Psychology 3374.001: Human Sexuality
Summer II 2016

Instructor: Amy Houlihan, Ph.D.  E-mail: amy.houlihan@tamucc.edu
Class Location: TBD
Class Time: MTWR 12:00-1:55
Office: Bay Hall 311
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00-11:00 am
              Wednesday 2:00-3:00 pm
              and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
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. Among other topics, we will examine sexual anatomy
and physiological response, love and sexual relationships, gender identity and gender roles,
sexual orientation, and sexual health issues. 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.

After this course you should be able to…

- identify and explain the anatomy and physiology of the male and female reproductive
  systems and health issues that affect each system.
- describe sexual development throughout the lifespan.
- describe the identities, characteristics, and sexual behaviors that comprise the range of
  sexual orientation.
- identify and describe diversity in biological sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, and
  gender roles.
- understand and evaluate some of the complex political, media-related, legal, and ethical
  issues relating to human sexuality.
- use critical thinking to evaluate popular media, stereotypes, and research studies
  regarding human sexuality.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Exams: There will be three non-cumulative exams for this course given on the dates specified
on the course calendar. Exams will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions.
Please expect that any material presented in lecture, discussed during class discussions, or
covered in the assigned readings may be included on the exams.

Activities/assignments/quizzes: There will be approximately eight in-class and out-of-class
activities, assignments, and quizzes throughout the semester. Some of these assignments will
be completed in groups.
Research project: You will complete a project in which you use a scientific study to evaluate a sexuality-related claim made in popular media. Detailed information about this assignment will be discussed in class and posted on Blackboard.

GRADING
Each component of the course will be worth the following percentages of your final grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams (3 at 20% each)</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research project (step 1 = 5%, step 2 = 15%)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities / assignments / quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final letter grades will be assigned based on the following total percentages. If you have questions about your grade at any time, please come see me.

- Over 90% = A
- 80 – 89% = B
- 70 – 79% = C
- 60 – 69% = D

EXPECTATIONS
This is a course that tends to raise sensitive issues, and all students will be encouraged to discuss their beliefs, experiences, backgrounds, etc. Therefore, it is extremely important that everyone is treated with respect in this class. Please help me in creating a comfortable learning environment by treating everyone, regardless of perspective or experience, courteously. If you ever feel like you are not being treated with respect in this class, please see me.

Class will start on time every day, and you should expect it to run the full hour and 55 minutes. Please avoid disrupting the class by arriving late, talking to other students during lecture, and using your cell phone during class.

I will not take attendance in this course, but I expect students to make every effort to attend each class. By missing class, you will miss out on lecture, discussions, and assignments that will be a detriment to your learning and to your final course grade. **If you miss class without informing me ahead of time, you will not be allowed to make up any work that you miss.** It will be your responsibility to speak with a classmate about the course content you missed. If you let me know about an absence ahead of time (or if a true emergency arises and you notify me within 24 hours of the missed assignment or test), I will arrange with you an alternate time for you to take an exam or will excuse you from the in-class work that you missed. You will need to provide documentation, such as a doctor’s note, to verify the reason for your absence.

You are expected to check Blackboard on a regular basis (at least twice a week) for class assignments and announcements. It is your responsibility to check your grades on Blackboard. If you believe there is a mistake with your grade, you must notify me within 1 week of the grades being posted.
CONTACTING ME
I am committed to making myself available to answer questions, discuss concerns, and to provide/accept feedback concerning the course. I check my email frequently (less often during nights and weekends) and will do my best to respond to your messages quickly. I also encourage you to visit during my office hours or to set up alternative meeting times with me. Remember that should you begin to struggle in this course, it is always better to talk to me about it sooner rather than later; if you wait until the very end of the semester there is usually little I can do to help you.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
All forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class. This includes, but is not limited to: handing in another’s work as your own, using unauthorized notes on an exam, copying another’s answers for an exam, turning in the same papers for two different classes, purchasing or otherwise obtaining papers written by another and turning that work in as your own. You are expected to avoid plagiarism (whether intentional or unintentional) by carefully citing your sources in your research paper. Any information used in your research paper that is not your own idea should be appropriately referenced using APA style (seek help if you do not know how to reference your sources; I can help you, and there are other resources available on campus). If academic dishonesty occurs, you will receive a zero on the assignment, and the incident will be reported as described in the TAMUCC student code of conduct.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

ACADEMIC ADVISING
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E and can be reached at 825-3466.

DROPPING THE CLASS
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class; however, it is sometimes in a student’s best interest to do so. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Simply no longer attending and participating in the class will NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. June 19 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

GRADE APPEAL PROCESS
Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a
formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, clatamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

ACADEMIC CONTINUITY

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane, in which classes cannot be held on the TAMUCC campus, this course will continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., email, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Exams, and Assignments</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue July 5</td>
<td>Introduction; Human Sexuality Research</td>
<td>Ch 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed July 6</td>
<td>Human Sexuality Research</td>
<td>Ch 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur July 7</td>
<td>Sexual Anatomy</td>
<td>Ch 2</td>
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<td>Mon July 11</td>
<td>Sexual Response</td>
<td>Ch 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue July 12</td>
<td>Attraction &amp; Love</td>
<td>Ch 4 (thru p. 117)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed July 13</td>
<td><strong>Exam 1: Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4</strong></td>
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<td>Thur July 14</td>
<td>Sexual Behavior (group work)</td>
<td>Ch 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon July 18</td>
<td>Sexual Behavior (group presentations)</td>
<td>Ch 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue July 19</td>
<td>Paraphilic Disorders; <strong>Research Project Step 1 due</strong></td>
<td>Ch 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed July 20</td>
<td>Sex &amp; Gender</td>
<td>Ch 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur July 21</td>
<td>Sex &amp; Gender</td>
<td>Ch 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon July 25</td>
<td>Sexual Orientation</td>
<td>Ch 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue July 26</td>
<td><strong>Exam 2: Chapters 6, 10, 11</strong></td>
<td>Ch 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed July 27</td>
<td>Sexual Development</td>
<td>Ch 12, 5</td>
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<td>Thur July 28</td>
<td>Sexual Development; Contraception</td>
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<td>Mon Aug 1</td>
<td>Contraception; Conception &amp; Pregnancy</td>
<td>Ch 5, 9 (thru p. 336)</td>
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<td>Tue Aug 2</td>
<td>Sexually Transmitted Infections</td>
<td>Ch, 8</td>
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<td>Wed Aug 3</td>
<td>Sexual Aggression; <strong>Research Project Step 2 due</strong></td>
<td>Ch 13 (thru p. 512)</td>
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<td>Thur Aug 4</td>
<td>Prostitution &amp; Pornography</td>
<td>Ch 15</td>
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<td>Fri Aug 5</td>
<td><strong>Exam 3: Chapters 12, 5, 8, 13, 15</strong></td>
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