

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCE
SPRING 2008

HUMAN SEXUALITY 301G M74

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| INSTRUCTOR | Françoise Kendall, MPH, College Assistant Professor |
| OFFICE LOCATION | Health & Social Services Bldg., Room 315, 3 rd Floor |
| OFFICE HOURS | Wednesdays 9:30 AM -10:30 AM or by appointment. |
| EMAIL | fkendall@nmsu.edu |
| OFFICE PHONE # | (505) 646-6058 |
| COURSE LOCATION | Health and Social Services Bldg., Room 318, 3 rd Floor |
| TEACHING ASSISTANT | Genevieve Garrett ggarrett@nmsu.edu Office # 303J Phone # (575) 646-4523 |
| WEB-CT COURSE | |
| <p>This course is taught 100% online. Students enrolled in this course will need a NMSU Global and Login ID. The course is located on: http://salsa.nmsu.edu. A tutorial on how to use the website can be found at: http://distance.nmsu.edu/sop/</p> | |
| COURSE DESCRIPTION | |
| <p>Whether we consider ourselves a sexual novice or a sexpert, sexuality is a central part of who we are as a human being. This course examines contemporary knowledge and attitudes towards human sexuality, relying on theoretical and empirical psychological research. It will explore human sexuality through its multiple dimensions, including physiological, psychological, cultural, legal, and political. More specifically, the course will address the following:</p> | |
| Introduction to Human Sexuality | |
| <p>We will discuss the social and cultural legacy of sexuality in our society and then describe how sex research is conducted and identify the challenges of gathering information in this area of research. In this section we will also explore the bio and socio-cultural issues related to gender.</p> | |
| Biological Basis | |
| <p>These chapters present the biological foundation of sexuality, with separate chapters on male and female sexual anatomy, followed by coverage of sexual arousal and sexual response patterns integrated into one chapter.</p> | |
| Sexual Behavior | |
| <p>In this section, we will discuss issues related to relationship, such as falling in love, and the different styles of attachment. We will then identify the various ways to communicate and describe how we can improve our communication in a relationship.</p> | |
| Sexuality and the Life Cycle | |
| <p>This section covers issues of contraception, pregnancy and topics pertaining to sexuality through the life cycle, including childhood and adolescence and the adult years.</p> | |
| Sexual Problems | |
| <p>In this section, we will discuss the origin of sexual difficulties and ways to address the issues. We will also discuss the transmission and treatment of the most common STDs, including HIV/AIDS and examine the impact of US policy on STDs/HIV transmission and prevention in USA and in developing countries.</p> | |

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Social issues

This section will look at what constitutes atypical behaviors and the impact of these behaviors on the person who exhibit them and others to whom they may be directed. We will also define rape and discuss the socio-cultural factors that may explain the high incidence of rape in U.S. society. We will also cover sexual abuse of children, sexual harassment and sex for sale.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe the dimensions of human sexuality, including biological, psychological, and sociocultural factors
- Explore personal value system regarding sexual decision making and feel more comfortable with sexuality issues
- Apply new understandings of human sexuality to help dispel current myths and misunderstandings
- Examine male and female reproductive anatomy and the physiology of sexual arousal
- Explain the effects of gender identity, sex roles, and sex stereotypes on sexuality and discuss how male and female roles are changing
- Identify and discuss the wide range of sexual behavior patterns and the various levels of sexual interaction
- Examine the processes of relationships and discuss the characteristics and skills that are necessary to build and maintain intimate relationships
- Identify the various methods of contraception and the factors that should be taken into account in choosing a method of birth control
- Identify and discuss the process of conception through childbirth and discuss the options for birth attendants and place of birthing
- Describe the physical, psychological and sexual characteristics of childhood and adolescence
- Explain the physical, psychological, and sociocultural changes that occur during the aging process
- Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of single living, cohabitation as well as marriage, and explain the reasons for the higher rates of divorces
- Discuss the transmission, diagnosis, complications, treatment, and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS
- Compare the different forms of rape and discuss the impact of sexually violent media on the attitudes and behaviors of rapists and nonrapists
- Define pornography, and specifically the problems in establishing a contemporary definition of it, the different types of sexually explicit materials, the legal issues relevant to child pornography and the current legal controversies surrounding pornography

TEACHING STRATEGIES

This course is designed to be completed 100% online, at each student's own pace. Lectures, videos, articles and other materials will be made available via Web-CT.

Since there will not be face-to-face interaction, communication through the Web-CT email

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will be strongly encouraged.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Tests: Students will have the joy to take ten (10) multiple-choice tests. Tests are based on chapters from the textbook, as well as other assigned readings and videos if any. All tests are open book but close neighbors. Note that tests are time sensitive! It is therefore the responsibility of the students to check the deadline for each test as make up tests are provided only to students with a documented excuse

Research Paper: To comply with the “*Viewing the Wider World*” requirements, students enrolled in this course must complete a paper supported by a pertinent literature search. Students will first select a research question (or a topic of interest that will be narrowed down) and then conduct a library research to find relevant literature related to the research question. The literature search will serve to support an empirical discussion of what experts in the field have found or have said about the issue. Students will compile their findings and critically discuss the various perspectives. The literature used for this assignment must have been published in peer reviewed journals (journal articles will have been reviewed by experts in the area). Websites will NOT be considered as appropriate references. The paper will be in APA style, 8 pages min., double-spaced. An electronic copy of all the articles cited in the paper must be included. If the reference is a book, the section or chapter cited in the text must be scanned for submission.

On going Assignments. Several times during the semester students will be asked to complete an assignment such as a reaction discussion, or a field activity. Students must complete at least 5 assignments.

Extra credits: There will be no extra credits provided.

ACCESSING THE LIBRARY

The NMSU Library has Distance Education Services for students currently enrolled in NMSU distance education courses. You can call the Library’s toll-free number at (866) 835-9826 for assistance. Databases offered are:

- NMSU Library Catalog, <http://lib.nmsu.edu>
- Article Databases, <http://lib.nmsu.edu/article.html>
- Online Journals, <http://lib.nmsu.edu/journals>
- THE MAIN WEBSITE FOR NMSU LIBRARY IS <http://lib.nmsu.edu/distance>

To connect to these databases from off campus you will need to follow the instructions found at <http://lib.nmsu.edu/resources/offcamp.html>

COURSE POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS

Since teaching is a dynamic process, the instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus, students’ evaluation performance and course policy as required by either good

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judgment or circumstance. Changes will be announced on Web-ct, and students are responsible for recording changes! Students are expected to refer to the syllabus posted on Web-ct regularly online (don't print it!!) to stay updated on class assignments and activities.

USE OF WEB-CT SYSTEM: Students are expected to access the online course on a weekly basis. All correspondence will be done through the Web-ct email system.

READING ASSIGNMENTS: Students are expected to complete all assigned readings.

ASSIGNMENTS: Class assignments must be submitted on or before the designated due date. A 5% penalty will be applied for each day an assignment is late. Note that all the assignments must be completed to graduate from this course.

EXTRA-CREDITS: There is no provision for extra credits.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: Academic misconduct includes cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized possession of exams and course materials, and unauthorized changing of grades. Note that **plagiarism** includes (but is not limited to) **claiming credit for the work or efforts of another without giving due credit to the authors**. Examples include **cutting and pasting text from the web, paraphrasing from the web or other sources, using research, notes, ideas, without properly crediting the originator**. Sanctions include probation, suspension, dismissal, and expulsion (NMSU Handbook).

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ADA STATEMENT

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: If you have or believe you have a disability and would benefit from any accommodations, you may wish to self-identify by contacting the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Office located at Garcia Annex (phone: 646-6840). If you have already registered, please make sure that your Instructor receives a copy of the accommodation memorandum from SSD within the first two weeks of classes. It is your responsibility to inform either your Instructor or SSD representative in a timely manner if services/ accommodations provided are not meeting your needs.

If you have a condition which may affect your ability to exit safely from the premises in an emergency or which may cause an emergency during class, you are encouraged to discuss any concerns with the Instructor and/or Mr. Michael Armendariz, SSD Coordinator. Feel free to call Mr. Gerard Nevarez, Director, or Angela Velasco, Assistant Director, Office of Institutional Equity, at 646-3635, with any questions about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. All medical information will be treated confidentially.

Instructors will receive specific written guidelines for appropriate accommodations for individual students from the SSD office. No student should be given accommodations for disabilities unless SSD has requested these specific accommodations for her/him.

| CRITERIA | POINTS | GRADING SCALE |
|--|---------------|----------------------|
| Tests (10 @ 50pts) | 500 | A=90-100% |
| Short assignments (5 @ 20 points each) | 100 | B=80-89% |
| Library research paper | 150 | C=70-79% |
| TOTAL | 750 | D=60-69% |
| | | F=<60% |

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COURSE SCHEDULE, ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS

| Week # | Date | |
|--------|----------------|---|
| 1 | Jan. 16- 18 | Students get acquainted with Web-ct system and course procedures, policies and syllabus |
| | Jan. 21 | MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY – NO CLASS!! |
| 2 | Jan. 22-25 | Chapter 1. Introduction to Human Sexuality Chapter 2: Research methods in sexuality |
| 3 | Jan. 28- Feb 1 | Chapter 3. Introduction to Gender Issues |
| 4 | Feb.2-8 | Chapter 4. Female Anatomy |
| 5 | Feb.11-15 | Chapter 5. Male Anatomy |
| 6 | Feb.18-22 | Chapter 6. Sexual Arousal and Response |
| 7 | Feb.25-29 | Chapter 7. Love and Communication in Intimate Relationships |
| 8 | Mar. 3-7 | Chapter 8. Sexual Behaviors |
| 9 | Mar. 10-14 | Chapter 9. Sexual Orientation |
| 10 | Mar. 17-20 | Chapter 10. Contraception Chapter 11. Conceiving Children TESTS 1 TO 5 MUST BE COMPLETED FRIDAY APRIL 21: NO CLASS |
| | | SPRING HOLIDAY (March 23-28) – NO CLASS!!! |
| 12 | Mar. 31-Apr.4 | Chapter 12. Sexuality during Childhood and Adolescence FINAL PAPER DUE IN DROP-IN BOX BY APRIL 4, 11:55PM |
| 13 | Apr. 7-11 | Chapter 13. Sexuality and the Adult Years |
| 14 | Apr. 14-18 | Chapter 15. STDs |
| 15 | Apr. 21-25 | Chapter 16. Atypical Sexual Behavior |
| 16 | Apr. 28- May 2 | Chapter 17. Sexual Coercion Chapter 18. Sex for Sale |
| 17 | May 5-7 | TESTS 6 TO 10 MUST BE COMPLETED THE END! HURRAY!! |