

# CHFD 4870: HUMAN SEXUALITY ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

The University of Georgia, Spring 2007

|                 |                         |             |                  |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Instructor:     | Rachel Blyskal Tambling | Email:      | tambling@uga.edu |
| Office:         | McPhaul Center 203      | Phone:      | 542-3044         |
| Class Location: | Dawson Hall, Room 306   | Class Time: | TR 5 – 6:15pm    |
| Office Hours:   | By appointment          |             |                  |

## **Required Text**

Westheimer, R. K., & Lopater, S. (2005). *Human Sexuality: A Psychosocial Perspective* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). Baltimore: Lippincott, Williams, & Wilkins.

Additional readings are posted on WebCT and are noted in the syllabus in italics. Password for all readings is “sex”.

## **Course Description**

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

## **Course Objectives**

Having successfully completed this course, the student will:

- Have an increased understanding of human sexual development, behavior, and attitudes across the lifespan.
- Examine how diverse sexual belief systems influenced by race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation and religion impact the expression of human sexuality in families, intimate relationships, and societies.
- Make a connection between course material and the “real world”, particularly with respect to personal and professional development
- Increase ability to communicate openly and effectively about human sexuality issues.

## **Course Requirements**

*Note: The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.*

## **Mandatory Assignments (310 points):**

1. Class Attendance and Participation (40 points – about 1.4 points per class): Attendance will be taken each class period. Your total points in this category will be based on the number of days you

are present when attendance is taken and if you participate in class discussion. No absences will be excused for the purpose of attendance points.

2. Exam Questions (30 points): Each student will email 2 potential test questions per exam to me by the date due. Each submission should include the student's name, two clearly stated test multiple-choice questions, four possible answer choices, and the correct answers identified in some way. *No credit will be given for submissions received after 5pm on the due date.* Please be aware that sharing your exam questions with others, posting your submissions on WebCT, or transmitting your submissions to others in any way is a violation of UGA's policy on academic honesty and will not be tolerated.
3. Examinations (240 points): Three in-class exams will be given. Each exam will be worth 80 points. All questions will be derived from class lectures, assigned readings, and other class-related activities. Exams will not be cumulative, though some knowledge from previous class periods will be necessary to respond to questions. *No make-up exams will be given without a valid excuse which must be written by your doctor, a law enforcement officer, or other professional in which an explanation is given regarding the seriousness of the issue that prevented the student from completing the exam. Written explanations from family members and friends will not be accepted. Students are expected to contact the instructor by phone or email prior to the exam. It is the student's responsibility to schedule the make up exam with the instructor within three days from the original exam date.*

#### Menu of Written Assignments (60 points):

Select from the following options. You are to combine options of interest to you, up to 60 total possible points. You will not be able to submit more than 60 possible points of assignments for evaluation. See each possible exercise for a description and further instructions. It will be important to keep track of your due dates for the assignments you have selected as you will be responsible for turning them in on time. Please consult me if you have any questions.

1. Reaction Papers (20 points each – you may do up to 3 reaction papers):
  - a. Response to any film shown in class: respond to questions listed on the grading rubric following the instructions on WebCT.
  - b. Response to any in-class guest speaker or the LGBTQA panel: respond to questions listed on the grading rubric following the instructions on WebCT.
2. Stretching exercise (30 points – you may do only one stretching exercise): For this exercise, you will select some campus or local event that pushes your definitions of sexuality or challenges your level of comfort with regard to sexuality or sexual expression. You will attend/participate in this experience and write about your reaction to the experience. See the grading rubric on WebCT for examples and questions to get you thinking.
3. Media reaction (10 points – you may do up to 3 media papers): Select a popular magazine, TV program, or current movie related to human sexuality. Then, write about how this media outlet either challenges or supports your knowledge of sexuality. Discuss possible implications of this media presentation to the intended audience. See the grading rubric on WebCT for more information and questions to get you thinking.
4. Class experience paper (30 points – you may do only one class experience paper): For this paper, you will write about your experience as a member of this class. You will discuss what you've learned, what's challenged you, and how this course has impacted your thinking about sexuality. Respond to questions listed on the grading rubric following the instructions on WebCT.

For each paper you will write a brief, approximately 3 page paper that is typed, double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, and in APA format. Please consult the APA style information on WebCT for more information about this style. *Papers are due by 5pm on the due date. For each day a paper is late,*

*10 points will be subtracted from the possible point total. No credit will be given for papers more than 2 calendar days late. Students must be present for the presentation/film/guest speaker/panel on which they write the reaction paper. Additional requirements, suggestions, a grading rubric, and examples of APA style are in the Course Content module of the WebCT site.*

#### Extra Credit Quizzes (up to 12 points):

On 6 select weeks, an optional quiz will be posted on WebCT before class. You will be notified of the presence of a quiz in the class prior to that quiz being due and via WebCT email. You may take these quizzes to earn extra credit in the course. Quizzes will cover only material from the textbook or other assigned readings. Each quiz will be 4 questions in length and will be worth 2 points. You may earn 12 points from 6 possible quizzes. Please be aware that sharing information regarding the content of quizzes with others is a violation of UGA's policy on academic honesty and will not be tolerated.

### Course Policies

#### Academic Honesty:

Academic honesty means performing all academic work without plagiarism, cheating, lying, tampering, stealing, receiving unauthorized or illegitimate assistance from any other person, or using any source of information that is not common knowledge. Students who assist other students in academically dishonest acts are in violation of the policy. All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. The link to more detailed information about academic honesty is:

**[http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic\\_honesty/culture\\_honesty.htm](http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/culture_honesty.htm)**

#### Students with Special Needs:

Students with special needs should inform the professor immediately to ensure a class environment that will be conducive to an optimal learning experience.

#### Protection of Private Information:

If you have requested a restriction of your personal information please call or email the instructor as soon as possible and we will have another way of taking role and addressing names in class.

#### E-mail & Web Access Requirement:

All students are required to have a UGA email account and to be able to access WebCT. Students are responsible for checking the CHFD 4870 WebCT site regularly for important class announcements, readings and lecture outlines. Additionally, class announcements will be made via email through WebCT. The instructor has made the readings easily available through WebCT however; a technology problem is not an excuse to not do the assigned readings. Students who do not have a MyID need to go to the following web site: <https://www.arches.uga.edu/myid/> and follow the instructions. Once you have a MyID email it to the instructor so you can be added to the class. Please inform your instructor if you do not know how to use WebCT, or if you notice any problems with your grades as they are recorded.

#### Missed or Late Assignments:

Students will be expected to turn in assignments by 5pm on the due date. Turning in late assignments will NOT be permitted without prior approval of the instructor. If you have a conflict with any assignment due dates or test dates please see the instructor prior to June 12, 2006, to make alternative arrangements. If an assignment is missed due to a medical or family emergency, the student is expected to make every effort to notify the instructor prior to the due date (phone or email). If the student wishes to turn the assignment in late, the student must provide proof of the emergency.

### Questions on Grading and Assignments:

If you have any questions regarding assignments listed in this syllabus or grading practices, please consult the instructor. It is your responsibility to ensure that you understand what is required for each assignment prior to submitting it for credit.

Every attempt will be made to fairly and consistently evaluate student's performance on assignments. If you would like the instructor to reconsider points that have been deducted from any assignment the request must be submitted in writing within *one week* from the day the assignment was returned or the grades were posted. The request must include both the original work with instructor's comments and grading rubric and a typewritten explanation of the reason why you believe the points should be granted.

### Respecting Yourself and Others:

Whenever a group of people come together to discuss value-laden topics such as human sexuality, it is inevitable that there will be strong opinions, shifting across the spectrum at different times. It is important that we all feel comfortable expressing our personal views. This means that we must respect the views of others, even if they don't match our own. All opinions or perspectives will be given voice in this class. The intent of this class is to provide information and new experiences. All belief systems will be supported in this class. *Intentionally malicious or degrading comments will not be tolerated in our learning community.*

Occasionally, material of a graphic nature may be discussed and or presented. The instructor will make reasonable attempts to provide warning in advance of graphic film footage; however, advance warning of explicit or graphic content is not always possible. *If, at any time, the material presented in class is distressing or upsetting to you, please feel free to excuse yourself from the classroom.* You are welcome to speak with the instructor regarding any concerns, questions, or problems at any time.

### Student Support:

Occasionally some of the class materials can bring personal issues to the surface for some students. If you become distressed you may choose to seek assistance from one of the following local services:

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| McPhaul Family Therapy Clinic                    | 542 4486 |
| Center for Counseling and Psychological Services | 542 2273 |
| Women's Clinic                                   | 542 8691 |
| UGA Health Center                                | 542 8666 |
| Health Promotion Department                      | 542 8690 |
| Sexual Assault Crisis Center                     | 353 1912 |

## Grades

| <b>CALCULATION</b>  |            | <b>GRADING SCALE</b> |
|---------------------|------------|----------------------|
| Attendance          | 40         |                      |
| Menu Assignments    | 60         | A (93-100%) 344-370  |
| Exam 1 Questions    | 10         | A- (90-92%) 333-343  |
| Exam 2 Questions    | 10         | B+ (87-89%) 322-332  |
| Exam 3 Questions    | 10         | B (83-86%) 307-321   |
| Exam 1              | 80         | B- (80-82%) 296-306  |
| Exam 2              | 80         | C+ (77-79%) 285-295  |
| Exam 3              | 80         | C (73-76%) 270-284   |
|                     |            | C- (70-72%) 259-269  |
| <b>TOTAL POINTS</b> | <b>370</b> | D (60-70%) 222-258   |
|                     |            | F (59% or below)     |

### Tentative Schedule & Assignments

Note: The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

| WEEK   | DATE     | TOPIC   | READING & WORK DUE  |
|--|----------|---|---|
| <b>1</b>   | Jan. 9   | Introduction – Orientation to class                                   |   |
|  | Jan. 11  | Introduction to Human Sexuality                                       | Chapter 1   |
| <b>2</b>   | Jan. 16  | Research in Human Sexuality   | <i>Laumann<br/>Bias</i>   |
|  | Jan. 18  | History of Human Sexuality  | Chapter 2   |
| <b>3</b>   | Jan. 23  | Male Sexual Physiology  | Chapter 3   |
|  | Jan. 25  | Female Sexual Physiology  | <i>FGM</i>  |
| <b>4</b>   | Jan. 30  | Film  |   |
|  | Feb. 1   | Love, Affection, Sexual Intimacy<br>Eroticism and Intimacy            | Chapter 6, Chapter 8<br><b>Exam questions due</b>                           |
| <b>5</b>   | Feb. 6   | Human Sexual Response Cycle   | Chapter 7<br><i>Critique of the HSRC</i>                                    |
|  | Feb. 8   | <b>EXAM 1</b>   |   |
| <b>6</b>   | Feb. 13  | Couple Rituals with special guest: Kelly<br>Campbell                  | <i>Sex and Intimacy</i>   |
|  | Feb. 15  | Gender and Sexual Identity  | Chapter 4   |
| <b>7</b>   | Feb. 20  | Film  |   |
|  | Feb. 22  | Sexual Orientation with special guests:<br>Panel from Lambda Alliance | Chapter 9<br><b>All media reactions due</b>                                 |
| <b>8</b>   | Feb. 27  | Sexual Orientation  | <i>Biology and homosexuality</i>  |
|  | March 1  | Contraception with special guest: Michelle<br>Cohen                   | Chapter 11<br><i>Oral Contraceptives</i><br><b>Exam questions due</b>       |
| <b>9</b>   | March 6  | Review  |   |
|  | March 8  | <b>EXAM 2</b>   |   |
| <b>10</b>  |          | SPRING BREAK  |   |
| <b>11</b>  | March 20 | Pregnancy and Childbirth  | Chapter 10  |
|  | March 22 | Sexuality in Childhood and Adolescence                                | Chapter 12<br><i>Children</i>   |
| <b>12</b>  | March 27 | Sexuality in Adulthood and Aging                                      | Chapter 13  |
|  | March 29 | Taking Care of Your Sexual Health                                     | Chapter 5   |
| <b>13</b>  | April 3  | Sexually Transmitted Diseases   | Chapter 17<br><b>All reaction papers due</b>                                |
|  | April 5  | Sexuality in Illness and Disability                                   | Chapter 16  |
| <b>14</b>  | April 10 | Sexual Variation and Paraphilias                                      | Chapter 18<br><b>All stretching papers due</b>                              |
|  | April 12 | Commercial Sex  | Chapter 19  |
| <b>15</b>  | April 17 | Sexual Abuse and Force  | Chapter 19  |
|  | April 19 | Sexual Dysfunctions   | Chapter 14  |
| <b>16</b>  | April 24 | Sex Therapy   | Chapter 15<br><b>Exam questions due</b><br><b>Class response papers due</b> |
|  | April 26 | Review  |   |
| <b>FINAL EXAM Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> 7 – 10pm</b> |          |   |   |

