

**PSYCHOLOGY 136 - HUMAN SEXUALITY
SUMMER**

1. Instructor:

TBD
Ofc. hr: TBD

Readers:

TBD

2. Class Meeting Days and Times:

Lectures/DGs: TBD
Film Airings : TBD

3. Required Text:

Carroll, J. (2016). Sexuality Now: Embracing Diversity (5th Ed). CA: Wadsworth Press. ISBN-13: 978-1305253377

4. Course Description:

Psychology 136 provides a basic foundational introduction to the study of human sexuality, a field concerned with how men and women experience and express themselves as sexual beings. The class has been designed for students who have never before taken a college-level class in Human Sexuality. ***Those with prior college courses in human sexuality or with vocational background in human sexuality fields will find the material quite basic and are advised against enrolling in this class.*** If you do decide to enroll, you do so with the understanding that the mission of this course is to provide a basic, broad overview, and not advanced, in-depth coverage of the various topics we will address over the next six weeks.

This offering of Psychology 136 is divided into two "parts." The first part is more focally concerned with biology and behavior; the second, with psychological and social issues. Part one of the course begins by examining students' own knowledge and views about sexuality; the inter-play between culture and sexuality; research approaches central to the field; basics of male and female anatomy and sexual response; and processes of procreation and birth. We then discuss issues central to gay, lesbian and bisexual men and women. After the midterm, we will discuss gender similarities and differences and trace sexuality through the life cycle; explore relationship issues, including common relationship difficulties and patterns of communication; examine sexual harassment and acquaintance rape; go over the basics of sex therapy; discuss controversies surrounding pornography; and cover fundamentals of safe sex and sexually transmitted diseases.

Class meetings will draw on diverse formats, including "traditional" lectures by (TBD) and by guest speakers; video tapes and films; and small group writing and discussion exercises. Students will be encouraged to think critically about their own preconceptions, to form their own informed and unique views, and to respect the diverse views of others.

To provide students with the opportunity to discuss certain topics in greater detail, the class will periodically be divided up into smaller discussion groups during regular class meetings (TBD). After today's class, you and 8-10 of your classmates will be assigned to a given discussion group. Your group will be given some "get acquainted time" and a practice assignment tomorrow. Subsequently, whenever a discussion group is scheduled (the dates are below), you will get together with these same individuals to talk about assigned topics of interest. Discussion groups typically meet for approximately 35-40 minutes, and are followed by general class discussion. Each time a group meets, you and your fellow group members choose 2 or 3 people to serve as "discussion leaders." Everyone serves as group leader once in the semester. The leaders are given the discussion topic and get the discussion rolling. ***Twenty percent of your final grade is based on your participation in these group discussions.*** Discussion leaders get 8 points toward the final grade during the class period in which they lead the group discussion; during class meetings when students are participants rather than leaders (3 times), they earn 4 points toward the final grade. Hence, a total of 20 points can be earned. Further details about these discussions and membership of your group will be provided in class tomorrow. Don't miss this class!!!

The (TBD) class meetings are offered for students interested in seeing films related to the course; these film showings will also be held in (location TBD) and attendance is optional – with one exception. Material you will be responsible for on Exam 1 will be presented during the first half of class on (date TBD). All film content aired will not appear on the exam.

5. Exam Dates and Determination of Grades:

The dates of the ***required*** Discussion groups are as follows:

Group 1:	Date TBD
Group 2:	Date TBD
Group 3:	Date TBD
Group 4:	Date TBD

The dates for the mid-term and final are as follows:

Midterm:	TBD
Final:	TBD

Please mark all of these dates on your calendar. No make-ups for the Discussion Groups or for the exams will be given, and no "make-up" projects are available. In very, very extraordinary cases, students who miss the first exam for documented, life-threatening reasons may be given the option of staying after the final exam to answer additional essay questions from the first half of the course. Please do not miss the mid-term. **If you know now that you will be away for the mid-term or final, you should not plan to enroll in the course.** This is a firm rule. Every year, two or three students approach me and ask me to make exceptions for them. I simply can't and won't do this - it's very unfair to everyone else in the class. No early or late final exams. Please don't ask.

The mid-term exam consists of thirty multiple choice, true-false and/or matching questions and two essays. The final exam, which is cumulative, consists of forty multiple choice, true-false and/or matching questions and one essay. The reading load is substantially heavier for the ***second*** half of the course, so please plan accordingly.

As a gesture to students who may be busier with commitments during a certain period of the semester, we assign greater weight to the **higher** of your two exam grades - so that the higher grade is weighted 50% and the lower grade only 30% when we calculate your final grade for the class. For those interested, the formula for calculating your own final grade for the semester is:

Multiply points earned on your poorer exam by three: _____
Multiply points earned on your better exam by five: _____
Multiply Discussion Group points (max 20) by five: _____
Add any points (max 20) earned from extra credit writing: _____

Add these 4 numbers, and then divide by five: _____

This number reflects the percent of possible points you earned. Grades will be assigned as follows:

90 - 100%	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
below 60%	F

Students need to bring SCANTRON sheets (available at the ASUC store) to the exams; paper will be provided for the essay questions. Lauren Weittenhiller and Chris Adalio will be reading your examinations and will also hold an office hour following the exam (time and place TBA) should you have any questions about grading. You can e-mail Lauren and Chris about grading issues only (not with course-related questions or problems; please direct any such questions to Dr. McHale).

Students can earn up to 20 extra credit points for completing in-class writing assignments. Today, for example, you can earn up to 12 points for thoughtfully completing the opinion survey we are about to distribute. **Please note: No make-ups for missed extra credit writing assignments will ever be available, for any reason.** These are "bonus" points only, linked 100% to your in-class attendance. We will never accept writing assignments turned in the next day because the student "forgot" to turn in their work the day of class. Please do not ask to make up missed writing assignments or to turn in an assignment after the fact. Note too that students are not graded on a curve in this class, meaning that you and your classmates are not in competition for grades -- so study together!!

6. Course Expectations

The aim of Psychology 136 is to provide accurate knowledge about sexual behavior, sexual orientation, gender, sex roles and relationships, while encouraging students to think critically about sexuality. It is expected that class members will come to this course with a wide range of sexual attitudes and values, some liberal and others conservative and traditional. Every effort will be made to present information even-handedly and with respect for these differences of opinion. At the same time, students will be asked to thoughtfully evaluate arguments, be willing to challenge conventional wisdom and maintain an open mind, and respect the diversity of others' view-points. Please (1) be on time for class; (2) actively contribute to discussions and share ideas; (3) talk to the instructor after class if you have questions or need help. Following these guidelines will help you acquire accurate sexual knowledge and critical thinking skills and enhance your own health.

7. Course Meetings and Topics:

Date TBD	Course Introduction; Writing Assignment; Historical/Cultural Perspective
Date TBD	Research and Human Sexuality (XC-DG)
Date TBD	Film TBA
Readings:	Chapters 1, 2 & 6
Date TBD	Sexual Orientation
Date TBD	The Female Sexual System*
Date TBD	The Male Sexual System; Films TBA*
Readings:	Chapters 5, 6, and 11
Date TBD	Human Sexual Response: Conception, Pregnancy, and Childbirth * (DG1)
Date TBD	EXAM #1
Date TBD	TBA
Readings:	Chapters 10 and 12 (read for the exam!)
Date TBD	Gender and Sexuality through the Lifespan (DG2)
Date TBD	Sexuality, Communication and Relationships (DG3)
Date TBD	Film TBA
Readings:	Chapters 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9
Date TBD	Safe Sex and STDs
Date TBD	Sexual Coercion (DG4)
Date TBD	Film TBA
Readings:	Chapters 13, 15, 17 and 18
Date TBD	Sexual Dysfunction and Sex Therapy *
Date TBD	FINAL EXAM
Date TBD	Film/Student exceptions (by arrangement with instructor)
Readings:	Chapter 14 and 16 (read for the exam!)

(DG) Discussion group to be held this class meeting

Note: The DG on (Date TBD) does not count toward the 20 DG points

* Explicit films to be shown during this class meeting

Note: Students may elect to absent themselves during the showing of these films.

Students who would prefer not to view explicit films may step out of class during those periods of time when the videos are aired, and may also skip all the Thursday optional meetings, with no adverse effect on their grade in any way.