

CHFD 4870: Human Sexuality Across The Life Span
The University of Georgia – Spring 2008

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Class Location: Dawson Hall – Room 208

Class Time: MWF 3:35-4:25 p.m.

Required Text:

Westheimer, R. K. & Lopater, S. (2005). Human Sexuality: A Psychosocial Perspective (2nd ed). Baltimore: Lippincott.

Course Description:

This course addresses attitudes toward and the values associated with human sexuality, based on substantive and theoretical information, with emphasis on sexual development and interactions across the life span are affected familial, social, cultural, and psychological factors. CHFD 2100 is the prerequisite.

Course Objectives:

Successful completion of this course will allow the student to:

- Understand human sexual development, behavior, and attitudes across the human life span.
- Examine how diverse sexual belief systems created by a variety of socio-cultural factors (race, gender, class, sexual orientation, etc.) influence the expression of human sexuality in a variety of intimate settings.
- Improve the ability to communicate openly and effectively about issues related to human sexuality.

Course Requirements:

1. **Class Attendance:** Discussion and interaction within a learning community is very important and regular attendance is required. It is important that you come to class prepared to share ideas and discuss assigned readings. Attendance will be recorded and each absence will result in a loss of one point (up to 10%) from final grade.
2. **Interview:** Audio or video taped interview with a person whose sexual lifestyle is considered variant by current social standards, plus a 3 to 5 page summary, a typed transcript, and 10 minute presentation of our findings at the end of the semester. This assignment will constitute 20% of your total grade. The person must agree to the interview and it must be demonstrated on tape (or by written consent) that their participation was voluntary. Please do NOT interview someone who is current indicted for a sex offense, due to obvious legal issues (i.e., you may be forced to produce in the case or appear in court as a witness, etc.). Otherwise no one is off-limits, including sex trade workers, convicted sex offenders, erotic dancers, sex shop proprietors, a porn addicted roommate, etc. A suggested interview format will be provided on WebCT. Due March 28.
3. **Research Review:** One scientific peer reviewed article from a refereed journal in the area of human sexuality will be reviewed and summarized in 3 to 5 pages for 10% of your total grade. In addition to the title, author(s), journal volume, and other identifying data, your summary must focus on the five basic areas of article writing: problem statement, hypothesis/research questions, methodology, findings, and implications. Due before Spring Break.
4. **Reaction Papers:** Two reaction papers 3 to 5 pages in length will be written by the student for 20% of the total grade (10% each). The choice of topics must be based on the films shown in class. One is due before the midterm and the second is due the last week of class. The first paper is due before Spring Break.
5. **Exams:** Two in-class exams will be administered: *midterm* and *final*. Exams will comprise 40% of the total grade. All questions are taken from class room lectures, reading materials, and other class related activities – students may be asked to submit questions. Make-up exams are given with a valid excuse and arranged with the instructor within 24 hours of missing the exam.

Computing Grades:

Grading Scale	Calculation
100-90% = A	500-450 pts
89-80% = B	449-400 pts
79-70% = C	399-350 pts
69-60% = D	349-300 pts
≥59% = F	299-000 pts

Academic Honesty:

Academic honesty is important both to the student and to the institution of higher learning. Therefore, students must act with integrity at all times. Examples of dishonesty include: plagiarism, cheating on exams, lying to the instructor or peers, tampering with test results in any way, stealing from others, receiving illegitimate assistance from any other person(s), or using any sources of information that is not common knowledge and accessible by others. Students who assist others in dishonest practices are also in violation of university policy. Each student must inform themselves of these policy standards prior to submitting any academic work. The academic honesty policy may be accessed on-line: http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/culture_honesty.htm

Special Needs:

The University of Georgia abides by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Student with special needs should be registered with UGA Disability Resource Services at 141 Clark Howell Hall or by phone at 706-542-8719 (www.dissvcs.uga.edu) and inform the instructor of the nature of assistance needed after the first class.

Protection of Privacy:

If you request a restriction of your personal information, please e-mail or call the instructor as soon as possible. You will be provided with an alternate method of being accounted for and addressed in class.

WebCT:

All students are required to have access to UGA email via a personal account and must be able to access WebCT. Students are responsible for checking the CHFD 4870 site for important class announcements, readings, discussions, and other updates. If you are unable to use WebCT or have any questions about grading, please inform the instructor as soon as possible.

Classroom Policies:

Class will begin and end on time. Punctuality is very important – please be on time, unless otherwise arranged. Assignments are expected to be turned in on time. PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES PRIOR TO COMING TO CLASS. Students should not receive calls or text others during class. Do so is rude and insensitive to others. These items must be stored appropriately during exams. You WILL be asked to leave immediately should you violate this policy concerning the non-use of electronic communication devices.

Respectful Discourse & Discussion:

When a group of people gather to discuss or learn about value laden topics that are often dealt with in the area of child and family development, strong opinions are inevitable. It is important that we feel comfortable expressing our personal views, but we must also respect the views of others when they do not match our own. Furthermore, the instructor often uses humor to illustrate a particular point. Although off-color at times, these comments or humor are never meant to be derogatory, disrespectful, or offensive. *Intentionally malicious or degrading comments will not be tolerated within this learning environment.*

Student Support:

If class materials bring up personal issues that are distressing to individuals, the following sources are available:

McPhaul Family Therapy Clinic	542-4486	Counseling & Psychological Services	542-2273
Women's Clinic & Health Clinic	542-8691	UGA Health Center	542-8690
Sexual Assault Center	353-1912	Project Safe – Violence Prevention	543-3331

**Your instructor does not provide consultation for class members, but may be able to help with referrals to appropriate service providers.*

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments
1	1/07/08	Overview & Review of Syllabus	Read Ch 1 for next class
	1/09/08	Intro to Human Sexuality	Read Ch 2 for next two classes
	1/11/08	Research into Human Sexuality	
2	1/14/08	History of Human Sexuality	Read Ch 3 for next class
	1/16/08	Ch 3 - Female Sexual Anatomy & Phys	
	1/16/08	Film – excerpts from <i>Kinsey</i>	Read Ch 6 for next week
3	1/21/08	Dr. King's Birthday Holiday	No Class
	1/23/08	Ch 3 - Male Sexual A & P	Read Ch 6
	1/25/08	Ch 6 - Love, Affection & Intimacy	Read Ch 7
4	1/28/08	Ch 7 - Human Sexual Response	
	1/30/08	HSR cont	
	2/01/08	Film – TBA	Read Ch 4
5	2/04/08	Ch 4 – Gender & Sexual Identity	
	2/06/08	Film – <i>Normal</i>	
	2/06/08	Film – excerpts from <i>Boys Don't Cry</i>	
6	2/11/08	Ch 8 - Eroticism & Intimacy	
	2/13/08	Ch 8 - Eroticism & Intimacy (cont)	
	2/15/08	Ch 9 - Sexual Orientation	
7	2/18/08	Ch 9 – Sexual Orientation (cont)	
	2/20/08	MIDTERM EXAM	Chapters 1-4; 6-9
	2/22/08	Exam Review	
8	2/25/08	Ch 10 - Pregnancy	Read Ch
	2/27/08	Ch 10 – Childbirth	
	2/29/08	Film – excerpts from <i>Transamerican</i>	
9	3/03/08	Ch 5 - Your Sexual Health	
	3/05/08	Ch 11 – Contraception	
	3/05/08	Sexual Health & Contraception (conclusion)	Demonstration
10	03/10/08	Spring Break	No Classes
11	3/17/08	Ch 12 - Sexuality of Childhood & Adolescence	
	3/19/08	Ch 12 - Sexuality of Childhood & Adolescence (cont)	
	3/21/08	Film – excerpts from <i>This Girl's Life</i>	
12	3/24/08	Ch 13 - Sexuality in Adulthood & Later Life	
	3/26/08	Ch 13 - Sexuality in Adulthood & Later Life (cont)	
	3/28/08	Student Presentations – Interviews	
13	3/31/08	Ch 14 - Sexual Dysfunctions	
	4/02/08	Ch 15 – Sex Therapy	
	4/04/08	Student Presentations – Interviews	
14	4/07/08	Ch 16 – Sex in Illness & Disability	
	4/09/08	Ch 17 - STD's & HIV	
	4/11/08	Student Presentations – Interviews	
15	4/14/08	Ch 18 - Sexual Variations & Paraphilias	
	4/16/08	Ch 19 - Commercial Sex	
	4/18/08	Film – excerpts from <i>Being Ron Jeremy</i> (doc)	
16	4/21/08	Student Presentations – Interviews	
	4/23/08	Student Presentations – Interviews	
	4/25/08	Student Presentations – Interviews	
17	4/28/08	Last Day of Class - Review	
	4/30/08		
	5/02/08		
	5/05/08	FINAL EXAM 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	Chapters 10-19