

PSYCHOLOGY OF GENDER – PSY 380
FALL TERM, 2013
TR 2:00 – 3:20 p.m., PAC 30
Office Hours: by appointment

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“The aim of life is to live, and to live means to be aware, joyously, drunkenly, serenely, divinely aware.”

~ Henry Miller, *Tropic of Capricorn* (1939) ~

Overview

What are the differences between men and women? Why do we always think of differences? In this course, we will review empirical findings regarding common beliefs about gender, the relationship of gender to traditional issues in psychology (e.g., moral development, personality, interpersonal relationships), and special issues pertinent to gender, (e.g., violence, and sexual orientation). This course is designed to provide students with a critical analysis of evidence for sex differences and similarities, gender roles, and the effect of gender on traditional issues in psychology. We will examine psychological theory and research on issues of sex and gender, and the interaction of these topics with interpersonal and organizational issues as well as health and relationships. Through readings, lectures, discussions, films, assignments, and exams, we will explore together multiple meanings and constructions of gender.

Course Expectations and Classroom Behavior

The course includes traditional lectures, video materials, class discussion, and assigned readings. Although lectures will overlap to some degree with the reading material, there will be lecture material that is not covered in the reading and reading material that is not covered in the lectures.

Students are expected to attend and participate in class, complete and critically evaluate the assigned reading, and study in preparation for the final exam. This is not a course to take if you think you will miss more than one class meeting. On-time completion of all assignments is expected.

This class is based on the philosophy that learning is an **active** process. This emphasizes the importance of understanding and experiencing ideas as they relate to our own lives, rather than just remembering a list of facts. The psychology of gender is a topic about which students often have varying (and strong) opinions. Your input is welcome and encouraged, as is active listening. We must be mindful of discussing and listening to ideas in a respectful, thoughtful, and reasoned manner. No single experience or viewpoint is more important or more valuable than the others. You may not agree with the views expressed by others, but we must all agree to respect each individual's right to share their experiences. You are encouraged to go beyond personal opinion and experience, and take available evidence into account. **Thus you are encouraged to carefully consider the information that comes from lectures, films, and class discussions in constructing more informed opinions of the topics we cover.**

It is the policy of the University to support and value diversity. To do so requires that we respect the dignity and essential worth of all individuals and promote a culture of respect throughout the University community. Course content, including class discussions, projects and activities, and assignments, rests on the assumption that human diversity is normative and is an appropriate focus of attention. The course requires and expects critical thinking about, and sensitivity to, the impact of diversity (culture, religion/faith, gender, ethnicity, race, socioeconomics, physical and cognitive ability, sexual orientation, and other considerations) both in relation to gender in society, and in the classroom. Students are encouraged to develop and expand their respect for and understanding of diverse identities and experiences. If you believe you have been the target of, or a witness to, harassment, bias, or a hate crime, you may report this (anonymously, if desired) to the **Bias Response Team** at 346-2037 or <http://bias.uoregon.edu>.

Students behaving in a disruptive manner may be asked to leave the class. Disruptive behaviors include (but are not limited to): talking or otherwise distracting other students while they are trying to listen, USING your cell phone or failing to turn it off, packing up your materials before the end of class, arriving late, and leaving early. **During class, it is expected that students will pay attention, take notes, and participate by listening and discussing course material.**

Class Attendance

Please note: This is not a course to take if you think you will miss more than one class meeting, as class discussion and exercises are crucial to your success in the course. Your participation is part of the course requirements. Quizzes will be over the reading material, lectures, and videos. You will be responsible for *all* material covered in lecture. I also recommend that you check the course website at Blackboard at least twice a week, as I may post important course information there. The final and the daily quizzes will assess mastery of the content from all sources of material (lectures, videos, readings).

Required Readings

Readings are assigned on a weekly basis. Readings are to be completed **BEFORE** the class meeting for which they are assigned. There is one required text book, available at the bookstore, along with online readings available on the Blackboard website. This course has a serious amount of reading and you will not be able to do well in this course if you do not do the reading. The textbook is designed to provide you with a working knowledge of the issues that we will discuss in class, so that we can spend our time together in a more meaningful exploration of the issues and concepts presented.

Required Text

Helgeson, V. S. (2012). *Psychology of gender*, 4th Edition. Pearson.

NOTE: There are additional weekly on-line readings posted on the Blackboard website.

Grading

Your grade will be computed by combining your scores in the following overall categories:

Points	Course Work
120	12 Quizzes, 10 points each
100	Participation (in-class small groups, HW assignments, etc.)
75	Experience Papers (25 pts each)
50	Study Guide (5 pts/week)
155	Final Exam
500	Total

Course Grade

Final grades will be based on percentage of total possible points earned, and distributed as follows:

A+	<i>Reserved for exceptional performance, usually above 98%, maximum of 3 A+ grades</i>		
A	93-100	D+	67-69.9
A-	90-92.9	D	63-66.9
B+	87-89.9	D-	60-62.9
B	83-86.9		
B-	80-82.9	N*	less than 70
C+	77-79.9	P*	70 or higher
C	73-76.9		<i>*If taking Pass/Fail</i>
C-	70-72.9		

Policy on Late Work / Missing Quizzes

No late work will be accepted FOR ANY REASON. All work must be printed single-sided, double-spaced, using Times New Roman 12-point font (according to APA style). All papers should be turned in during the first five minutes of class. Do NOT e-mail me your papers. If you do not bring your paper to class, it is considered missing. You cannot turn in late work FOR ANY REASON. You also cannot make up quizzes FOR ANY REASON.

Course Requirements

Quizzes: 120 points (10 points each)

Approximately 15 daily quizzes will be given, each worth 10 points. Your highest 12 quiz scores will be used for your final quiz score grade. Because of this, you cannot make up the quizzes FOR ANY REASON. The quizzes will be structured to assess your knowledge of the readings, in-class films and lectures, and class discussions. These may be matching, fill-in-the-blank, short answer and/or essay questions that will usually pertain to the material covered in the previous day's class. Sometimes a question will refer to material covered earlier in the course, or issues discussed on the discussion board. Class attendance *and* participation, and completion of the readings will prepare you well for the quizzes.

Participation: 100 points

Participation is crucial in this course and includes in class individual and small group participation. I also may make small HW assignments. If you miss class *for any reason*, you can NOT make up those points.

Applied Experience Papers: 75 points

There will be 3 Applied Experience Papers (AEPs) which will involve some outside work and a short write up. These papers are intended to help you expand your knowledge of the psychology of gender both academically and experientially. You will receive up to 25 points for each paper. See Blackboard under Assignments for details on these assignments. These papers are due on the date shown on the syllabus. Please NOTE I will NOT accept late work for any reason, nor will I accept an electronic version.

Study Guide: 50 points

I neither endorse nor provide instructor-written study guides. The best way to prepare for the final exam is to create your own working study guide. This guide should contain notes to yourself about the topics covered during the previous week in class, text, discussion and readings. You may want to include topics from the daily quizzes, issues that we spent the most time on in class, constructs that you found the most challenging to understand, etc. Your study guide should be different from everyone else's – its purpose is to individualize the ongoing learning experience in preparation for the final exam. It must have the textual equivalent of 1 double-spaced page per week but can be in the format most useful to you (e.g., bullet points). Points are awarded Pass/No Pass, 5 points per week (9 weeks), 5 bonus points if you turn in all 9 study guides (even if you do not receive points because of content problems).

Final Exam: 155 points

You are responsible for all material covered in the course. The final exam usually covers key terms and concepts, and always contains at least one essay question that is comprehensive in nature. You may bring ONE 3x5 index card with handwritten notes on the card. You may not have any other materials during the final exam.

Additional Notes

Using Blackboard

The web site for this course was constructed using Blackboard software which allows the web site to be extensive and interactive. On the web site, you will find general announcements for the class, all documents for the course (including this syllabus), lecture notes, on-line discussions, links to relevant web sites, and more. You can get to the course web site by going to <http://blackboard.uoregon.edu>. If you need help logging in or using Blackboard, see <http://blackboard.uoregon.edu/local/usingbb/>.

Plagiarism Policy: Copying or paraphrasing information or ideas from any source, interview, print or electronic, without citation, is plagiarism. I take this very seriously; it merits a zero on the particular assignment in which it appears, and usually results in a grade penalty for the course. Always note the source of anyone else's ideas that you use, in this, and every, class. You can find clear guidelines for using several different citation formats properly, as well as very clear explanations of how to paraphrase correctly and avoid plagiarism here: <http://www.uwosh.edu/departments/llr/citing.html>

Academic Dishonesty: Using work from a previous course to fulfill a requirement in this course is considered academic dishonesty. Attempting to cheat on the daily quizzes and/or the final exam is also dishonest (and makes me sad). If you are caught, you will receive a zero for the assignment/quiz/exam, you may receive further penalties (up to and including a failing grade for the course), and you may be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards. (See <http://uodos.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/AcademicMisconduct/tabid/248/Default.aspx>)

Students who Require Accommodations

If you may need accommodations, please contact me in the first week of class, even if you are not sure that you will require accommodation this term (for example, if you have a physical disability that may require emergency attention, but you cannot predict when this might happen). Please request that the Counselor for Students with Disabilities send a letter verifying your disability. Contact the Accessible Education Center for more information (164 Oregon Hall; 346-1155; aec.uoregon.edu). Without documentation, accommodations are not guaranteed and will be made at my discretion.

Weekly Schedule: Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines

Day	Readings	Assignments
Introduction and Theory		
10/01	<i>Ch. 1: Introduction</i>	
10/03	<i>Ch. 2: Methods & History</i> Hyde. (2007). New Directions in the Study of Gender Similarities and Differences.	
10/08	<i>Ch. 3: Attitudes</i> Swim, Mallett & Stangor (2004). Understanding Subtle Sexism	Study Guide Week 1
10/10	<i>Ch. 5: Theory</i> Diamond (2006). Biased Interaction Theory of Psychosexual Development	
10/15	<i>Ch. 5: Theory, cont. Begin film – Ma Vie en Rose</i>	Study Guide Week 2
10/17	<i>Ma Vie en Rose</i>	<i>AEP #1 due</i>
Organizational and Interpersonal Relationships		
10/22	<i>Ch. 4: Observations</i> Barres. (2006). Does Gender Matter?	Study Guide Week 3
10/24	<i>Ch. 6: Achievement</i> Keller. (2002). Blatant Stereotype Threat and Women's Math Performance Basow, S. (2000) Gender Dynamics in the Classroom.	
10/29	<i>Ch. 12: Paid Work Roles & Health</i> Lundberg (2005). Stress hormones in health and illness: The roles of work and gender.	Study Guide Week 4
10/31	<i>Ch. 7: Communication</i> Helweg-Larsen, et al. (2004). To Nod or Not to Nod: An Observational Study	<i>Happy Halloween!</i>
11/05	<i>Ch. 7 - Continued</i> Steinfeldt, et al. (2011). Muscularity and Masculine Norms ... College Football Players.	Study Guide Week 5
11/07	<i>Ch. 8: Friendship & Conflict Resolution</i> Fighting Fair	
11/12	<i>Special Guest Panel!</i> - Definitions for BRIDGES Panel	Study Guide Week 6
11/14	<i>Ch. 9: Romantic Relationships & Sexual Orientation</i> Meezan & Rauch (2005). Gay Marriage, Same-Sex Parenting, and America's Children	<i>AEP #2 due</i>
Gender & Health		
11/19	<i>Ch. 10: Sex Differences in Health</i> Vigil & Coloumbe. (2011). Biological sex and social setting affects pain intensity	Study Guide Week 7
11/21	<i>Ch. 11: Relationships & Health</i> Strazdins & Broom (2004). Acts of Love and Work	
11/26	<i>Sara Kruzan case; Bronfenbrenner</i> Platt, Barton & Freyd. (2009). Betrayal Trauma and Domestic Violence	Study Guide Week 8
11/28	Happy Thanksgiving – No class Meeting	
12/03	<i>Ch. 13: Mental Health</i> Chrisler, J.C. (2000) PMS as a Culture-Bound Syndrome.	<i>AEP #3 due</i> Study Guide Week 9
12/05	<i>Mental Health cont'</i> Garcia et al. (2011). Masculine behavioral norms and PTSD symptoms in veterans.	
Final Exam: Thursday, December 12 @ 1:00 p.m.		