

ANT 2301: Human Sexuality and Culture
University of Florida, Summer B 2025



(Religious Artwork Highlighting Human Sexuality in Madhya Pradesh, India)

Instructor: Spencer Seymour (he/him) seymour.spencer@ufl.edu

Office Hours: Mon-Wed 11:00 am–12 am (Turlington B328) (Or Appointment over Zoom)

Class: Monday through Friday 9:30 am- 10:45 am (TUR 2319)

Course Description:

This course examines human sexuality from an anthropological point of view. The hallmark of anthropology is the emphasis on both the biological and cultural dimensions of what it means to be human. That perspective enriches our understanding of human sexuality because it encourages us to examine a wide range of human sexual experiences within and across cultures and over the evolutionary history of our species. We will apply this holistic perspective to the genetic, physiological, psychological, social, cultural, and evolutionary dimensions of human sexuality. Topics will include gender roles and identity, the interplay of behavior and sexual ethics, and biological foundations. This course is appropriate for those seeking an integrative approach to human sexuality.

- NOTE: The summer version of this course does NOT come with words for UF's Writing requirement.

Course Objectives:

- Employing the scientific method to research an aspect of human sexuality and relationships in campus life.
- Improving students' critical thinking with regard to sexuality culture and society in the United States and around the world, while also interpreting the social inequalities regarding sex, gender, sexual orientation, sex work, and STIs.
- Analyzing social and cultural influences on the students' individual sexual knowledge and behaviors and those affecting societies, politics, and ethical standards.

- Examining how sexuality ideas have changed through time and biological perspectives on the origins of human behavior related to sexuality.
- Talking frequently about controversial and emotionally charged topics in sexuality allows for students to become comfortable talking about sexuality and examining their own beliefs and assumptions about sexuality.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

After taking *Human Sexuality and Culture* students will be able to:

1. Identify, describe, and explain the key themes, terminology, methodologies, historical processes, and contemporary experiences characterizing diversity as a dynamic concept related to human sexuality and examine the differences and their intersections, such as (but not limited to) race, gender identity, class, ethnicity, religion, age, sexual orientation, and disability.
2. Critically analyze and evaluate how social inequities are constructed and affect the opportunities and constraints of different groups relating to sexualities in the United States. Analyze and reflect on the ways in which cultures and beliefs mediate understandings of an increasingly diverse U.S. society.
3. Apply formal and informal qualitative or quantitative analysis effectively to examine the processes and means by which individuals make personal and group decisions about human sexuality. Assess and analyze ethical perspectives in individual and societal decisions.
4. Communicate knowledge, thoughts, and reasoning clearly and effectively regarding issues surrounding sexuality.

Course Material(s):

Required: Yarber, William L. and Sayad, Barbara W. 2022. *Human Sexuality: Diversity in Contemporary Society*, **11th edition**. McGraw-Hill Education.

UF All Access Program: Digital access (Opt-in) e-book

- Login at <https://bsd.ufl.edu/allaccess> and Opt-In to gain access to the course materials.
- Materials provided digitally at a reduced price and the charges will post directly to your student account, allowing any available Financial Aid funds to cover the cost of your materials.
 - This option is only available through the Gator1 portal for the first few weeks of class.
 - Note: Accommodation may be available on a case-by-case basis to those with financial difficulties - contact the instructor directly
- The Connect Online platform is required to participate in the Chapter Quizzes.
- A copy of the print textbook can be found on course reserves at the Library.

**** DISCLAIMER**** - *the book and some readings can use incorrect/out-of-date terms and definitions.*

Course Format and Expectations:

The class time is split into lectures, group activities, and primarily discussion among students which draws on class and reading and other media content from the course. **In order to receive full participation and attendance credit in class, students should:**

-Attend and participate in class discussions. Participation is a large part of this course – you will be given a Discussion group with whom you will interact throughout the semester. Consistent attendance is important to ensure your group can work well and help each other navigate the topics and ideas we discuss. Students may miss up to 2 days of class without communicating with the instructor.

-Engage the course materials and draw these into our discussions and assignments throughout the semester to show you understand the content covered. It is very important that you complete the class readings and videos and come to class prepared on discussion days.

-Ask questions whenever they feel unsure of something. Anthropology requires us to ask questions about the world around us, so please don't hesitate to think deeply about the topics we cover in this course. Additionally, you are encouraged to reach out whenever you have questions or concerns about this class via email or during our office hours.

Grading:

Letter grades are assigned based on the total percent of points. *****grades will not be rounded*****
A = 93.0 or above; A- = 90-92.9; B+ = 87-89.9; B = 83-86.9; B- = 80-82.9; C+ = 77-79.9; C = 73-76.9; C- = 70-72.9; D+ = 67-69.9; D = 63-66.9; D- = 60-62.9; E = <59.9

See UF's Grading policy:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

- I. 25% Quizzes**
 - Introduction quiz (5%)
 - Textbook Chapter Quizzes (20%)
- II. 25% Exams**
 - Exam 1 (12.5%) and Exam 2 (12.5%)
- III. 20% Public Engagement Synthesis**
 - Plagiarism Exercise (10 pts)
 - Proposal (15 pts)
 - Final Project (40 points)
- IV. 25% Discussion and Learning Activities**
 - Attendance & participation (2pt per meeting)
 - Readings/Video assignments (3pt each)

- Anthropology Methods Assignments (5pts each)
- V. 5% Lecture Attendance

Assignment Descriptions:

NOTE - All writing should be 12pt font, 1" margins, and double-spaced and follow APA writing style and formatting and submitted in Microsoft .doc format (<https://www.apastyle.org/>).

Quizzes: *Enhances SLOs 1,2,4*

- There will be an introduction quiz with multiple-choice questions covering material in the syllabus and first lecture on Anthropology.
- You will be required to complete the textbook chapter quizzes online through McGraw-Hill Connect. Textbook chapter quizzes from Modules 1-4 are due by **July 18 11:59pm**. Textbook chapter quizzes from Modules 5-9 are due by **August 7 11:59pm**. You may work on chapter quizzes at any point before they are due.
- We will be using chapter quizzes for the textbook. This will use the opt-in option through Canvas to use McGraw-Hill's Connect application to view and take quizzes from the text. All required online assignments and the interactive eBook for this course are available in Connect. To get started, click the first Connect assignment in your Canvas course.
(In-print version can be purchased for extra fee within Connect)
 - Sign in or create a new account using access code.
 - In Connect, every question links directly to the eBook. When you are struggling with a question you can go directly to the explanation in the eBook for help. You can access the eBook from any computer or device, any time.

Exams: *Enhances SLOs 1,2,4*

- Two non-cumulative exams will cover material from assigned readings, lectures, guest speakers, and class discussions. The exams equally weighted (12.5% each toward course grade).
- All exams will be administered on e-Learning. The exams will be made available for two days, and due by 11:59 pm by the scheduled due date listed on the schedule. The exams will be timed, but you will be able to use notes.
- You must complete the exam by the end of the open period. This class does NOT use proctoring services such as Honorlock and ProctorU. Exams must be taken at the scheduled time; there will be no makeup exams.
- Exceptions will be made only in the case of incapacitating illness or other university-approved absence. In such cases, you must provide the Instructor with written documentation from an appropriate authority at least 24 hours before the exam or as soon as possible thereafter.

- ***DRC (Disability Resource Center) student accommodations should be provided to the instructor by the end of **the second week of the term** (or soon after accommodation is provided from DRC).***

Public Engagement Synthesis: *Enhances SLOs 1-4*

- The objective of this exercise is to consider current sexual communication, education, and information. Ultimate questions to consider are: *Where is sexual information coming from, how accurate is the information, and how does it influence people's thoughts and behaviors?* The objective is to consider one realm of sexual discourse that is covered in this course, think and consider what and how people view the topic, and finally come up with an *innovative way (e.g. school activity, brochure, commercial, video, song, etc.) that could be implemented to aid in the discourse* (communication) of this topic in a final synthesis. This synthesis will be more of a *popularized* format (rather than scientific) and should be written in a way to get accurate and clear information to the general public.
- *Note: you can be creative in the final project by creating a brochure, video, etc., but must also submit a description and explain how you would distribute it and to who (audience) with all relevant cited information. Alternatively, students can write a 3-5 page double-spaced paper describing the idea – such as an event on campus or a high-school fun activity. THIS IS NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF CLASS (only turned in).*
- *Final Project (50 pts):* Write about your idea and the content of that idea. *At least three reputable references* need to be cited and referenced (from 2015 to present). Provide the details of your idea and the major literature to disseminate to the public and how you will get this information to the public, possibly using relevant on- campus resources (i.e. health center or associations/clubs).
 - GOAL: explain the problem, provide information that would be useful for students to know, and describe the platform in which this information and/or specific resources may be provided to students (video, flyers, vending machines, etc.)
 - Explain the problem
 - Provide information that would be useful for students to know
 - Describe the platform in which this information and/or specific resources may be provided to students (video, flyers, vending machines, etc.) - How will you do it and what will it look like?
 - References cited section (not included in page count) - must use at least 3 references
 - Resources can be internet resources (as long as they are reputable resources – generally with an author or by a specific organization, such as Planned Parenthood) ***if unsure, ASK***

- Peer-reviewed resources are best and can be found using the library's databases
- News sites, blogs, and/or other non-scientific and/or peer-reviewed sources do not count toward your 3-source minimum
- On the due date (or before), you must upload an electronic version of various components (in .doc or .docx format - or ppt/pptx for presentations) to the Canvas course page (<https://elearning.ufl.edu/>), where it will be run through Turnitin. *If there is any evidence of plagiarism, you forfeit credit towards the writing requirement, receive a grade of zero for the assignment, and be reported to Student Judicial Affairs.*

Discussion Sessions: You are required to attend and participate in the discussion section for which you registered. You will have points deducted if: (1) you don't come to class (zero points), (2) you arrive more than 10 minutes late, or (3) you do not actively participate in discussion activities. Your attendance, participation, and preparedness will be used for grading in the following manner. ***Enhances SLOs 1,2,4***

- *Attendance (1pt per meeting):* Attendance to discussions is mandatory
- *Discussion participation (1pts each week):* You will receive a point for participating in the weekly discussion activities each week. You may receive partial credit if you show up late or do not talk during discussion.
- *Readings and Video Assignments (3pt each):* You will have assigned readings or videos (1-2 per week). For each reading/video you will answer a pre-assigned question and come prepared to contribute to discussions. Assignments may vary week to week, Tas will provide further details.
- *Anthropology Methods Assignments (5pts each):* These assignments provide fundamental anthropology methodologies. These exercises are fun and engaging to relate to the course topics. Some may be worked on during lecture or discussion.

Lecture attendance and activity participation: ***Enhances SLOs 2-4***

Attendance will be recorded each lecture. Students are allowed 2 unexcused absences. Lecture activity days will be announced a week in advance and will require the class to work in small groups on an assignment. Group members will provide an assessment grade for each other for participation points. More details will be provided in class.

Course Schedule

Tentative Schedule- Changes will be announced in class

<i>MON</i>	<i>TUE</i>	<i>WED</i>	<i>THU</i>	<i>FRI</i>
June 30 Orientation, Anthro, Sexuality basics	July 1 Sexuality basics and through time	2 Sexuality methods Discussion (Sperling article)	3 Sexuality Methods, Anatomy (pt.1)	4 NO CLASS Quizzes Due
7 Anatomy and physiology pt.2	8 Anatomy and physiology pt.3. Discussion (Orenstein TedTalk)	9 Gender Identity	10 Gender Identity Discussion (Emily Quinn)	11 Sexual Orientation Male and female anatomy quizzes due
14 Sexual Orientation Photo Ethnography	15 Sexual development	16 Sexual arousal Discussion (Barmak TedTalk)	17 Sexual problems	18 M1-4 Text Quizzes due EXAM 1 open – DUE Sat July 20.
21 Relationships	22 Relationships and Pregnancy Discussion (Fisher TedTalk)	23 Pregnancy and birth Anthro social media due	24 Contraception and STIs	25 STIs Discussion (Dalessandro article)
28 STIs	29 Sexual Violence Discussion (Nagoski TedTalk)	30 Sexual Violence	31 Sexual Pleasure	August 1 Sexual Pleasure Discussion (Simula article) Public Engage Due
4 Selling Sex	5 Selling Sex	6 Selling Sex Discussion (Rothman TedTalk)	7 Catch-up & Review M5-9 Text quizzes EXAM 2 open	8 NO CLASS EXAM 2 close
11	12	13	14	15

Week 1 (July 1- July 4) - Introduction, Anthropology, and Scientific Research; Anatomy

No class Friday July 4th

Read:

- Textbook Chapters 1–2
- **By Wednesday:** Sperling 2022. More time, more conversation, more care: California High School Youth Queering Comprehensive Sexuality Education

Do:

- Introduction Quiz (due 7/5)
- Sexuality knowledge quiz Due (due 7/5)
- Research methods quiz (due 7/5)
- Module 1 textbook quizzes (due by Exam 1)

Week 2 (July 7- July 11) - Anatomy; Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation

Read:

- Textbook Chapters 3, 4, 5, 6, 13

Watch:

- **By Tuesday:** TedTalk with Peggy Orenstein 2016. What young women believe about their own sexual pleasure. (17 min)
- **By Thursday:** TedTalk Emily Quinn

Do:

- Watch anatomy lectures
- Anatomy quizzes (due 7/12)
- Module 2 textbook quizzes (due by Exam 1)

Week 3 (July 14–July 18) - Sexual Orientation, Development, Arousal, and Problems; Exam 1

**Friday July 19th No class- Take Exam 1 anytime Friday or Saturday*

Read:

- Textbook Chapters 6, 7, 9 and 14

Watch:

- **By Wednesday:** TedTalk: Sarah Barmak

Do:

- Photo Ethnography Assignment (Due 7/15)
- M1-4 Textbook Quizzes due by 7/18
- Exam 1– Open July 19 @ 8 AM until July 20 @ 11:59 PM

Week 4 (July 21–July 26) - Relationships; Pregnancy and Birth, Contraception and STIs

Read:

- Textbook Chapters 8 (Relationships), 11 & 12 (pregnancy and birth, contraception), 15, & 16 (STIs)
- **By Friday:** Dalessandro 2020

Watch:

- **By Tuesday:** TedTalk: Helen Fisher

Do:

- Social Media Assignment (7/24)
- Corresponding textbook quizzes (due by Exam 2)

Week 5 (July 28– August 1) - STIs; Sexual Violence; Sexual Pleasure

**Friday August 2 @ 11:59 PM Public Engagement Synthesis is Due*

Read:

- Textbook chapters 15 & 16 (STIs), 9 & 10 (sexual pleasure), 17 (sexual violence)
- **By Friday:** Simula 2018

Watch:

- **By Tuesday:** TedTalk: Nagoski

Do:

- Corresponding textbook quizzes (due by Exam 2)
- Public Engagement Project DUE 8/2

Week 6 (August 4–8) - Selling Sex, Review, Exam 2

Friday August 9th No class- Take Exam 2 Thursday or Friday

Read:

- Textbook Chapter 18

Watch:

- **By Wednesday:** Emily Rothman’s talk TedTalk “How Porn Changes the Way Teens Think about Sex” (15 min)

Do:

- M5-9 Textbook quizzes (due 8/8)
- Exam 2 – open August 7th 8 am until August 8th 11:59 pm (no class Fri)

Course Policies:

Requirements for class **attendance and make-up exams**, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Accommodation

Students who require accommodations for learning barriers should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/>. It is important for students to

share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible (go to <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/accommodations/accommodation-letters/>)

Assignment Extensions: Extensions on assignments, quizzes, and exams will not be scheduled unless demonstrated illness, health, emergency, or major scheduling conflict with proof provided to the Instructor. An email/canvas conversation, following university procedures, is expected so that arrangements can be made with all parties (instructor and student) in agreement. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and inform them of an emergency or circumstance. If you need to arrange accommodation from the instructor to submit late work for this class, *you are required to submit the necessary written documentation.*

- Late assignments/quizzes/exams without an excuse will be reduced 5% per day late, up to 7 days maximum.
 - o *A grace period of one day will be provided with notice to the instructional team.*
- All unexcused late work will not be accepted a week after the due date without agreement with the instructor.
- Any requests for *make-ups due to technical issues* MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from the UF Computing Help Desk when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST message your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.
- *Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:*
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Plagiarism

Writing assignments will be subject to and in accordance with the student conduct code and academic honesty. Assignments will use the tool Turnitin to assess plagiarism and are subject to [ChatGPT/AI](#) detection. Assignments will be run through AI detection software and any assignment that indicates over 45% use will receive deductions based on amount of use. If there is any evidence of violation of the [Student Honor Code](#), the student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment and be reported to [Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#) Office.

Student Conduct and Academic Honesty and Integrity:

Cheating, copying other's work, plagiarism, and other acts of academic misconduct are unethical. UF and the instructor consider these to be serious offenses. UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."* The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/students/student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are

in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Critical Thinking Objective:

Students are encouraged to employ critical thinking and to rely on data and verifiable sources to interrogate all assigned readings and subject matter in this course as a way of determining whether they agree with their classmates and/or their instructor. No lesson is intended to espouse, promote, advance, inculcate, or compel a particular feeling, perception, viewpoint or belief.

Course Evaluations – GatorEvals

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

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FURTHER INFORMATION ON COURSE

Harassment and Discrimination

“Harassment” is defined as conduct that (1) is of any type (written, oral, graphic, or physical), (2) is directed towards or against a person because of their personal status (i.e., race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, political affiliation, national origin, age, disability, marital status, pregnancy or others), and that (3) unreasonably interferes with the individual’s work, education, or participation in activities or programs at UF or creates a working or learning environment that a reasonable person would find threatening. “Discrimination” is defined as a conduct that (1) adversely affects any aspect of an individual’s employment, education, or participation in

activities or programs at UF, and (2) is based on one or more personal characteristics listed above. Any student who feels that his/her rights have been violated may speak to the instructor who will direct the complaint through the proper university channels, or the student may directly file a complaint with UF Department of Human Resources.

“The University of Florida has zero tolerance for sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic abuse or stalking.” <https://titleix.ufl.edu/>

Gender Equity Statement

The University of Florida is committed to providing a safe, productive learning environment free of sex-based discrimination and misconduct. Sex-based discrimination, sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, and any other nonconsensual behavior of a sexual nature), and relationship violence are antithetical to the university’s mission and values, violate university policies, and may also violate federal and state law. If you or someone you know has experienced sex-based discrimination, sexual violence, and/or harassment by any member of the university community, please visit www.titleix.ufl.edu to access information about university support and resources. If you would like to make a report please contact UF’s Title IX Coordinator at (352) 275-1242 or by e-mail at inform@titleix.ufl.edu. Additionally, reports can be made through the [Online Portal](#)

Library Resources:

The [UF Libraries](#) provide access to numerous resources and services that will help you succeed in this course. Access thousands of [online databases, books, and articles](#) or visit one of the [branch locations](#) for additional resources, services, and study spaces. Further, as this class requires students to complete a bibliography and research paper, both the [Anthropology Library Guide](#) and the [Anthropology Assignment Guide](#) may be of assistance. You can also contact the [Anthropology Librarian](#) directly for help with developing your research topic/question, searching for sources, and evaluating information. And you can also [Ask A Librarian](#) for help by email, chat, text, or phone.

- This class has a dedicated Library page:

<http://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/anthroUF/ANT2301>

- Guinnessa Mahar (Anthropology Librarian): gjmahar@ufl.edu, office: Library West rm.500

Resources:

Learning support can be found through the following university resources:

- For help with general study skills and tutoring, check out the **Teaching Center** in Broward Hall. You can call them at (352) 392-2010 or (352) 392-6420. More info at <http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.
- **Anthropology's Library Page:** <http://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/c.php?g=963561&p=6959964%5C>
- For help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers, visit the **Writing Studio** in 302 Tigert Hall. Their phone number is (352) 846-1138, and their website is <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>
- For **e-learning technical support**, call (352) 392-4357 and select option 2. You can also email them at learningsupport@ufl.edu or browse their website at <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.
- For career and counseling services, visit the **Career Connections Center** in Reitz Union. Their phone number is (352) 392-1601 and their website is <https://career.ufl.edu/>
- For mental health support, see the **UF Counseling and Wellness Center** at 3190 Radio Road. Their phone number is (352) 392-1575 and their website is <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>.

Students experiencing personal problems that are interfering with their academic performance are encouraged to contact Student Affairs, DRC, and/or the Counseling and Wellness Center

- UF Student Affairs: <https://ufsa.ufl.edu/> or <https://care.dso.ufl.edu/>
- Disability Resource Center (DRC): <https://disability.ufl.edu/>
- Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 392-1575
- Health and Wellness U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or (352) 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

To report concerns:

- Report incidents or concerning behavior happening in the University of Florida community <https://report.ufl.edu/>
- UF Title IX (sex-based discrimination, sexual violence, and/or harassment): <https://titleix.ufl.edu/>