Common Course Syllabus for Human Sexuality, PSYC 2306, Summer 2024

SPC requires that the information below is included in all syllabi. This information details the characteristics and policies for ALL PSYC 2306 classes, regardless of the instructor. For the specific details of Dr. Harris's class, see the portion of the syllabus titled "Welcome to ONLINE Human Sexuality (PSYC 2306)"

Course Number: PSYC 2306	**Department**: Behavioral Sciences	**Campuses**: Levelland, RC, LC, PV, INET
Discipline: Psychology	**Title**: Human Sexuality	**Satisfies Core Curriculum Requirement?** No
Credit: 3 **Lecture**: 3 **Lab**: 0	**Formats**: Conventional, INET, ITV	**Prerequisites**: TSI compliance in reading

Textbook:. Goerling, E. & Wolfe, E. (2022). *Introduction to Human Sexuality*. Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License

This is a free OER textbook and a PDF version will be available on Blackboard. Additionally, the textbook can be accessed using the URL below.

URL: https://openoregon.pressbooks.pub/introtohumansexuality/

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.

Course Evaluation: See specific instructor's part of the syllabus for methods used to assess student performance.

Core Objectives addressed:
- **Communication skills**- includes effective written, oral and visual communication.
- **Critical thinking skills**- includes creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Empirical and Quantitative skills**- to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
- **Social Responsibility**- to include demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/.

Welcome to ONLINE Human Sexuality (PSYC 2306)

SUMMER 2024 PSYC 2306, section 151

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name**: Dr. Julianna Harris**

Email: jharris@southplainscollege.edu

INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY—I'm here to help!

Email

You may send me an email message at jharris@southplainscollege.edu. Please be aware of the "turn around" time for emails: If you send me an email between Monday morning and noon on Friday, I will reply within 24 hours. However, if you send an email during the weekend, the soonest I will be able to reply is the following Monday. *IMPORTANT*: As a college student who is working toward a profession/career, it is imperative (for your success) that you learn to send professional emails. Please follow the email guidelines in the next section titled "Tips for Using SPC Student Email."

TIPS FOR USING SPC STUDENT EMAIL

South Plains College provides all students with a free SPC Google email account.   Because email is one of the main forms of communication in academia, you should check your SPC email regularly. Our email communication may touch on confidential academic matters, like your performance on a quiz or your overall grade, therefore you **must** email me using your official SPC Student email account (NOT your personal email account, e.g., yahoo or gmail).

How to access SPC Email

You can access your SPC email (as well as Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and One Drive) by going to https://office.com and using the username and password provided in your acceptance letter to sign in. You may also access your email by logging in to MySPC and finding the email link in the lower right-hand corner. If you encounter any problems, contact the **help desk** immediately at (806)716-2600 or at helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu.

Email Etiquette

For your success as a student, and your success as a professional, you need to learn email etiquette. All emails should include:

- A brief subject line that explains your reason for emailing (e.g., "Subject: Question about the syllabus"),
- Your full name,
- Your class and section (e.g., PSYC2306, sec. 151), and
- The use of standard English skills (e.g., correct spelling, punctuation and grammar).

Here is a link to a useful guide about emailing your professors: https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2015/04/16/advice-students-so-they-dont-sound-silly-emails-essay

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE SUCCESS

Blackboard

All course content will be found on Blackboard, and all coursework will be completed on Blackboard. Therefore, you need a computer with internet access in order to log onto Blackboard (see section below re: computers and internet). You can access Blackboard at https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com. This address will take you to the login page, where you type in your username and password. Once logged in, you will see a list of classes in which you are enrolled (including PSYC2306.151). Click on the class whose Blackboard page you want to enter.

Access to a working computer with a reliable internet connection

Because this is an online class, all of your coursework will be found and completed online (in Blackboard). Thus, you must have regular access to a computer with the following characteristics:

- A modern operating system (Windows 7 or later is recommended; most class content should be compatible with Mac OS and older versions of Windows, down to XP; Linux operating system is *not* recommended)
- A modern web browser. It is recommended that students use Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome to access Blackboard. Students have reported more problems using Internet Explorer, thus Internet Explorer is *not* recommended.
  - You can download Mozilla Firefox here.
  - You can download Google Chrome here.
- A stable, reliable internet connection. High-speed internet (e.g., Cable, DSL, fiber) is the most reliable.
- It is not required, but it is recommended that you use a computer with a hardwired internet access (e.g., instead of WiFi) especially when you are completing weekly exams and the final exam. When using WiFi, there is a greater risk of interrupted service than when using hardwired internet access, and when this happens, your exam might automatically submit, even if you have not answered all the questions.

**I must give credit for the above information re: computers and internet connection to my colleague, Dr. Crescioni

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

Textbook:. Goerling, E. & Wolfe, E. (2022). *Introduction to Human Sexuality*. Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License

This is a free OER textbook and a PDF version will be available on Blackboard. Additionally, the textbook can be accessed using the URL below.

URL: https://openoregon.pressbooks.pub/introtohumansexuality/

A link to the textbook will be provided on Blackboard within the "Start Here" folder.

HOW THIS COURSE IS STRUCTURED

This is a 5-week course, ending with an optional final exam during final exam day. On the Blackboard Homepage for this class, you will find a "Start Here" module. In this module, you will find information about how the course is designed, the syllabus, the due date schedule, and detailed instructions for how the discussion is completed. Our Blackboard page will have a module for each week of the course, and will have the weekly readings, weekly videos, and the two (2) discussion assignments for the week contained within the module. There will also be an exam at the end of each week, and the link to the exam can be found within the week's module. There will be a separate module for final exam day and it will contain an OPTIONAL comprehensive final exam over the material covered in the previous 5 weeks. **You will only complete the final exam if you missed one of the four regular exams or would like to replace a low exam score on one of the regular four exams.**

REQUIRED COURSEWORK AND GRADES

There are three different ways that your learning in this course will be assessed and graded: 1) Four exams, 2) Weekly discussion assignments and 3) An end of the semester project

Four Exams

- Each worth 150 points
- Multiple choice and short-answer questions based on the readings, videos, and discussion for that week
- Exams are open – book, open note
- Exams will be timed (60 minutes), and you will only get one (1) attempt
- Exams cannot be made up if missed and late submissions will not be accepted.
- THE FINAL IS OPTIONAL! YOU WILL ONLY NEED TO TAKE THE FINAL IF YOU MISSED ONE OF THE FOUR REGULAR EXAMS OR WANTED TO REPLACE A LOW SCORE ON ONE OF THE FOUR REGULAR EXAMS
  - Worth 150 points
  - One attempt
  - 60 to 90-minute time limit, depending on the number of questions included on the final exam

Weekly Discussion Assignments

Each weekly module will contain discussion assignments that correspond with the material covered that week. The assignments will include additional articles and/or videos, which will require those in class to submit comments and questions. This will be accomplished using an app called Perusall, which has been integrated into the course's Blackboard page. A video about Persuall can be found on this course's Blackboard page. Each student will be responsible for submitting questions and/or comments on the article or video located in the discussion assignment section of the weekly folders. These submissions will need to have actual substance, and not just "wow, that was cool." If the student wishes to receive full credit on each discussion assignment, they will need to submit an original idea or genuine question about the material. For example, if the student found something interesting or exciting about a video, they might write – "I was surprised to learn that so few people in developing countries attend school past the 5th grade. I wonder if their lack of education will result in them earning lower wages?" Students will also have the opportunity to respond to their classmate's posts. For example, another student could respond to the example above with – "I had wondered the same thing! I read an article the other day that discussed this exact correlation. Here is the link! www.madeuparticle.com. Each student will be responsible for submitting two (2) questions or comments on the discussion assignments, which will be due every Tuesday and Thursday by midnight. There will be nine (9) discussion assignments, but the lowest grade will be dropped (25 points per assignment =50 points per week x 4 weeks = 200 points).

Written Assignments

End of the semester project

Grade Inquiries

If you have a question or concern about a grade in the Blackboard gradebook, or about a question on an exam (e.g., you see a zero in the gradebook, but you believe you completed the assignment, or you think your answer to an exam question was correct, but it was counted as wrong), you must contact me within one week of the assignment due date. If you wait more than one week, then the grade in the gradebook is final.

POLICIES RE: LATE WORK OR MISSING WORK

It is your responsibility to make sure you complete your exams, discussions and final exam before the due date. I have provided you with all due dates in this syllabus, as well as on Blackboard. Accordingly, you are aware when your quizzes, discussions and exam are due, and it is up to you to complete them on time. The only computer issues that will be accepted as warranting a make-up are issues that were experienced by *everyone* in the class. Please see the table below for details.

Situation/issue leading to missed work	How it will be resolved
The entire class is unable to access Blackboard at the time a quiz or discussion is due.	As soon as I am alerted regarding the outage, I will extend the due date for the entire class and send the class a notification regarding the extended due date.
A student is sick on the day *discussion* is due, or was in the hospital for more than three days during the week of the missed *discussion*.	Contact me as soon as possible, and provide documentation of a doctor's visit on the due date of the discussion, or documentation of the hospital stay of three days or more during the week in which the discussion was due. You must make up the discussion within one week of the last day indicated on the medical documentation (e.g., if you saw the doctor, or were released from the hospital on the 1st, you have to complete the makeup no later than the 8th)
A student lost a loved one within one week before a *discussion* was due.	Contact me as soon as possible and provide documentation in the form of an obituary or funeral program.
A student was caring for a terminally ill loved one during the week a *discussion* was due.	Contact me as soon as possible and provide documentation in the form of a doctor's note from the doctor who was caring for the loved one.
A student is sick, or in the hospital, or lost a loved one, or was caring for a terminally ill loved one during the week a <u>quiz</u> is due.	Because *I drop everyone's two lowest quiz grades*, no makeup is given. I have made this drop policy so that IF a student is in this position, they do not have to worry about getting a zero—it will simply be dropped.
A student is unable to access Blackboard at the time the quiz or discussion was due, but other students could access Blackboard at that time.	No makeup is given. It is your responsibility to make sure you have reliable internet access for the duration of this course. *Please see the "Troubleshooting" section for tips on avoiding this problem before it happens.*
Blackboard, and/or the textbook for the course, is unavailable at some point during the week, but not at the time the quiz or discussion is due.	No makeup is given. All students are able to download a free PDF copy of the textbook, or single chapters. Thus, students are able to complete readings even if Blackboard or the textbook website is down.
A student was traveling and did not have access to the internet when the quiz or discussion was due.	No makeup is given. It is your responsibility to make sure you have reliable internet access for the duration of this course. If you must travel during the semester, you need to either get your work completed ahead of time (before you leave), or make sure that you will have access to the internet at your travel destination.
A student forgot to submit a quiz or discussion by the due date.	No makeup is given. I have provided students with all the due dates in this syllabus and on Blackboard, and it is your responsibility to make sure you get your work done by those dates.

**I must give credit to my colleague, Dr. Crescioni for sharing his thoughtful missed work policies with me.

FINAL GRADE CALCULATION

Evaluation Method	Total possible points
4 exams (150 points each)	600 points
Weekly discussion assignments	200 points
End of semester project	200 points
	Total possible points in class=1000
Final Exam	[150 points] (optional – will replace a missed or low exam score)

Grading Scale for Final Course Grade:	90% or more of total possible points (900 points or more): A
	80-89% of total possible points (800-899 points): B
	70-79% of total possible points (700-799 points): C
	60-69% of total possible points (600-699 points): D
	59% or less of total possible points (599 points or less): F

TECHNOLOGY PROBLEMS AND RESOURCES/HELP:

There are a several technology problems that are likely to arise for students this semester. Please remember, a computer issue that affects an individual student, but not the entire class, will not merit an extension on a quiz, discussion, or the final exam. Thus, it is best to plan ahead and assume that you might experience one or two or all of these problems. If you take the time NOW to review the "Technology Contingency Plan" table below and figure out how you will address these issues if/when they arise this semester, you will not be caught off guard.

TECHNOLOGY CONTINGENCY PLANS	
Problem(s)	**Solution**
"Argh! My internet is down!" &/or	Free WiFi is available at many area businesses (Starbuck's, McDonald's, Chick-fil-A, United Supermarkets), and in the buildings and *parking lots* of many schools including SPC campuses (also look for "Park and Learn" signs near the LISD schools). Click here for WiFi Resources at SPC (at the bottom of the "WiFi Resources at SPC" page you will also find phone carrier assistance plans).
"OMG! My computer is not working!" &/or	Make a list of friends, family members, classmates &/ or even neighbors who might let you borrow their computer, or their WiFi, or their printer in the event yours is not working
"Darn! I need to print [that thing], but my printer is out of ink." &/or	If you are an SPC student, and within driving distance, we have computer labs with computers, printers and internet access at every campus: • SPC Reese Campus computer labs: Building 8 (room 827 and the library), Building 2 (room 207), and Building 4 (adjacent to room 451) • SPC Levelland Campus computer lab: Technology building • SPC Lubbock Center, 39th & Avenue Q: Room 109 and Room 138 • SPC Plainview Center, 1920 W. 24th St., Plainview, Texas: Room XXX
"Ugh! I'm out of town, and I don't have a computer [or access to the internet]"	Public libraries (wherever you live) typically have computers available to the public
	If your computer breaks down, contact a local computer repair business (e.g., Best Buy, Office Depot, etc.). Or, if possible, buy an inexpensive computer from sites like edealinfo.com, Amazon marketplace, Newegg or eBay.
	If you are traveling, find out if the hotel has a computer lab for guests, or if the person you are staying with has a computer with internet access. If not, work ahead and get your quiz and discussion completed before you leave.

This table contains a list of common issues, and possible solutions to help you solve your own technology issue:

TECH TROUBLESHOOTING	
Problem	***Possible* Solution**
I cannot access Blackboard, but I can access other websites	Blackboard might be down. Check your SPC email and MySPC for announcements about Blackboard outages. IF you cannot access these sources of information, or if there are no such announcements, contact Blackboard support (see below).
I cannot access any websites.	Your internet may be down. If you know how, try resetting your modem and/or router. If your internet is still not working, contact your internet provider, or implement one of your contingency plans (see previous section).
I cannot access the textbook website, but I can access other websites.	Use the PDF of the textbook, posted on Blackboard, to complete assigned readings for the week.

Blackboard and Email Technical Support

If you have technical problems using **Blackboard**, contact the SPC Tech Support staff at 806-716-2180, Mon-Fri, 8 am – 4 pm; or email blackboard@southplainscollege.edu or go to https://help.blackboard.com. You can also call Blackboard Support at (800)424-9299. If you are having problems accessing your **SPC email**, contact the SPC help desk at (806)716-2600 or at helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu.

OTHER IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION:

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/.