with your message/slogan in a large manila envelope with your name on the outside on the announced due date(s).

Your project will be evaluated based on:

Creativity (35%)
Effort/Quality of work (35%)
Accuracy of message (15%)
Uniqueness of message (15%)

Have fun!

Exams: 3 @ 100 pts each

Exams will be 50 multiple choice questions (worth 2 pts each) and will cover material from the text, lectures, guest speakers, and videos. The exams will NOT be cumulative. Make up exams will only be given under dire emergencies with documentation and are administered during finals week.

Extra Credit (15 pts)

You may submit 1 extra credit paper anytime during the semester before the final date noted on the schedule via VISTA email. Please put "Extra Credit" in the title. These will be **two page** reviews and personal reactions to events, speakers, performances, activities related to sexuality. I will be announcing opportunities and welcome your contributions. You **MUST GET APPROVAL** from me in advance! Below is a list of movie possibilities for extra credit. I welcome other suggestions, this list is getting outdated and weak.

WARNING: Some of these films have sexually explicit material, scenes, and language. You are all adults, choosing to watch them is voluntary and implies your consent to view such material.

➤ **Use the "Critical Movie Review" on WebCT to guide your movie review.**

On gender: Me Vie En Rose, The Crying Game, Boys Don't Cry, Transamerica, Normal

On sexual orientation: Brokeback Mountain, But I'm a Cheerleader, Beautiful Thing, The Birdcage

On attraction & desire: Fatal Attraction, American Beauty

On relationships: Harold and Maude; American Beauty, Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice (1969)

On pornography: Boogie Nights

On Sexual Expression: Quills (Marquis de Sade), 9 1/2 Weeks, Henry & June, Basic Instinct, The Story of O

Grading Scale:

Article Responses (3 @ 25 points each)	75
"InBrief" project: Eroticizing Safer Sex	25
Exams (3 @ 100 pts)	300
Discussion group points (10 @ 10 pts)	100
Total	500

A = 94 - 100%	B+ = 88 - 89%	C+ = 78 - 79%	D+ = 67 - 69%
A- = 90 - 93%	B = 84 - 87%	C = 74 - 77%	D = 64 - 66%
	B- = 80 - 83%	C - = 70 - 73%	F = 63% or less

IMPORTANT: All grading and attendance discrepancies must be resolved on or before the last week of classes to be considered. Scores are posted on WebCT throughout the semester.

COURSE SCHEDULE

DAY	TOPIC	READINGS/ ASSIGNMENTS	Group Meetings
8/26	Healthy Sexuality Historical Perspectives		
9/2	Sexual Attitudes & Values	Ch. 1 Article #1 due	1
9/9	Psychosexual Development	Ch 6 & 7	2
9/16	Gender and Sexuality	Ch 5 Article #2 due	3
9/23	Sexual Orientations		4
9/30	Exam 1		
10/7	Anatomy & Response	Ch 3 & 4	5
10/14	Sexually Transmitted Infections	Ch 15 & 16 Article #3 due	6
10/28	Conception, Pregnancy, & Birth Control	Ch 11 & 12	7
11/4	Exam 2		
11/11	<i>no class – Veteran's Day</i>		
11/18	Power and Sexual Coercion	Ch 17	8
THANKSGIVING BREAK			
12/2	Sex & the Law Commercial Sex	Ch 18	9
12/9	Sexual Expression	Ch 9 & 10 All extra credit due via Vista	10
M 12/14	Exam 3 12 – 1:50 pm		