

Minnesota State College Southeast

PSYC 2520: Psychology of Human Sexuality

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 02 - Critical Thinking, Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

Psychology of Human Sexuality is an overview of theories, research and contemporary issues in human sexual behavior. Topics include psychosexual development, gender roles, sexual orientation, sexual anatomy, alternate methods of reproduction, pregnancy/birth, contraception, sexually transmitted diseases, sex education, sexism, love and attraction, sexual abuse, sexual dysfunctions, sex therapy, paraphilia, and sexuality through the life cycle. (Meets MnTC Goals 2 & 5) (Prerequisite: None) (3 credits: 3 lecture/0 lab)

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 12/16/2008 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. History, research methodology, and theories of human sexuality
2. Physiological, cognitive, and psychosocial similarities, differences, and processes in male and female sexuality
3. Sexual development throughout the life span
4. Sociocultural influences and diversity in sexuality and its expression

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Explore historical, religious, cross-cultural, gender, and cross-species influences on our understanding of human sexuality
2. Contrast evolutionary, psychological perspectives of human sexuality
3. Describe research methods and major sex survey results as well as some ethical and political issues related to sex research
4. Describe the anatomy and physiology of male and female reproductive organs, how to perform pelvic and testicular exams
5. Discuss the role of sex hormones and factors involved in sexual differentiation, puberty, and the menstrual cycle
6. Describe the processes from fertilization through birth of a baby, including development of stages of pregnancy and childbirth options
7. Compare methods and effectiveness of contraceptive methods as well as cultural influences on attitudes about use of contraceptives
8. Examine the sexual response cycle, cognitive-physiological models, and neural and hormonal bases of arousal
9. Identify how sexuality changes throughout the life cycle from infancy through late adulthood
10. Compare and contrast friendship, infatuation, attraction, intimacy, romantic love, and jealousy as well as the components of lasting relationships (compromise, commitment, communication, caring and consideration)

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 02 - Critical Thinking

1. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
2. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
3. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.
4. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted