

Sex and Sexualities
SOC 256 | Spring 2016
Room R102 | MTWRF 9:30-10:20pm

Instructor: Jennifer Lê
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Office Hours:
10:30-11:30pm Daily
and by appointment



Course Description and Goals

This course will focus on issues of sexuality from a sociological perspective including sexual identities and practices and topics such as race, social control, education, etc. Critical thinking and discussion will be important components of the course.

To make appointments, please go to drle.youcanbook.me or scan the code above. Download a free QR Code Reader from your App Store to scan this.

Course Outcomes

After completing this course, successful students should be able to:

- Explain the difference between key concepts in the field, such as “sex,” “gender,” “sexuality,” and “sexual orientation”;
- Discuss how sexuality is socially constructed and compare norms and cultural perspectives on sexual behavior across societies;
- Describe the ways in which our culture and society shape our sexual opinions and experiences;
- Illustrate how gender influences sexual attitudes and behaviors;
- Better understand sexual practices and perspectives from a sociological perspective;
- Recognize how sex and sexualities are marketed, packaged and sold by society; and
- Critically examine how societies regulate sexual behavior.

Required Text and Readings

Stomblor, Mindy, Dawn M. Baunach, Wendy Simonds, Elroi J. Windsor, Elisabeth O. Burgess. 2013. *Sex Matters: The Sexuality and Society Reader*. 4th Edition. W.W. Norton Publishing.

Additional readings for the course will be available through our Canvas course in the Files tab (in the Readings folder).

Attendance

Attendance is **required**. Students are allowed to miss TWO class periods without documentation. All other absences must be excused absences; please review the Bellevue College Student Rules on excused absences. More than two undocumented absences will result in a reduction of your overall grade, taken from your overall participation score for the course in direct proportion to the number of classes missed. If you miss zero to two classes, you will not be penalized. If you miss more than two classes, you will lose points for each day absent which can account for up to a full letter grade reduction. If you miss over one-third of classes, a further 1/3 letter grade deduction will be taken out of your grade. Notecards will be used to keep track of attendance (see course requirements).

Classroom Policies

Please silence cell phones before the beginning of class. Students whose cell phones ring in class or who I see using their mobile devices will receive no points for that day’s class participation. Students are permitted to use computers to take notes if they wish. However, note taking is the **only** activity allowed during class. If any students engage in other activities on their computers during class meetings they will receive a zero for that day’s class participation after one warning.

As this is a college course, this classroom shall be treated as a professional environment. I expect everyone to be respectful of others. There will be zero tolerance for disrespect including but not limited to racism, sexism, ageism, ableism, and heterosexism.

Course Requirements

Notecards

(180 points total, 15 points each)

For each reading, you will be required to submit a notecard with a summary of the main points and important concepts from the reading due for that day. If there are multiple readings, you must write on all readings assigned on a given day. Both sides may be used and you may submit up to two notecards (fastened together) for a single reading. This notecard (3x5 or 4x6 size) is due at the beginning of class each day. Late notecards (not turned in at the start of class and missing due to unapproved absences) will not be accepted.

While you are required to turn in a card everyday, only 13 of them will be randomly graded. Your lowest scored notecard will be dropped. You will be notified at the beginning of class that your notecards will be graded that day. **You can use your notecards (and only your notecards) on your exams**—so spending some time now defining key terms, identifying major themes, and providing examples for yourself will help you when the exam comes. The assignment sheet for these notecards is available on Canvas.

Quizzes

(180 points total, 20 points each)

Quizzes will take place each week in the quarter and cover the material from that week. They will be multiple choice in format. No makeup or late quizzes will be accepted unless there is a BC approved absence.

Reading Worksheet

(20 points total)

A worksheet will be provided to you on the first day of the quarter. Follow the directions for the worksheet and submit by the due date.

Short Assignments (Shorty)

(120 points total, 20 points each)

Six times throughout the quarter, a short assignment will be given in class, to be turned in at the start of the following class period. Details will be given in class. These assignments must be typed and printed out for submission.

Film Analysis

(100 points total)

Students will choose any romantic comedy to use for a sociological analysis. By paying attention to dialogue, representations, interactions, and overall messages of the film, students will use their sociological imagination to explain the deeper structural meanings within the film and of the film itself. The Bellevue College LMC has numerous options from which to choose, free of charge. However, students are welcome to choose any romantic comedy they wish. Please review the full assignment sheet on Canvas.

Music Presentation

(100 points total)

On designated class days, class will begin with music selections brought in by students, individually or in pairs. The song you bring should deal with some aspect of sexuality. Students will make a 7-10 minute presentation and turn in a 1-2 page paper summary of their presentation. Please review the full assignment sheet on Canvas.

Exams

(200 points total, 100 points each)

There will be two exams in this course, a midterm and a final. Each exam is worth 100 points. The exams will be composed of multiple choice questions and potential short essay questions. However, there will be no scantron or bluebook needed. You may use your notecards (see above) on the exam.

Attendance and Participation

(100 points total: 50 for attendance, 25 for participation, 25 for midterm check-in meeting)

Participation includes answering questions when called upon, participating in discussions, and asking insightful and engaging questions related to course material. Active participation will help a borderline final grade. During weeks 5-7 of the course, you are required to set up a meeting with Dr. Lê during her office hours. Use the code from the first page of the syllabus or go to drle.youcanbook.me to schedule it. These meetings will be up to 10 minutes in length.

Please keep in mind that you are expected to keep up with the readings through the term. All students are expected to have read the assigned material **before** each class meeting. Attendance is always helpful (and required) to get a better understanding of the material. Please note that a few points can make a difference. I want you to do your very best in this course, and I will help all students as much as I can.

Grades

Your grade will consist of the following:

TOTAL: 1000 points

A = 930 - 1000+

A- = 900 - 929

B+ = 870 - 899

B = 830 - 869

B- = 800 - 829

C+ = 770 - 799

C = 730 - 769

C- = 700 - 729

D+ = 670 - 699

D = 630 - 669

D- = 600 - 629

F = 0 - 599

Reading Worksheet – 20 points = 2%

Quizzes – 180 points (20 points each) = 18%

Notecards – 180 points (15 points each) = 18%

Music Presentation – 100 points = 10%

Shorties – 120 points (20 points each) = 12%

Film Analysis – 100 points = 10%

Midterm Exam – 100 points = 10%

Final Exam – 100 points = 10%

Attendance/Participation – 100 points = 10%

Note: There will be no curve in this class, including for single assignments. Your grade is what you earn.

Extra Credit

There may be opportunities for extra credit throughout the quarter. These opportunities are generally events on campus, which involve a lecture, documentary showing, debate, or a cultural event with an educational component. The requirements for the reflection paper are on Canvas. The papers will be due by 11:59pm one week after the event. Additionally, video links will be posted in the Canvas assignment link. These videos may be watched and analyzed similar to the events. Video link extra credit papers will be due by 11:59pm on the last regular course day. Students may complete TWO total of these extra credit opportunities for a possible 15 points each or 30 points total. These extra points are added onto a student's total points for the course. No late work will be accepted without a pre-approved reason. Please view the full assignment sheet on Canvas.

Late Policy

Exams

All missed exams must be pre-approved by the instructor PRIOR to the due date. Make-up exams will be given at the discretion of the instructor and must occur **before** the due date. Missed exams without prior approval can only be made up if the absence accompanies an approved excuse and if immediate notice is given to the instructor via email or phone.

Assignments

Any missed assignments not pre-approved by the instructor must accompany an approved excuse in order for an extended due date to be given.

Unapproved absences will result in zeros on assignments and exams and **cannot** be made up. Approved absences include school-sponsored event participation, hospitalization, childbirth, major accident or injury, or bereavement. It is the student's responsibility to provide the instructor appropriate documentation within a reasonable timeframe. The only exceptions to this policy are late papers, which will receive a 10% deduction per day late, or presentations, which will receive a 10% deduction per day late if class days remain.

Tentative Schedule

HOW TO READ THE SCHEDULE BELOW:

Day of the Week
Topic
Reading Due Before Class
Assignment Due

<i>Week One – April 4-8</i>				
M	T	W	R	F
Intro to the class	Sociological Imagination	What is sex?	What is sex?	Quiz
No reading	No reading	Stomblor 1	Stomblor Pg. 9 Box	No reading
		Reading Worksheet DUE		Shorty 1 DUE

<i>Week Two – April 11-15</i>				
M	T	W	R	F
Foundations	Foundations	Sexual Identities	Intersexed	Quiz and Presentations
Stomblor 7 and 10 (Pg. 88-92.5)	Stomblor 10 (Pg. 92.5-96)	Stomblor 6 and Pg. 48 Box	Stomblor 2	No reading

<i>Week Three – April 18-22</i>				
M	T	W	R	F
Homosexuality?	Homophobia	Asexuality	Quiz and Presentations	NO CLASS (our class only)
Stomblor 14	Kimmel (on Canvas)	Stomblor 35	No reading	
				Shorty 2 DUE ONLINE

Week Four – April 25-29

M	T	W	R	F
Ability	Age	Race	Race	Quiz and Presentations
Stomblor 33	Stomblor Pg. 412 Box	Stomblor 13 and Pg. 265 Box	Stomblor 9 and 34	No reading

Week Five – May 2-6

M	T	W	R	F
Exam Review	Exam 1	Sex Ed	Sex Ed	Quiz and Presentations
No reading	No reading	Stomblor 18	Stomblor 19	No reading
Midterm Meetings BEGIN		Shorty 3 DUE		

Week Six – May 9-13

M	T	W	R	F
Film	Bodies	Bodies	Bodies	Quiz and Presentations
No reading	Stomblor 28	Stomblor 26	Stomblor 25	No reading
		Shorty 4 DUE		

Week Seven – May 16-20

M	T	W	R	F
Sex Industry	Sex Industry	Sex Industry	Film	Quiz and Presentations
Stomblor 16 and Pg. 658 Box	Stomblor 60	Stomblor 59	No reading	No reading
				Midterm Meetings DUE

Week Eight – May 23-27

M	T	W	R	F
Film	Social Control	Social Control	Social Control	Quiz and Presentations
No reading	Stomblor 43 and Pg. 508 Box	Stomblor 45	Hoover (on Canvas)	No reading
	Shorty 5 DUE		Shorty 6 DUE	

Week Nine – May 30 – June 3

M	T	W	R	F
NO CLASS (college-wide)	Violence	Violence	Violence	Quiz and Presentations
	Stomblor 51 and Pg. 593 Box	Stomblor 52	Stomblor 56	No reading

<i>Week Ten – June 6-10</i>				
M	T	W	R	F
Sex Positivity	Presentations	Presentations	Presentations	Presentations
Stompler Pg. 691-697	No reading	No reading	No reading	No reading
				Film Analysis DUE

<i>Week Eleven – June 13-17 – Final Exam Week</i>				
M	T	W	R	F – 9:30-11:20pm
Presentations	Exam Review	NO CLASS	NO CLASS	Final Exam
No reading	No reading	(final exams)	(final exams)	
	Extra Credit DUE			

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible.

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc

Disability Resource Center

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.

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

Academic Honesty and Integrity

Cheating, stealing, and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to, talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Success for investigation. Specific student rights, responsibilities, and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct at

http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp

Copyright Notice

All documents disseminated by your instructor are under copyright by said instructor. Any re-use or distribution of these materials outside of our classroom without permission is copyright infringement and is considered a crime.

Final Comments

It is my goal to make this course worth your time and effort. Therefore, I will do all that is reasonable and within my power to ensure that you learn and succeed. If you are concerned with any aspect of this course please feel free to contact me.