



**DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION**

**COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2018**

**PY3000 (A3): Psychology of Sex & Sexual Interactions – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Ali M. AL-Asadi      **PHONE:** 780-539-2061  
**OFFICE:** B-301      **E-MAIL:** [aalasadi@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:aalasadi@gprc.ab.ca)  
**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointments

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

This course examines human sexuality from biopsychological, developmental, behavioural, and psychosocial perspectives. Students will learn about healthy and unhealthy sexuality and its potential psychological consequences on individuals and society.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** PY1040 & PY1050

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

- Rathus, S. A., Nevid, J. S., Fichner-Rathus, L., Herold, E. S., & McKenzie, S. W. (2009). Human Sexuality in a World of Diversity (3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Edition). Pearson Publishing.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** Lectures, Discussions, & Video Conference

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** This course introduces students to:

- the history and the evolution of our understanding of sex and sexuality
- the major theories, perspectives and concepts in the area of sex and sexuality and its impact on human development
- the major research that shaped our understanding of sexual behaviour and sexual practices
- the biological and psychological anatomy of sex and sexual behaviour
- the sexual response cycle and the various proposed modifications
- the relationships between concepts such as love, attraction, desire, fantasy and sexual behaviours
- healthy and unhealthy sexuality and its impact on individuals and society.
- the risk associated with sexual behaviours and its consequences
- the dark side of love and sex
- various sexually transmitted diseases and their short and long term cost and effect
- sexual dysfunctions and sexual disorders
- the criteria for diagnosing the various sexual dysfunctions and sexual disorders
- the treatment modalities that are currently in use to treat sexual disorders and sexual dysfunctions

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** As a result of taking this course, students will be able to:

- describe the evolution of our knowledge of sex and sexuality over the centuries
- describe how various cultures developed their view of sex and sexuality
- articulate the theories that explain sexuality and the relative contributions of nature and nurture to our sexual practices
- identify and describe the research that has been conducted in the area of sex and sexuality and its contributions to our understanding
- identify and the explain the role of biological structures that are involved, and not so involved, in sexual behaviour and reproduction
- identify and explain the sexual response cycle and the various modifications that have been proposed
- describe the difference between healthy and unhealthy sexuality and its impact on individuals and society.
- Explain the development of sexuality and the relationship between sex and such concepts as love, attraction, desire, fantasy.
- Identify and describe the risk associated with sexual behaviours and its consequences to the individual, family, and ultimately society
- identify and describe the various sexually transmitted diseases and their short and long term cost and effect on individuals, family, and society
- articulate the difference between sexual dysfunctions and sexual disorders
- identify and explain the criteria for the diagnosis of the various sexual dysfunctions and sexual disorders
- identify and explain the treatment modalities currently in use to treat sexual disorders and sexual dysfunctions

**TRANSFERABILITY:** UA, UC, UL, AU

**\*Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca> or, if you do not want to navigate through few links, at <http://alis.alberta.ca/ps/tsp/ta/tbi/onlineSearch.html?SearchMode=S&step=2>

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Final Exam	30%
Project-Presentation	20%
Attendance & Participation	10%

\* The nature, scope, and depth of the project, presentation, and written papers will be discussed in class.

\* Remember, all exams may include questions from lectures that may not be covered by your textbook.

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

Please note that universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	66-69
A	4.0	90-94		C	2.0	63-65
A-	3.7	85-89		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	80-84		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	75-79		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-74		F	0.0	00-49

**COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:**

**Course Content**

**Week**

**Topic**

1 - 3

History & Research on Sexuality (Chapters 1, 2, & 17)  
 The Science of Sex  
 Societal, Political, and Ethical issues  
 The Process of sex research  
 Sexual Products  
 Erotica and the Law and Public policy  
 Violence & Pornography  
 Prostitution

4 & 5

Sexual Anatomy and Physiology (Chapter 3 & 10)  
 Nervous System  
 Sexual Anatomy of male  
 Sexual Anatomy of female  
 Fertilization, Conception, & Pregnancy  
 Development of Sexual Differentiation  
 Hormones and Endocrine System  
 Illness and Diseases

6 - 8

Sexual Behaviour (Chapters 4, 8, & 9)  
 Sexuality and Mental and Physical Health

- Aphrodisiacs and Anaphrodisiacs
  - Stages of Sexual Behaviour
  - Sexual response cycle
  - Varieties of Orgasm
  - Sexuality and Physical Disabilities
  - Homosexual behaviour and Identity
  - Bisexuality
  - Explanations of Sexual orientation
  - Sexual orientation and adjustment and Prejudice
- 9                      Love & Sexual Interactions (Chapters 6 & 7)
- Attraction
  - Love
  - Theories of Love
  - Jealousy
  - Relationships
  - Communications
- 10                     Sexually transmitted Diseases (Chapter 14)
- Attitudes toward STDs
  - Bacterial Infections
  - AIDS
  - More Viral STDs
  - Parasitic Infections
  - Safe sex practices and risks
- 11 & 12              Atypical Sexual Activity (Chapter 15 and 16)
- Paraphilias
  - DSM IV diagnostic criteria
  - Invasive Paraphilias
  - Treatment of Paraphilias
  - Sexual Assault
  - Sexual Harassment
  - Sexual abuse of children
- 13                     Sexual Dysfunction and Therapy (Chapter 13)
- Contributing factors
  - Types of Sexual dysfunction
  - Sex Therapy
- 14                     Presentations and exams will be delivered during the relevant week

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The assigned readings and exercises for each class should be completed before attending that class, except for the first class. As this course depends heavily on practice exercises, attendance at all sessions is required and is critical to the student's success in the course. In case of illness or emergency, notify the instructor as soon as possible. If you find yourself having difficulty in this

course, please contact the instructor immediately for assistance. If you simply want more discussion with the instructor about any aspect of the course, please visit my office during office hours or at a more convenient pre-arranged time.

If a student is unable to attend an in-class test or quiz, the instructor must be advised before the test/quiz is administered. Voice mail or e-mail notification is fine. The test/quiz will then be written later at the testing centre or pre-arranged location. Failure to notify the instructor of an absence will result in a grade of 0 on that test/quiz.

It is expected that all students will display a professional attitude and behaviour in the classroom. This includes reliability, respect for and cooperation with your fellow students and the instructor, attention to fellow student questions and instructor's response, determination to achieve first-class work while meeting deadlines, and constructive response to criticism.

### **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments.

**Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.**

**\*\*Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

### **Additional Information**

1. The format of each exam will be discussed in class.
2. Exam grades are final and there is no substitute work for your poor exam grade.
3. The nature and topics of your written paper will be discussed in class
4. It is your responsibility to read each and every chapter and assigned reading (if any) and attend all lectures.
5. Lectures will not always cover material in your chapters. Lectures may cover topics and include materials that are not covered by your textbook. It is therefore imperative that you attend every class as your exams may include materials from the lectures that are not covered by your textbook.
6. It is expected that students will display a professional attitude and behaviour. These attitudes and behaviours are many and will be discussed in class. Any violation or misconduct may result in dismissal from the class.
7. Talk to me if you have concerns or you are experiencing difficulties that may have negative impact on your academic performance.