



Psychology of Sex
PSYCHOLOGY 405/505, X02 (44252/46339)
Winter 2021

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Haag	Class Time: Wednesday (18:30 – 21:30)
Office: Virtual/Zoom	Class Location: Virtual/Zoom
Phone: 780-905-0461	Course Website: eClass
Email: haag1@ualberta.ca	Office Hours: Will be conducted virtually and by appointment
Teaching Assistant Tristan Eckersley	Class Format: All lectures for this course will be delivered synchronously

Course Description:

This course consists of lecture topics that examine human sexual behaviour. Sexuality is a central, but highly controversial aspect of human nature. Sexuality is the basis of all human life. The course will consider biological, psychological, developmental, and socio-political perspectives pertaining to the topic of human sexuality. This is an introductory course and is intended for learners who have a limited background.

A main objective of the course is to provide students with an introduction to major issues in human sexuality from various perspectives. Rather than attempting to present cut-and-dried answers to contentious sexual questions, the course presents empirical data and a multiplicity of interpretive viewpoints. This approach is designed to assist students develop critical thinking and contribute constructively to the social debate on sexual issues.

Course Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

Students will learn essential aspects of critical thinking on issues pertaining to human sexuality. Although there will be an emphasis on the empirical method, students will be encouraged to critically consider multiple viewpoints pertaining to issues of human sexuality.

Required E-Textbook:

Rathus, S.A., Nevid, J.S., Fichner-Rathus, L., McKay, A., & Milhausen, R. (2020). *Human sexuality: In a world of diversity* (6th Canadian ed.). Toronto: Pearson.

Recommended or Optional Learning Resources:

None

Additional Course Fees:

None

Important Dates: See the current Calendar for the [Academic Schedule, Dates, and Deadlines](#), which include the Registration Add/Drop deadline and Withdrawal date.

Lecture Schedule & Assigned Readings:

Date	Topic	Text Reading
January 13	Introductions, Syllabus, Intro to Sexuality	1
January 20	Research Issues	2
January 27	Sexual Anatomy, Gender, & Contraception	3, 5, & 11
February 3	<i>Exam 1</i>	
February 10	Developmental Look At Sex And The Life Cycle	12
February 17	Reading Week	
February 22	Sexual Response & Conception	4, 10
March 3	Attraction, Intimacy, and Love & Sexual Orientation	6, 7, 9
March 10	<i>Exam 2</i>	
March 17	Sexual Behaviour & Fantasy	8
March 24	Sexually Transmitted Infections	14
March 31	Sex Therapy & Sexual Disorders	13
April 7	Sexual Coercion, Sexual Variation & Ethics, Religion, and Sexuality	16, 17
April 14	<i>Final Exam</i>	

Representative Evaluative Material:

Questions from prior courses will be posted to eclass. The intention of these questions is for students to get a sense of the types of questions that Dr. Haag has asked in the past; hence, only the questions are posted on.

Grade Evaluation:

Distribution of Grades												
Letter grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F
% Range	≥95	90-94	85-89	80-84	75-79	71-74	67-70	63-66	60-62	55-59	50-54	<50
Grade points	4.0	4.0	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.0	0
Descriptor	Excellent			Good			Satisfactory			Poor	Minimal Pass	Fail

This table contains an approximate guideline for the course, however the instructor reserves the right to adjust this table to correspond to University-suggested ranges and assign appropriate grades based on relative performance.

Grades are unofficial until approved by the Department and/or Faculty offering the course.

How Final Grades Are Calculated:

Psych 405

	Exam Date/ Due Date	Materials to be covered on the exam	Weighting of the exam
Midterm 1	February 3	Jan 13, 20, & 27	25%
Midterm 2	March 10	Feb 10, Feb 22, & Mar 3	25%
Final Exam	April 14	Mar 17, Mar 24, Mar 31, & Apr 7	25%
Paper or Presentation	Feb 20		25%

Total 100%

Psych 505

	Exam Date/ Due Date	Materials to be covered on the exam	Weighting of the exam
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Midterm 1	February 3	Jan 13, 20, & 27	20%
Midterm 2	March 10	Feb 10, Feb 22, & Mar 3	20%
Final Exam	April 14	Mar 17, Mar 24, Mar 31, & Apr 7	20%
Paper	Feb 20		40%

Total 100%

WARNING: Students must verify the date of the final exam on BearTracks when the Final Exam Schedule is posted.

Please note:

- **Dr. Haag may have a special presenter(s) at some point in this class. The date of this special lecture has yet to be determined. This presentation would impact the above lecture schedule but would not impact the reading schedule.**

Class Presentation:

A student may choose to do a class presentation on any of the topics above or a special topic with the approval of the instructor. There will be two presentations per class with the exception of days when there is an exam. Depending on the enrolment level of the class, students may be expected to work with a co-presenter. Topic assignments will be made on the first or second day of class and delivered on the respective date on which it is noted on the syllabus. Each presentation should run for no longer than 25 minutes. Each presentation **must be** accompanied with a paper hand out and bibliography in **APA format**. A supplement as to how the presentation will be graded will be handed out on the first day of class. If applicable, students will be expected to review and know the respective chapter(s) on which they are presenting. Additionally, students are expected to do substantial additional research and reading related to the topic chosen. Presenters should ensure that there is time in their presentation for questions or comments. Presenters should expect that the professor will be asking questions of them during the question time. Students are encouraged to use the class resources at their disposal such as PowerPoint, whiteboards, appropriate videos, etc. Students will be expected to email the professor a copy of their PowerPoint presentation and handout.

Paper

Students may choose to write a paper between ten and fifteen pages in length (excluding references) on any of the topics covered in the course. Students will be required to cite empirical articles and are strongly encouraged to consult review articles on the topic of their choosing. The paper is to be in APA format. **The paper is to be submitted in either Google Docs or Microsoft Word format to Dr. Haag via eclass.** Papers are to be submitted by **23:59 of February 20, 2021**. **Please include your student ID on the title page of your paper.** For those

students who need assistance with APA format, they are encouraged to make use of the [APA Purdue website](#).

Paper For Psych 505

Students will be required to write an in-depth paper that will be a minimum of 20 pages but no more than 30 pages (excluding references). The paper can be based on any topic covered in this course and must discuss critical issues in the field of human sexuality. This paper is expected to be of publishable quality. Further details as to the expectations of the paper will be given on the first day of class. The paper is to be in APA format. The paper must be submitted in Google Docs format to Dr. Haag via email. Papers are to be submitted by 23:59 on February 20, 2021. Late papers will be deducted 5% per day including weekends.

REMOTE DELIVERY CONSIDERATIONS

Technology for Remote Learning:

To successfully participate in remote learning in this course, students will need access to a computer with an internet connection that can support the tools and technologies the University uses to deliver content, engage with instructors, TAs, and fellow students, and facilitate assessment and examinations. Please refer to [Technology for Remote Learning - For Students](#) for details. If you encounter difficulty meeting the technology recommendations, please email the Dean of Students Office (dosdean@ualberta.ca) directly to explore options and support.

Please contact Dr. Haag by the add/drop deadline (January 22, 2021) if you do not have access to the minimum technology recommended. The instructor will attempt to make arrangements for accommodating students who contact the instructor before this date. Failure to do so may result in a zero in any assessment that depends on the minimum technology.

Remote Proctoring Consideration

This class will use a remote proctoring service for exams. In other words, your computer and environment will be monitored during exams.

- You will need a computer that has an internet connection and a webcam to write your exams
- You will need to have Google Chrome installed on your computer
- You should arrange for a place to write timed exams without interruption.
- Tablets and mobile devices are incompatible with remote proctoring services.

Recordings of Synchronous Activities

- Please note that class times for this course will be recorded. Recordings of this course will be used for the purposes of asynchronous learning and will be disclosed to other students enrolled in this section of the class and the course TA.

- Students have the right to not participate in the recording and are advised to turn off their cameras and audio prior to recording; students can still participate through text-based chat. It is recommended that students remove all identifiable and personal belongings from the space in which they will be participating.
- Recordings will be made available until Dec 3, 2020 and accessible on the e-class site. Please direct any questions about this collection to the instructor of this course.

Student Resources for Remote Learning

Online learning may be new to you. Check out tips for success and find out more about online learning on the [Campus Life](#) page, and specifically on the [Student Resources for Remote Learning](#) page.

Format of Exams:

There will be three exams in this course. The midterm and final exams will consist of about 75 multiple choice questions. The content for the exams will come from the text **and** lectures. Lecture materials are supplemental to the text and may or may not be covered in the text. It is important to note that Dr. Haag will not be covering all text book topics in class. However, students are nonetheless responsible for all text material. All exam for this course will be completed via electronic means.

Exam Conduct

- Your student photo I.D. is required at exams to verify your identity.
- Students will not be allowed to begin an examination after it has been in progress for 30 minutes.
- All cell phones must be turned off and stored in your bags.
- The exams are not “open book” and Dr. Haag will make use of the U of A’s remote proctoring software.

Learning and Classroom Etiquette

The Faculty of Arts/Science is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

Learning in this class is intended to be an active and interactive process, a joint venture between student and professor and between student and student (i.e., learning is not just “downloading”

information from teacher to student). Students are encouraged to take an active role in the learning process. In specific, students are encouraged to do the following: (a) attend class regularly, (b) reading course material in advance of class, (c) showing up to class on time, and (d) be attentive and proactively “present” during class (i.e., not on the internet, not texting, not conversing with the person beside you). This encouragement is done with the goal of enhancing the overall learning experience.

Format of Exams:

There will be three exams in this course. Midterm and final exams will consist of about 75 multiple choice questions. The content for the exams will come from the text and lectures. Lecture materials are supplemental to the text and may or may not be covered in the text. It is important to note that Dr. Haag will not be covering all text book topics in class. However, students are nonetheless responsible for all text material.

Missed Term Exams and Assignments:

Should a student wish to apply for a deferred midterm exam, it is up to Dr. Haag if a statutory declaration or other supporting documentation will be required. However, students should know that Dr. Haag can require that such a declaration be made. For cases requiring a statutory declaration, students must visit the Student Services Office in the Faculty of Science to complete the paperwork.

Should a deferred midterm exam be granted, Dr. Haag will schedule an alternative exam date. Should the deferral date for a midterm not work for a student, Dr. Haag will redistribute the weighting of the student’s grade such that the other midterm will be worth 33% of the student’s course grade, the papers will be worth 33%, and final exam will be worth 34% of the course grade.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of Facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the *Code of Student Behaviour*.

Deferred Final Examination:

A student who cannot write the final examination due to incapacitating illness, severe domestic affliction, or other compelling reasons can apply for a deferred final examination. Students who failed at the start of term to request exam accommodations for religious beliefs are expected to follow the normal deferred final examination process. Such an application must be made to the student’s Faculty office within two working days of the missed examination and must be supported by appropriate documentation or a Statutory Declaration (see Calendar for information on [Attendance](#)). Deferred examinations are a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferred examination will be granted. Misrepresentation of Facts to gain a deferred examination is a serious breach of the *Code of Student Behaviour*.

- The date of the deferred final, should it be required, will be **May 19, 2021** at a time to be announced.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Academic Integrity: The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult the [Academic Integrity website](#) for clarification on the various offences. If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

All forms of dishonesty are unacceptable at the University. Any offence will be reported to the Associate Dean of the Faculty, who will determine the disciplinary action to be taken. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#). Sanctions range from a grade of zero for an exam or paper in question, with no opportunity to replace the grade or redistribute the weights, to a disciplinary failing grade with a period of suspension or expulsion from the University of Alberta.

Given the possibility of collaboration in the event that a student may wish to do a presentation in this class, students should be aware of the policy of [Appropriate Collaboration](#) from the Office of the Dean of Students' website.

Exams:

Your student photo I.D. is required at exams to verify your identity. Students will not be allowed to begin an examination after it has been in progress for 30 minutes, and must remain in the exam room until at least 30 minutes has elapsed. Electronic equipment cannot be brought into examination rooms and hats should not be worn. See Calendar information on [Conduct of Exams](#) for more information.

Cell Phones:

Cell phones are to be turned off during lectures, labs and seminars, unless the instructor has explicitly requested their use in association with lecture/learning material (e.g., ePoll). Cell phones are not to be brought to exams.

Recording and/or Distribution of Course Materials:

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used

solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

STUDENT RESOURCES:

Accessibility Resources (AR) (1 – 80 SUB):

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. AR promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage. Eligible students have both rights and responsibilities with regard to accessibility-related accommodations. Consequently, scheduling exam accommodations in accordance with AR deadlines and procedures is essential. Please note adherence to procedures and deadlines is required for U of A to provide accommodations.

Academic Success Centre (1-80 SUB):

[The Academic Success Centre](#) provides professional academic support to help students strengthen their academic skills and achieve their academic goals. Individual advising, appointments, and group workshops are available year round in the areas of Accessibility, Communication, Learning, and Writing Resources. Modest fees apply for some services.

The Centre for Writers (1-42 Assiniboia Hall):

The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

Health and Wellness Support:

There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

Office of the Student Ombuds:

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

LEARNING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT

The Department of Psychology, Faculty of Arts, and Faculty of Science are committed to ensuring that all students, faculty, and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment.

The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) section of the University Calendar.

Disclaimer:

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and/or posted on the course website (e.g., eClass). The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

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