

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code, Number, and Title:

HSCI 1120: Introduction to Human Sexuality and Behavior

Course Format:

[Course format may vary by instructor. The typical course format would be:]

Lecture 3 h + Seminar 1 h + Lab 0 h

Credits: 3

Transfer credit: For information, visit bctransferguide.ca

Course Description, Prerequisites, Corequisites:

Students explore biological, psychological, social, and cultural perspectives on human sexuality and sexual behaviour. Topics include the physical development and functions of reproductive systems, sexual disfunction, sexually transmitted diseases, gender and gender identity, and relevant Canadian law.

Prerequisite(s): One of the following: LET 3 (or LPI equivalent), IELTS 6.5, with a minimum of 6.0 in each band; minimum "C+" grade in one of English 12 or English Literature 12 or English First Peoples 12; minimum "C" grade in one of ENGL 1120, ENGL 1127, ENGL 1128, CMNS 1115, or CMNS 1118; "S" grade in one of ENGL 1107, 1108, or 1110; or one of HSCI 1130, 1140, 1160 or 1180.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- explain a broad range of perspectives on human sexuality and sexual behaviour (e.g. psychological, social, biological, cultural)
- identify between moral, cultural and scientific beliefs about sexual behaviour
- describe the biological aspects of sexuality, sexual behavior, and sexual function, including physical development and function of reproductive systems and secondary sexual characteristics from conception through old age
- explain sexual function and dysfunction, conception, contraception, pregnancy and birth, and sexually transmitted disease
- describe the ways in which gender identity and gender roles influence sexual behaviour
- identify a range of sexual behaviours and discuss if, how, and when these behaviours may be challenging for individuals or for society
- summarize Canadian law with respect to sexual coercion, sexual harassment, sexually explicit material, and sex work

Instructor(s): TBA

Office: TBA Phone: 604 323 XXXX Email: TBA

Office Hours: TBA

Textbook and Course Materials:

[Textbook selection may vary by instructor. An example of texts and course materials for this course might be:]

Rathus, S.A, Nevid, J S, Fischer-Rathus, L & Herold, E S. "Human Sexuality in a World of Diversity". Toronto. 2010.

Course readings- compilation of scholarly articles

Note: This course may use an electronic (online) instructional resource that is located outside of Canada for mandatory graded class work. You may be required to enter personal information, such as your name and email address, to log in to this resource. This means that your personal information could be stored on servers located outside of Canada and may be accessed by U.S. authorities, subject to federal laws. Where possible, you may log in with an email pseudonym as long as you provide the pseudonym to me so I can identify you when reviewing your class work.

Assessments and Weighting:

Final Exam 20%

Other Assessments %

(An example of other assessments might be:) %

Midterm Exam: 2 x 15%

Assignments: 40%

Participation: 10%

Number of assignments: 1 term paper (worth 20%) + 3 min thought papers on seminar readings (each worth 5%) + 1 library assignment (5%)

Participation format: Weekly seminar and discussions of assigned articles

Number and variety of writing assignments:

Term paper – Students must submit one research paper (10-12) pages, worth 20% of their final grade. Research on various aspects of human sexuality receives considerable attention in the popular press. Unfortunately, popular accounts sometimes do not effectively summarize information from the scientific literature and thereby create misconceptions among the general public. For this research paper, students will be responsible for summarizing and critically evaluating a recent popular article on human sexuality. This assignment will involve independently researching the topic discussed in the popular article. Students

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are required to have at least six scholarly, published references from the scholarly literature. Scholarly literature includes peer-reviewed professional journals, books, or chapter in edited volumes.

The research paper must include an introduction and summary on the popular account, providing a clear thesis statement that summarizes the argument to be developed in the paper. In a second section of the paper, students need to synthesize and present the research information compiled from the scholarly literature. Based on these background readings, the paper then needs to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the popular account. The paper must conclude with a discussion of broad scientific or societal implications.

Mini-“thought” papers – Students must write three mini-“thought” papers about assigned seminar readings, contributing to 15% of their final grade. In these “thought” papers, students must briefly summarize the scholarly article’s content and describe how it contributes to the field and contrasts popular misconceptions about sexuality.

Essay questions on exams

Proportion of individual and group work:

Individual: 90%

Group: 10%

Grading System: Letter grade

Specific grading schemes will be detailed in each course section outline.

Passing grade: 50%

Topics Covered:

[Topics covered may vary by instructor. An example of topics covered might be:]

Week	Topic	Lecture Reading	Tutorial	Tutorial Reading
1	Introduction: What is human sexuality?	Chapter 1, pp. 1-16, Rathus et al., 2010	No tutorial	
2	Theoretical and cross-cultural views of sexuality	Chapter 1, pp. 16-33	Cross-cultural views of sexuality	Middleton, D.R. (2002). A Panoramic View of Sexuality. In D.R. Middleton, Exotics and Erotics: Human Cultural and Sexual Diversity (pp. 1-15). Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press.
3	Female and male anatomy and physiology Sexual arousal and response	Chapter 3 Chapter 4	Male and female circumcision debates	Bell, Kirsten. (2005). Genital Cutting and Western Discourses on Sexuality. Medical Anthropology Quarterly, 19 (2), 125-148.
4	Biology and sexual orientation	Chapter 9	Biology and sexual orientation (genes,	James, W.H. (2005). Biological and psychosocial determinants of male and

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Week	Topic	Lecture Reading	Tutorial	Tutorial Reading
			hormones, and biometrics) Mini-thought paper 1 due	female human sexual orientation. Journal of Biosocial Science, 37. 555-567. Pillard, R.C., & Bailey, J.M. (1998). Human sexual orientation has a heritable component. Human biology. 70 (2), 347-65.
5	Review / Midterm 1		No tutorial	
6	Sexual variations	Chapter 15	Psychiatric perspectives on sexuality (trauma and "paraphilias")	Arreola, S.G. (2007). Childhood Sexual Abuse and HIV among Latino Gay Men: The Price of Sexual Silence during the AIDS Epidemic. In Niels Teunis & Gilbert Herdt (Eds.), Sexual inequalities and Social Justice. Berkeley: University of California Press. Seligman, L. & Hardenburg, S. (2000). Assessment and Treatment of Paraphilias. Journal of Counseling & Development, 78 (1), 107-13.
7	Gender identities and gender roles across cultures	Chapter 5	Transgender identities across history and culture	Nanda, S. (2000). Sex/Gender Diversity in Euro-American Cultures. In S. Nanda, Gender Diversity, Crosscultural Variations. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press.
8	Sexually explicit material	Chapter 17, pp. 496-506	Media representations, pornography, and racial fetishism Mini-thought paper 2 due	Cowan, G. & Campbell, R. (1994). Racism and Sexism in Interracial Pornography. Psychology of Women Quarterly, 18, 323-338. Younge, G. (2006, January 23). Why there will never be a black 'Brokeback Mountain'. The Guardian.
9	Review / Midterm 2		No tutorial	
10	Sexuality across the life cycle	Chapter 12	Sexuality and aging	Vare, T. et al. (2007). Re-Conceptualizing cultural narratives of mature women's sexuality in the Viagra era. Journal of Aging Studies, 21, 153-164.
11	Prostitution	Chapter 17, pp. 481-496	Sex work, sex tourism, and sex trafficking Mini-thought paper 3 due	Orchard, Treena. (2007). Girl, woman, lover, mother: Towards a new understanding of child prostitution among young Devadasis in rural

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Week	Topic	Lecture Reading	Tutorial	Tutorial Reading
				Karnataka, India. Social Science and Medicine, 2379-2390. Phillips, J. (1999). Tourist-oriented Prostitution in Barbados: The Case of the Beach Boy and the White Female Tourist. In Kemala Kempadoo (Ed.), Sun, Sex and Gold, (pp. 183-200). New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers Inc.
12	Sexually transmitted infections	Chapter 14	Sexual and reproductive health	Soh, C.S. (2007). Sexual Enslavement and Reproductive Health: Narratives of Han among Korean Comfort Women Survivors. In Niels Teunis & Gilbert Herdt (Eds.), Sexual Inequalities and Social Justice. Berkeley: University of California Press.
13	Course wrap-up and review for final exam / Term Paper due		No tutorial	

As a student at Langara, you are responsible for familiarizing yourself and complying with the following policies:

College Policies:

[E1003 - Student Code of Conduct](#)

[F1004 - Code of Academic Conduct](#)

[E2008 - Academic Standing - Academic Probation and Academic Suspension](#)

[E2006 - Appeal of Final Grade](#)

[F1002 - Concerns about Instruction](#)

[E2011 - Withdrawal from Courses](#)

Departmental/Course Policies:

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