

SYLLABUS: PSYC 257, Item 5470

Psychology of Sex & Gender Spring 2015

Instructor: Steffi Schrepfer, Ph.D., MFT

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30-1:00

Emergency E-mail: sschrepf@bellevuecollege.edu. This is for emergencies only when CANVAS communication/ e-mail is not available.

Text: Wood Julia (2015): Gendered Lives (11th edition). Boston: Wadsworth



Additional readings are available online through Canvas.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

PSYC 257 examines sex differences and similarities from an interdisciplinary perspective, drawing from biology, psychology, sociology, and history. Students analyze perceived and actual differences in biology, physical health, mental health, communication styles, employment, education, and personal relationships.

Learning Outcomes

After completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain the complexities of studying sex and gender.
- Critique the history of research on sex differences, including problems of bias and flawed methodology.
- Describe the wide cultural variations in gender roles as well as some universal, historical gender inequities and their impact in the work place, educational settings, mental health institutions and politics.
- Analyze the distinction between stereotyped differences and actual differences between men and women as substantiated by research.
- Explain various theoretical positions on gender differences, including biological, psychodynamic, cognitive-behavioral, sociological, anthropological and communication perspectives.

- Articulate skills gained from the course that can apply to students' inter-gender relationships.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Format: Class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 am - 12:20pm in A138.

Class is organized in bi-weekly modules.

Attendance and Participation are required. You will get 200 points credit for attendance and participation. Attendance will be taken each class. If you miss a class you will lose 10 points. You may miss one class without losing points. Any additional missed class requires a doctor's note or you will lose 10 points for each missed class.

Note Cards: In preparation for a class meeting you are required to turn in a note card that includes definitions of terms and concepts covered in your reading. Note cards are due at the beginning of class. Of the 18 notecards you need to submit 10 will be randomly graded (100 points). Cards need to be written legibly to earn credit.

Readings: You are expected to read the assigned literature and come prepared to class. This means you should have read the assigned literature before coming to class, so we can have meaningful reflections and conversations about topics that are personal and potentially controversial in nature. This also requires that you are willing to be open to and consider the thoughts and ideas of others in the classroom. No one experience or viewpoint is more important or more valuable than any other. Listening respectfully to the perspectives of others should create a greater understanding of the diversity of experiences in contemporary American society.

In addition to class discourse you also have to complete online components:

Weekly Reflections: Topics/ Questions are presented at the beginning of each week. Reflections are intended to increase your experience as a learning community and should deepen your understanding/thinking about the subject matter. Weekly reflections count 20 points. Total points possible for reflections are 200 points (20x10=200). Specific details on how to write reflections are available under 'Instructions for Reflections' in the 'Getting Started' Folder.

Assignment: The purpose of assignments is to give you an opportunity to apply knowledge. Detailed instructions will be provided for the two activities in the corresponding modules (Week 1 and Week 10). All assignments are due at the

indicated dead-line and late papers will lose points (one day late: half a letter grade; two days late: one letter grade).

Exams: After completing a module you have to take an exam consisting of multiple choice and short essay questions. Each exam will cover information pertaining to the module only. Total points possible for exams is 120 points (30 x 4= 120 points).

Class Evaluation: Class evaluations are an important part of the class and you are required to complete the evaluation (online) before you will get access to the final exam.

Final: The Final exam, given during final's week, will be comprehensive (50 points).

Make-up policy: You can make-up one missed exam. Make-ups need to be scheduled with the instructor and will be given during finals week.

GRADING

Grades will be determined as follows:

| | | |
|--|----------------|-----|
| Exams | 4@ 30 points | 120 |
| Attendance | 20 @ 10 points | 200 |
| Note Cards | | 100 |
| Reflections | 10@ 20 points | 200 |
| Assignment 2 | | 100 |
| Assignment 1:Introduction and Technical Plan | | 30 |
| Final Exam | | 50 |
| Total = | | 800 |

Grading Scale:

| <i>Grade</i> | <i>A</i> | <i>B</i> | <i>C</i> | <i>D</i> | <i>F</i> |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| plus | Not given | 696 - 719 | 616 - 639 | 536 - 559 | < 480 |
| | 744 - 800 | 664 - 695 | 584 - 615 | 480 - 535 | |
| minus | 720 - 743 | 640 - 643 | 560 - 583 | | |

Students with special accommodation needs should contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Accommodations

If you need course modifications / adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please let me know as soon as possible. If you have not done so already, you can contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in B132 or by calling 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110. Information is also available on their website at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc/>.

Affirmation of Inclusion:

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

For technical help with the online part of the class:

Link to Student Technical Help

Desk: <http://depts.bellevuecollege.edu/helpdesk/students/>

For behavioral and grading guidelines of the Social Science

Division: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/socsci/procedures-guidelines/>

I look forward to working with you in this most fascinating class!

Tentative SCHEDULE

Please check your modules for any schedule changes or reading assignment changes!!!!

| Week/Module | Reading Assignment | Due |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Module 1: Week 1 | Textbook: Introduction and chapter 1: Defining sex and gender History of Gender in Psychology Textbook Chapter 2: Theoretical approaches to gender development | Reflection 1 due Friday Assignment1:Introduction due Friday |
| Week 2 | Branndon L. (2011): Researching sex and Gender pp 20-45 Biology of sex and gender Kalat, J (2016): Biological Psychology, pp.326-335, 341-350 | Reflection due Friday Exam 1: following Monday. |
| Module 2: Week 3 | Halpern D. (2012): Sex Differences in Cognitive Abilities A Biopsychosocial perspective to understand cognitive sex differences | Reflection due Friday. |

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|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Week 4 | <p>Goldberg, W. (Ed.). (2010)Current directions in Gender Psychology pp. 3-20</p> <p>Gender and Physical health.</p> <p>Gender and Mental health.</p> | <p>Reflection due Friday</p> <p>Quiz 2: following Monday.</p> |
| <p>Module 3:</p> <p>Week 5</p> | <p>Textbook: Wood, J. Chapters 3 and 4.</p> <p>Women's movements in the US.</p> <p>Men's movements in the US.</p> | Reflection due Friday |
| Week 6 | <p>Textbook Chapters: 5 and 6</p> <p>Gendered verbal and nonverbal communication.</p> | <p>Reflection due Friday</p> <p>Module 3 quiz: Monday.</p> |
| <p>Module 4</p> <p>Week 7</p> | <p>Peplau, L.A. (2003):Human Sexuality: How do men and women differ.</p> <p>Miller, L.C. (2004). Emerging perspectives on distinctions between romantic love and sexual desire.</p> | Reflection due Friday |

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| | <p>Critical evaluation of research.</p> <p>Textbook Chapter 9.</p> | |
| Week 8 | <p>Textbook: Wood,J. Chapter 12</p> <p>Violence in intimate relationships.</p> <p>Sexualization of girls APA report</p> | <p>Reflection due Friday</p> <p>Module 4 quiz: Monday.</p> |
| <p>Module 5</p> <p>Week 9</p> | <p>Textbook: Chapters 8, 10, 11.</p> <p>Gendered Education, work and Careers.</p> | Reflection due Friday. |
| Week 10 | Textbook: Epilogue | Reflection due Friday |
| Week 11 | | <p>Final comprehensive Exam will be June 16 10:30-11:30 am.</p> <p>Assignment 2: due Thursday June 18</p> |