



# ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

## St. Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo

### Department of Psychology

Psychology 236: A Psychological Analysis of Human Sexuality

May - July 2021 (Course #2459): Emergency Remote Asynchronous Learning

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I respectfully acknowledge that St. Jerome's University and the University of Waterloo sit on the traditional land of the Attawandaron, Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. The universities are situated on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to Six Nations, which includes six miles on both sides of the Grand River. I also acknowledge that I grew up on the land which is the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) & Mi'kmaq peoples. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) and Mi'kmaq peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

#### INSTRUCTOR AND TA INFORMATION

Instructor: BJ Rye, PhD  
Office: NA  
Phone: 519 888 4567 x 28219  
Office Hours: NA – by appointment  
Email: bjrye@uwaterloo.ca

|        |                      |                       |
|--------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| TAs:   | Jessica Lee          | Lori Atack            |
| Email: | c259lee@uwaterloo.ca | LA2atack@uwaterloo.ca |

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine psychological and social psychological theories and empirical investigations of human sexuality. Prerequisites: Psychology 101/121R. Antirequisites: SMF 204.

**At times, the content in this course may be graphic, offensive, uncomfortable, and/or disturbing for some students. Students must make an autonomous, informed decision about enrolling in this class.**

#### REQUIRED TEXTS

Rathus, S.A., Nevid, J.S., Fichner-Rathus, L., McKay, A., & Milhausen, R.R. (2020). Human sexuality in a world of diversity, 6th Canadian edition. Toronto: Pearson.

I recommend AGAINST buying a PDF from another source other than Pearson as the student will not have access to the in-text questions *except* through Pearson's REVEL platform.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is an introduction to the scientific study of human sexuality. Material in this course is drawn from areas such as biology, sociology, medicine, and anatomy but we will concentrate on the psychological and social aspects of human sexuality. The psychological study of human sexuality has both theoretical and applied implications. Topics that may be covered during the course include theoretical perspectives on sexuality, sex research ethics, anatomy, hormones, conception and birth, contraception and abortion, dysfunctions, gender issues, arousal and communication, attraction and love, sexual orientation, STIs and AIDS, erotica and pornography, sexual coercion, and sexual variation.

### *Learning Outcomes:*

- Identify, define, and describe critical topics and controversies in the psychology of human sexuality.
- Recognize and understand major social and psychological theories and be able to apply them to various sexuality topics.
- Understand the role of research (methodology and findings) in this field.
- Be a critical consumer of sexuality findings and interpretations reported by third parties.
- Aid in practical understanding and application of sexuality information in one's everyday life; enhance affective learning such that students are more comfortable with sexuality and related topics.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

| Learning & Assessment Task   | % of Grade    | Date Due  |
|--|---------------|---|
| 1. Textbook Chapter Quizzes and Review Exercises<br>*Lowest 3 textbook Review quiz scores are dropped. | 18%           | <b>Weekly: the date specified in the class schedule 11:59pm Eastern Daylight Time</b> (Waterloo, ON: Time Zone GMT-4)   |
| 2. Psychology Research Participation (SONA)  | 2%            | <b>Set by Psychology Department</b>   |
| 3. Critique of Survey Research Illustration  | 20%           | <b>June 7</b> by <b>11:59pm Eastern Daylight Time</b> (Waterloo, ON: Time Zone GMT-4). <b>July 26</b> for resubmission (elective)   |
| 4. Term Tests x6   | 6 x 10% = 60% | <b>June 1, June 21, July 5, July 12, July 26, and during exam period.</b> Begins at <b>11:00am Eastern Daylight Time</b> (Waterloo, ON: Time Zone GMT-4). If there are technical difficulties or timing issues, please connect with the instructor immediately. |

\* *Alternative Assignment.* If you do not purchase the ebook via REVEL, you must complete a (up to) 1500-word summary for each of the assigned chapters on the same dates as the review questions are due (see the course schedule). As the pedagogical goal of the embedded ebook questions is to encourage active reading and processing of the text, these chapter essays will constitute your study “notes.” These summaries must *not* plagiarise the textbook wording. They will be assessed by Turnitin which will flag any material that too closely approximates the textbook language.

**Assessment components:** The current course component weightings, listed above, are what I intend. In case of technical or other unforeseen difficulties, the course assessment components might be differentially weighted – this will apply to the entire class. Flexibility in assessment weighting may be needed in light of the remote delivery format; thus, assessment weighting is subject to instructor adjustment.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

|   |                                      |                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b><u>Psychology 236: Summer 2021 Class 2459</u></b>  | Textbook                             | Weeks 1-13           |
| <b>Module 1: The beginnings</b>                       |                                      |                      |
| Introduction  | Chapter 1                            | Week 2 May 21        |
| Theory & Research in Sexuality                        | Chapter 2                            | Week 2 May 21        |
| <b>Module 2: Physical Issues</b>                      |                                      |                      |
| Sexual Anatomy  | Chapter 3                            | Week 3 May 28        |
| Physiology of Sexual Arousal & Response               | Chapter 4                            | Week 3 May 28        |
| Sexual Problems & Dysfunctions                        | Chapter 13                           | Week 3 May 28        |
| <b>TEST 1 – Modules 1 &amp; 2 (10%)</b>               | <b>Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, &amp; 13</b> | <b>Week 4 June 1</b> |
| <b>Module 3: Relations</b>                            |                                      |                      |
| Sexual Behaviours                                     | Chapter 8                            | Week 4 June 4        |
| <b>Critique of Survey Research Illustration (20%)</b> | <b>Submission #1</b>                 | <b>Week 5 June 7</b> |
| Sexuality Across the Life Span                        | Chapter 12                           | Week 5 June 11       |
| Attraction & Love                                     | Chapter 6                            | Week 5 June 11       |
| Relationships   | Chapter 7                            | Week 6 June 18       |
| <b>Module 4: Reproduction</b>                         |                                      |                      |
| Menstruation  | Chapter 3 (p.79-86)                  | Review for Test 3    |

|   |   |                        |
|---|---|------------------------|
| Conception, Pregnancy, & Childbirth             | Chapter 10  | Week 6 June 18         |
| <b>TEST 2 – Module 3 (10%)</b>                  | <b>Chapters 6, 7, 8, &amp; 12</b>                   | <b>Week 7 June 21</b>  |
| Contraception & Abortion                        | Chapter 11  | Week 7 June 25         |
| <b>Module 5: Psychosexual Organization</b>      |   |                        |
| Sexual Differentiation, Gender Identity & Roles | Chapter 5   | Week 8 June 30         |
| <b>TEST 3 – Module 4 (10%)</b>                  | <b>Chapters 10 &amp; 11 (&amp; small part of 3)</b> | <b>Week 9 July 5</b>   |
| Sexual Orientation                              | Chapter 9   | Week 9 July 9          |
| <b>TEST 4 – Module 5 (10%)</b>                  | <b>Chapters 5 &amp; 9</b>                           | <b>Week 10 July 12</b> |
| <b>Module 6: Social Concerns around Sex</b>     |   |                        |
| Sex Trade & Sexually Explicit Materials         | Chapter 18  | Week 10 July 16        |
| Sexual Coercion                                 | Chapter 17  | Week 11 July 23        |
| <b>Critique of Survey Research Illustration</b> | <b>Resubmission (elective)</b>                      | <b>Week 12 July 26</b> |
| <b>TEST 5 - Module 6 (10%)</b>                  | <b>Chapters 17 &amp; 18</b>                         | <b>Week 12 July 26</b> |
| <b>Module 7: Sexual Social Issues</b>           |   |                        |
| Sexual Variations & Atypicality                 | Chapter 16  | Week 12 July 30        |
| Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)          | Chapter 14  | Week 12 July 30        |
| <b>Module 8: The End</b>                        |   |                        |
| Sexual Health Education                         | Chapter 15  | Week 13 August 5       |
| <b>TEST 6 - Modules 7 &amp; 8 (10%)</b>         | <b>Chapters 14, 15, &amp; 16</b>                    | <b>August 7-16</b>     |

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER***Important dates for Spring 2021 term***Note: Dates have been revised due to COVID-19. Last updated: March 18, 2021.**

| <b>Event / Activity (Students)</b>  | <b>Date</b>   |
|---|---|
| Co-op work term duration  | Monday, May 3 to Friday, August 20                                  |
| <b>Classes begin</b>  | Monday, May 10  |
| Last day to add a class   | Friday, May 21  |
| Victoria Day - Holiday - No classes   | Monday, May 24  |
| Last day to drop a class, no penalty  | Monday, May 31  |
| Final examination schedule posted on <a href="#">Registrar's Office Website</a> |   |
| Reading Week - no course work due   | N/a for spring term   |
| Requests for accommodations on religious grounds due                            |   |
| Canada Day - Holiday - No classes   | Thursday, July 1  |
| Additional Day - Holiday - No classes   | Friday, July 2  |
| Last day to drop, receive a WD grade  | Wednesday, July 21  |
| Student Course Perception Survey  | TBA - delayed   |
| Civic Holiday - No classes  | Monday, August 2  |
| Make-up day: Monday schedule for May 24   | Tuesday, August 3 - follows MONDAY schedule                         |
| Make-up day: Thursday schedule for July 1                                       | Wednesday, August 4 - follows THURSDAY schedule                     |
| <b>Lectures end</b>   | Thursday, August 5 - follows FRIDAY schedule                        |
| Make-up day: Friday schedule for July 2   |   |
| <b>Pre-exam/assessment study days</b>   | Friday, August 6 (one day only)                                     |
| Last day to drop, receive WF grade  | Friday, August 6  |
| <b>Final exam/assessment period</b>   | Saturday, August 7 to Monday, August 16, including Sunday, August 8 |

## COURSE POLICY (e.g., LATE WORK, MISSED ASSIGNMENTS, & MAKE-UP TESTS)

**Extra assignments or research are not offered to boost student grades. Re-weighting of course components is not an option. Grades are not changed arbitrarily upon request.**

### *A) Extension of Deadlines*

For this course, I am adopting a No-Excuses-Needed Extension Policy:

- Assignments have a Regular Deadline. If you *need* an extension then, you may have an Extended Deadline of two days from the originally scheduled deadline. For example, generally, the textbook chapter review questions are to be read and completed by a minute prior to midnight on Friday. If, for some reason, you cannot complete the work by that time, you may have until Sunday at 11:59 pm. If you need an extension on any of the written work, you may have **two** additional days (e.g., May 21 → May 23; July 9 → July 11; and July 30 → August 1 with the same time frame). There will be a 5% per [any portion of the] day -weekends counted- penalty for late submissions of essays.
- Students do not need to ask for the 2-day extension, they can just take it. However, there are no extensions beyond the extended deadline. There are no extensions for tests.
- **This policy does not apply to the tests; test dates and times are final.** If you miss a test, and you have documentation to support your claim for a re-write, there will be a make-up test scheduled by the Registrar during the final assessment period (formerly called the final exam period); August 7-16.

### *B) Missing Tests/Health and Well-Being.*

Students are entitled to a rescheduling of tests for legitimate medical or compassionate reasons or based on religious grounds (note: these types of requests must be made within the first two weeks of the course). However, it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor prior to the test, to discuss a make-up, and to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical, compassionate, or religious claim. Students who were ill who contact the instructor after the exam has been written will generally NOT be granted a make-up exam unless the illness incapacitated them - making it impossible for the student to contact the professor at the time of the test. This requires formal documentation for the period of non-contact. The student must provide an official illness certificate on appropriate letterhead from their physician/clergy person/therapist/etc. which states that, due to medical/religious/extreme circumstance reasons, it was impossible for the student to write the exam at the scheduled time (e.g., "severe" or "moderate" category on the Health Services Verification of Illness form). A note scribbled on a prescription pad is not an acceptable medical certificate. Telephone calls from a health care provider are also not acceptable to warrant a missed examination. Paper documentation is required. A non-UW-Health Services note must contain the same information that is available on the UW Health Services

Verification form. Take the form with you if you are attending an external clinic:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/campus-wellness/health-services/student-medical-clinic>

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work or has the possibility to interfere with your work (e.g., chronic, recurring stress-induced migraines, medication that is impeding studying, impairing dysmenorrhea), you should contact your instructor and the Academic Counselling Office (and/or Accessibility Services Office) as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. In general, retroactive requests for grade revisions on medical or compassionate grounds will not be considered (from the University of Waterloo website: If a student completes an exam while ill, the grade stands). The student must write a make-up exam. The make-up exam may differ in format from the original exam. Additional accommodation information is available at:

[http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom\\_illness.html](http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom_illness.html)

The same process holds for compassionate or religious claims; you will need to support your claim with a letter, which contains the same information contained in an Illness Verification Form (i.e., due to religious/mental health/extreme circumstance reasons, it was impossible for the student to write the test at the scheduled time) written by your clergy person/therapist/social worker, etc. Included would be contact information for that professional. For mental health or personal issues, you are encouraged strongly to make an appointment with **Lindsay Thompson, MSW, RSW - St. Jerome's Wellness Coordinator, [lindsay.thompson@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:lindsay.thompson@uwaterloo.ca)** If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work or has the possibility to interfere with your work (e.g., chronic, recurring stress-induced migraines; anxiety), you should contact your instructor, your Academic Counselling Office (and/or Accessibility Services Office), and Lindsay Thompson as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. In general, retroactive requests for grade revisions on medical or compassionate grounds will not be considered (from the University of Waterloo website: if a student completes an exam while ill, the grade stands).

Mental Health Resources: On Campus - services are available only online or by phone.

- Counselling Services: [counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca) / 519-888-4567 ext. 32655
- MATES: one-to-one peer support program offered by the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) and Counselling Services Off campus, 24/7
- Good2Talk: Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-4300 ext. 6880
- Here 24/7: Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- OK2BME: LGBTQ support services Phone: 519-884-0000 extension 213

Full details can be found online on the Faculty of Arts website Information on COVID & UW:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/coronavirus/>

**RULES FOR GROUP WORK IN ASSIGNMENTS.** There is no group work in this course; all work must be completed by the individual student. Collaborating on assignments, tests, etc., is considered cheating and is an academic offense.

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Check [www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/) for more information.

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read the St. Jerome's University Policy on [Student Petitions and Grievances](#). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the St. Jerome's Advising Specialist, Student Affairs Office, who will provide further assistance.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. Check [www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/) for more information. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on [Student Discipline](#). For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to University of Waterloo [Policy 71, Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties, check the [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

**Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the St. Jerome's University policy on [Student Appeals](#).

**Note for students with disabilities:** [AccessAbility Services](#), located in Needles Hall (Room 1401) at the University of Waterloo, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

<https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/integrity-instructors-and-tas/turnitin-and-ithenticate>]

**Turnitin.com:** Text matching software (Turnitin®) is used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin® in this course. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit the alternate assignment.