***GRAYSON COLLEGE***

***Course Syllabus***

Psychology of Sexual Behavior

SPRING 2017

Psychology 2306.001 (3 credit hours)

**Type of Course/Delivery Mode/Testing Requirements**

*Face to Face Course with Lecture 3 hrs/week on campus MW 9:30am CIS203*

*Testing combination of Online and In class.*

**Professor Contact Information**

**Virginia Thompson, MS**

**Office: LA 212-B**

Office Phone: 903-463-8721

E-Mail: [thompsonv@grayson.edu](mailto:thompsonv@grayson.edu) Or thru CANVAS Course

**Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

Reading & Writing Intensive

**Course Description**

This course will provide an overview of the broad field of human sexuality. Topics will be covered from various perspectives – biological, sociological, anthropological, etc., but will focus primarily on the psychological perspective. The goal is for each student to learn factual, scientifically-based information that will provoke thought and contribute to his/her own decision-making on sexual issues outside of the classroom.

**Core Objectives**

Critical thinking, Social Responsibility, Communication, and Quantitative Skills.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will identify and recognize the cultural, historical, and research perspectives concerning human sexuality.
2. Students will identify and recognize how biological and physiological anatomy of human sexuality integrates with human sexual arousal system and the psychology of sexual response.
3. Students will identify and recognize the Developmental, Psychological and social aspects of sexuality over the life span.

**Required Textbooks (ISBN # included) and Materials**

*Sexuality Today: The Human Perspective* (11th ed.) by Gary F. Kelly

ISBN# 978-0-07-8035470

**Outline of Topics Covered**

The subject of human sexuality education is still a controversial one. The purpose of this course is to bring together the facts about sex with the different sexual values and lifestyles that each of us carry and gain an understanding that our sexual attitudes and values are determined by the society and time in which we live. This class will cover both the anatomical and the social aspects of sexuality between humans. The content ranges from strict biology to complex social interactions between individuals. We will be covering a wide range of viewpoints on many aspects of sexuality.

Be prepared to consider views different from your own. Every opinion is important, but I will not tolerate any disparaging remarks toward another person’s belief system. Even if you believe that others in the class AGREE with your remarks. There is a big difference between debating a point and ridiculing someone’s beliefs. There will always be people with diverse sexual backgrounds, orientations, persuasions, and experiences. Every person has the right to be treated respectfully. If you feel insulted or bothered by any remark made in class – whether from me or a class mate – and I do not notice or you do not feel comfortable bringing it up in class – please speak to me after class or during my office hours.

Human sexuality is an issue which we all have personal knowledge of in some way. However, a common mistake that is made in this class is the assumption that this everyday knowledge can eliminate the need to read the textbook. Wrong! It is useful to have read the chapter before class. This not only facilitates discussion during the class, but also makes it easier to follow the lecture and take notes. **You are responsible for the information covered in the textbook, whether or not it is covered in class.**

**Methods of Evaluation**

Grades will be determined as follows:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = Below 60

Grades are posted online within Canvas

**Evaluation: Quizzes (40% of total grade)**

* Quizzes will be taken ONLINE thru Canvas and will cover 1-2 chapters of the text.
* After covering a chapter or two, the quiz will be available for you to take ONLINE outside of class. It will only be available for a certain number of days, timed, & only one chance to take it. It cannot be “made up”. If you miss taking the quiz – your grade is a zero for that quiz. There will be no make-ups!

**Tests (MidTerm & Final) (15% of total grade)**

* There will be 2 tests IN CLASS (MidTerm & Final) with approximately 50 questions on each test.

Use a Green scantron sheet

* The MidTerm test will cover the first half of the text. The Final will cover the last half of the text. You will use previous Quizzes to review for each Test to help you study for the tests.
* If you do not attend class on the scheduled test date for the MidTerm you will have only ONE WEEK to make it up. You must document the reason for your absence and contact me so that I may place the test in the testing center. If the test is not taken within one week of the date it was originally given, you will receive a ZERO for that test. Since this test counts for 10% of your total grade – a zero will be very hard to recover from. Please do everything you can to take the test when it is scheduled.
* **The Final is given ONLY on scheduled day for Finals –**

**Papers (30% of total grade)**

* Reaction/Reflection Papers

There will be 4 reaction or reflection papers due this semester. The purpose of the reaction papers is to provide you with the opportunity to do research and express your views on various issues concerning sexuality. You need to select a topic based on some aspect related to the psychology of sexual behavior.

Each paper should be based on two (2) articles. One article has to come from a credited professional journal. Due dates and more detailed directions to follow.

NO late papers accepted.

**Group Participation/Exercises: (15% of grade)**

* Typically after we cover one chapter we will have a discussion or group activity - (I will TRY to let you know ahead of time) and on this day participation is worth 5 points. **\*Please Note – unless it is a school related function (which requires documentation) NO absence from these activities will be excused from losing these points!** We will be following the chapter topics and class schedule as far as issues and topics of discussions are concerned. Everyone must participate!

Beware! It is possible to pass all tests in class and FAIL the course because of failure to **attend** class or not turn in papers.

**Methods of Instruction**

In class lecture, group activities and discussions, online quizzes, etc.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Week | Date | Topics & Readings |
| 1 | 1-15 | Chapter 1 – Historical Perspectives and Research |
| 2 | 1-22 | Chapter 1 – Historical perspectives and Research |
| 3 | 1-29 | Chapter 2 – Female anatomy  Chapter 3 – Male Anatomy |
| 4 | 2-5 | Chapter 4 – Human Sexual Response |
| 5 | 2-12 | Chapter 5 - Developmental & Social perspectives on Gender |
| 6 | 2-19 | Chapter 6 – Sexuality thru Adolescence |
| 7 | 2-26 | Chapter 7 – Adult Sexuality |
| 8 | 3-5 | Chapter 8 – Sexual Individuality |
| 9 | 3-12 | Springbreak!! |
| 10 | 3-19 | Chapter 9 - communication |
| 11 | 3-26 | Chapter 10 - Reproduction  Chapter 11 – Decision making abt Pregnancy |
| 12 | 4-2 | Chapter 12 – Solitary Sex and Shared Sex  Chapter 13 – Sexual Orientation |
| 13 | 4-9 | Chapter 14 – the Spectrum of Sexuality |
| 14 | 4-16 | Chapter 15 – Sexual Consent, Coercion, Rape |
| 15 | 4-23 | Chapter 16 – STDs, HIV |
| 16 | 4-30 | Chapter 17 –Sexual Dysfunctions |
| Final Exam | 5-7 | In Class Final – see GC Final Exam schedule |

**Course & Instructor Policies**

* **Attendance:** Please do not be late to class. Students coming into class late are very disrupting. If you are more than 15 minutes late to class you will be counted absent. If you know you will be absent please let me know. Excessive absences are defined by College policy as more than 4 absences per semester. Remember you cannot make up the participation/group activities points if you are absent.

Academic success is closely associated with regular classroom attendance and course participation.

All successful students, whether on campus or online, are expected to be highly self-motivated.

All students are required to participate in courses regularly and are obliged to participate in class activities and complete and submit assignments following their professors’ instructions. Students taking courses during compressed semester time frames such as mini-mester, summer sessions, and mid-semester should plan to spend significantly more time per week on the course. Responsibility for work missed because of illness or school business is placed upon the student. More than two (2) absences are considered to be excessive. In addition, students’ eligibility to receive financial aid or live in a College dormitory can be affected by withdrawal from courses. When withdrawal occurs, any tuition refund would be made in accordance with state regulations.

**Student Conduct & Discipline**

Cell phones will be turned off and NOT responded to during class time.

Do not leave class after it starts. If you need to leave early please let me know ahead of time. Leaving class early will count as an absence.

Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the instructor. Students are expected to maintain prompt and regular attendance and a positive attitude conducive to the learning environment

**Academic Integrity**

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic Dishonesty, any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the college’s policy on plagiarism (see GC Student Handbook for details). Grayson College subscribes to turnitin.com, which allows faculty to search the web and identify plagiarized material.

**Title IX**

GC policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation and protected veterans status.

Furthermore, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct: sexual violence (sexual assault, rape), sexual harassment and retaliation.

For more information on Title IX, please contact:

* Dr. Regina Organ, Title IX Coordinator
* Dr. Dava Washburn , Title IX Coordinator
* GC Police Department: (903) 463-8777
* GC Counseling Center: (903) 463-8695
* For Any On-campus Emergencies: 911

**Grayson College is not responsible for illness/injury that occurs during the normal course of classroom/lab/clinical experiences.**

**These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor*.***

**Grayson College campus-wide student policies may be found on our Current Student Page on our website:** <http://grayson.edu/current-students/index.html>