

# ANT 2301 Human Sexuality and Culture

M-F, period 2, 9:30-10:45

Location: CAR 0100

Instructor: Joost Morsink

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## Course Description and Objectives

This course provides an anthropological perspective on human sexuality cross-culturally. Over the course of the semester, students will be exposed to a broad range of human experiences and debates relating to not only biological sex, but also the socio-cultural and gender politics of human sexuality. Readings, lectures and videos will engage the ways biology and culture interact within a variety of different contexts. The class will also analyze the structural forces that impact human sexual experiences—such as environment, cultural values, religion, economics, politics, and social inequalities. Through exploring diverse lived experiences of individuals and groups, this class will expose students to the variety of meanings, interpretations, and values as they relate to human sexuality and sexual experiences.

## Goals:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- ⤴ Describe the ways that biology and culture interact and influence human sexuality.
- ⤴ Learn how to critically explore the cultural, structural and social influences on sexual knowledge, assumptions, behaviors and belief
- ⤴ Evaluate their own assumptions about human sex and sexuality, and incorporate cultural and scientific understandings into their own ideas about the ethical and political components of human sexuality.
- ⤴ Think critically about the evidence and assumptions employed by others in their claims about ‘healthy’ or ‘proper’ human sexuality.
- ⤴ Understand the sociocultural, biological and behavioral influences on students’ own sexual health.
- ⤴ Speak comfortably and knowledgeably about human sex and sexuality.

## Required Course Materials

- Hock, Roger R. 2010. *Human Sexuality*, Second Edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. (HS in schedule)
- Required readings on Sakai
- **iClicker—Required by all students to purchase. Available from local bookstores, including Orange & Blue Text.** If you already have an iClicker that you purchased for another class, it will work for this class. However, *other types of remotes (Turningpoint, HITT, etc.) will NOT work with the iClicker system so if you do not already own an iClicker specifically you will need to purchase one.*

## **Student Communication, Participation and Conduct:**

One foundation of learning in this class is through exchange of ideas. This class is participatory in a variety of ways: through in-class discussion and clicker polling. Participation is crucial to learning in this class. While course-related materials are expected to generate debate, all students are expected to be mature and responsible, and treat other's contributions to the class or student projects in a respectful and professional manner. Feel free to disagree with each other or with the instructor—but please keep it professional and respectful as is outlined in the UF Student Code of Conduct (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>). Students found being blatantly disrespectful or disruptive, or reverting to slurs or insults will be asked to leave the class immediately, and meet with the instructor regarding proper conduct. Repeated offenses will be referred to the Student Conduct office within Dean of Students Office. Due to the sensitive nature of the subjects we will cover in class, it is expected and essential that each student contribute to creating a respectful and tolerant learning environment.

## **Cell Phone, Laptop and MP3 Player Policy**

If you are found reading newspapers, listening to your iPod or other digital device, texting, surfing the web on a cell phone or laptop, or being disruptive in other ways, you will be asked to leave. Use of cell phones in this class will not be permitted. Please turn off your cell phones before the beginning of each class. If your cell phone goes off, you will need to leave the class and not come back for the rest of that day. If you are seen using your cell phone during class (texting, surfing, etc.), you will be asked to leave. Missing class due to being excused because of a cell phone or laptop is not an excuse for a poor grade, so please turn off your cell phones or leave them at home, but don't let them go off in class. Laptops for class-related activity (note-taking) is permitted, but students who use laptops will be asked to sit in the last two rows of the classroom so that their screens do not distract their fellow students.

## **Sakai:**

This class makes extensive use of Sakai for doing tests, providing electronic copies of readings, uploading assignments and grades, and important announcements. *All students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with SAKAI.* Online tutorials for students to learn how to use Sakai are available at <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/sakai-training/index.shtml>. It is highly recommended that students learn how to take screen shots of any exams or assignments that they submit to Sakai prior to submitting them. In this way, if there is a technical problem with the Sakai system, you will have proof that you did as you were supposed to do on the system. There are no exceptions for students whose exams or assignments are not uploaded to Sakai without documentary proof (i.e. a submission confirmation page, a screen shot of the assignment uploaded, etc.) Keep these records available to you, just in case. Technical issues have been known to occur, but it is the student's responsibility to provide a burden of proof of an issue on the Sakai system and to call the helpdesk immediately if there are any problems with the system.

“Not knowing” about a particular announcement or communication because a student did not check Sakai *will not be accepted as an excuse with regards to any assignment, assessment, or other classrelated activity.* Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Sakai system.

In cases where an assignment is uploaded to Sakai and turnitin, it is your responsibility to ensure that your paper has the proper extension (.doc or .docx ONLY) with NO spaces in the title and can be opened by me and the teaching assistant (TA). Papers with the wrong extension, that are corrupt,

or those that otherwise don't open will be counted late unless you provide a working version by the date and time that the assignment is due, regardless of whether you handed in the hard copy on time. After the due date/time, the assignment is considered late. Be sure to confirm proper upload of your papers and make screenshots of the assignment submission page once it has been uploaded, so that you do not lose points for improper or lack of upload or if there is a problem with the Sakai system. Papers will be marked down 5% for each day that they are late.

## **Class Announcements**

The main means of the Instructor providing announcements to students will be in class and through EMAIL to your UF email address. Students may opt to forward this email account to their personal email address, and can contact Computer Services if they need assistance in doing so. *Students are expected to read and be aware of all email announcements.* There are no allowances for students who fail to read their email announcements or whose inboxes are full at the time an announcement is sent.

## **i-Clicker Web Registration**

You are required to purchase an i-Clicker remote for in-class participation. i-Clicker is a response system that allows you to respond to questions posed during class, and you will be graded on that feedback and/or participation. Each clicker has a unique serial number on the back of the remote. Place a piece of scotch tape over that bar code and ID to preserve it. In order to receive credit for your votes, you will need to register your i-Clicker remote online within the first week of class. *You must come to class at least once and vote on at least one question BEFORE attempting to register online, in order to complete this registration properly.* Once you have voted on a question in class, go to <http://www.iclicker.com/registration>. Complete the fields with your first name, last name, student ID, and remote ID. Your student ID should be your Gatorlink ID (i.e. the name you use before the “@ufl.edu” in your UF email address and that you use to sign in to ISIS). The remote ID is the series of numbers and sometimes letters found on the bottom of the back of your i-Clicker remote. The i-Clicker response system will be used every day in class, and you are responsible for bringing your remote daily. Forgetting to bring your i-Clicker and thus not being able to respond to in-class questions will result in detrimental effects on your participation grade. It is important that all students keep their receipts for their i-Clickers. No allowances are made if a student's clicker malfunctions on a class day. Students are encouraged to take their clicker back immediately to the place where they purchased it in the case where the clicker has technical problems, and have it replaced at the vendor. Students may also contact i-Clicker directly by phone. Students may borrow the clicker of a student who is NOT enrolled in this class for the duration of the semester, but must let the instructor know immediately so that she can synchronize that clicker to the student.

## **Attendance, Late Assignments, and MakeUp Work**

You are expected to be an active participant in this class and to participate in class. Assessments and assignments will draw from readings, lectures, discussions and videos. Lack of attendance on a particular date is not an excuse for poor performance on an assessment or an assignment. If there is any change in topic or reading, this will always be revised on the online syllabus and announced in class and on Sakai announcements. However, assignment due dates will never be changed from what appears here.

All assignments are known well in advance; therefore, opportunities for make-up assignments and tests *will only be granted in the most exceptional circumstances such as illness or family emergency.* If you feel that your situation fits these circumstances, please contact me before the assessment or due date and provide me with a written medical excuse or excuse from proper University authorities. *University*

*policy states that opportunities for 'bonus points' must be provided to the entire student body. It is against the instructor's class policy to provide opportunities for 'bonus points' to individual students, and TAs are not allowed to provide them, so please do not ask.*

Assignments will be marked down 5% for each day that they are late. Assignments that are due in class will be marked as 5% late at the point that the class is over. If the assignment is not received by 4pm the day that it is due, it is considered as not having been turned in until the second day and is therefore 10% late, and so forth.

### **Needed accommodations for disabilities**

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Disability Resource Center will then provide documentation to the student, who is expected to meet with the instructor during office hours or by appointment, at which point s/he will provide the documentation and discuss the required accommodations. Students who wish to find out if they are eligible for services can contact the Disability Resource Center at [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc).

### **University Counseling Services**

Please be aware that the Counseling Center at the University of Florida has a variety of services that may be of use to you during the semester. This includes individual, group and couples counseling, as well as workshops for stress management and time management. For more information go to 301 Peabody Hall, or <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu>.

### **University Academic Honesty Policy**

In meeting one of the major objectives of higher education, which is to develop self-reliance, it is expected that students will be responsible for the completion of their own academic work. A fundamental principle is that the whole process of learning and the pursuit of knowledge are damaged by cheating, plagiarism, and other acts of academic dishonesty such as misrepresentation, conspiracy, bribery and fabrication. The use of any and all literature, notes, aids, or assistance from other sources should be clearly identified within any and all course assignments and assessments. If you have any questions about how to properly cite the use of a source in your assignments, please ask me. I take academic honesty very seriously and will immediately fail any student caught engaging in dishonest acts. Furthermore, the University will take severe action against any students acting dishonestly, including possible expulsion.

#### Outline of Grading Scheme: Points

Midterm Assessment	100 points
Final Assessment	100 points
In-class Participation	40 Points
Video Reactions	40 Points
<u>Reaction Paper</u>	<u>20 Points</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>300 Points</b>

***I take academic honesty very seriously and will immediately fail any student caught engaging in dishonest acts. Furthermore, the University will take severe action against any students acting dishonestly, including possible expulsion.***

*No grades will be discussed via email.* If you have a problem or a question about your grade, please

make an appointment to come speak with the instructor or stop by during office hours. Letter grades will be assigned based on the total percent of points according to the following scale:

A = 90 or above	C = 70-73.99
A- = 87-89.99	C- = 67-69.99
B+ = 84-86.99	D+ = 64-66.99
B = 80-83.99	D = 60-63.99
B- = 77-79.99	D- = 57-59.99
C+ = 74-76.99	E = 56 or below

Please note that the University implemented minus grades beginning in Summer 2009. Under the new system, a grade of C- will not qualify for major, minor, Gen Ed, Gordon Rule, or College Basic Distribution credit. Please see the following for more information:

Grades and Grading <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

### 1. Exams (200 points)

All exams are multiple choice and administered via *Sakai*, comprising 100 points each. You will have 90 minutes to complete the exams. There will be two exams: one mid-term and one final. The exams will cover material from assigned readings, lectures, films, guest speakers, and class discussions. The two exams are noncumulative and worth 100 points each.

All exams will be administered on Sakai. Exams must be taken at the scheduled time; there will no makeup exams. Exceptions will be made only in the case of incapacitating illness or other university-approved absence such as documented family emergency. In such cases, you must contact Joost Morsink with written documentation from an appropriate authority at least 24 hours before the exam. Teaching Assistant may NOT give permission for make-up exams.

- There will be no lecture the day(s) of a scheduled assessment. Students will take assessments in a place and with a computer of their choice.
- Students are required to complete their exams by themselves. It is a violation of the student code to which each of you agreed to do your exams in groups. Any student found to be completing their exam in conjunction with (a) fellow student(s) will be considered cheating, and will be reported to proper University of Florida authorities.
- It is the student's responsibility to have a reliable internet connection and to ensure that computer operates Sakai without problems. Difficulties in accessing Sakai are NOT valid excuses for an assessment being missed. Be sure to save your answers as you do the assessment!!

### 2. Video Reactions (40 points)

You will write two, 2 page *substantive* reaction assignments regarding two videos that will be shown in class. They will be worth 20 points each. Reactions should be submitted 2 ways: to Sakai in .doc or .docx format, and via *hard copy*, at the beginning of class on the day that it is due. 12 point Times New Roman font, 1" margins all around, double spaced. Failure to submit the reactions in both formats as specified will result in loss of points. Points will be subtracted for any papers that do not conform to all formatting guidelines.

### 3. InClass Participation (40 Points)

Participation in class is mandatory. Participation will be tracked using the iClicker device, which each student is required to purchase during the first few days of class. Students must respond to a *minimum*

of 50% of the questions asked during a class in order to get a participation point for that day. Therefore, students who are late, who leave early, or who step out during the lecture risk missing out on polling questions, which can jeopardize their point for that day.

No allowances are made for lateness, leaving early, or for non-functioning clickers. If you are late or leave early and miss the questions, or your clicker does not work, you lose the point for that day. No exceptions except in case of emergency, with proper supporting documentation. If clickers flash “red” when a student is responding, it means that this clicker is not being read by the iClicker device and has a problem. If you see a red light when you are attempting to respond, you should contact iClicker support after class ends to discuss troubleshooting strategies.

*Clicker points will be tallied by the instructor and NOT by the TA.* Please do not ask the TA for your current score. Scores for clicker participation will be posted at the middle of the semester so students may see how they are doing in terms of class participation. The final scores for class participation will be posted prior to your final exam. Please note that in cases where polling questions contain personal or potentially sensitive issues, student responses will be anonymized so that it is impossible for anyone to track how individual students responded. This is to ensure the confidentiality of students so that they feel free to answer honestly about their own experiences or opinions on the polls.

Students will be informed in advance whether a question has been made anonymous or not, and will be able to see on screen that a question has been anonymized in advance of responding.

#### **4. Reaction Paper**

A two-page, double spaced, times new roman 12-font, 1” margins reaction paper must be submitted to Sakai before class on Thursday June 30<sup>th</sup>. This reaction paper must comment on Horace Miner’s article on the Nacirema. Read the article carefully and discuss at least two (2) specific aspects that you find interesting. Discuss why you picked these aspects and what is of particular interest to you. All assignments need to be uploaded to Sakai in .doc or .docx format without spaces in the file-name.

#### **Syllabus Change Policy**

This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advanced notice.

#### **Course Schedule**

Students are expected to have completed the readings for a particular class *before that class begins*.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
Week 1	⤴ Introduction and Overview ⤴ What is anthropology? ⤴ Introduction to sexuality ⤴ Strategies for success in this course ⤴ Social science perspectives on sexuality ⤴ Male & Female Anatomy	Hock, Ch. 1, 2, 3 (E) Tiefer
Week 2	⤴ Circumcision ⤴ Menstruation and	Hoch, Ch. 10 (E) Fox & Thomson

	menopause	(E) Lock
	♣ Sex versus gender	
	♣ Development of gender identity	
	♣ Gender diversity across time and space	
Week 3	♣ Video 'The Butch Factor'	Hock, Ch. 6, 14
	♣ Categorizing sexual orientation	(E) Gruenbaum 2005 (E) Fausto-Sterling 1997
	♣ Nature and nurture	
	♣ Homophobia and heterosexism	
	♣ MIDTERM	
Week 4	♣ 'Living on the Downlow'	Hock, Ch. 5,7,8,11,12
	♣ Sexual problems and arousal	(E) Sanders
	♣ Video 'Still Doing It'	
	♣ STI's	
	♣ Contraception and culture	
	♣ Love and Intimacy	
Week 5	♣ Marriage	Hock, Ch. 4, 9
	♣ Paraphilias and "extremes" of sexual behavior	(E) Nanda 1992
	♣ Video 'The Guardian of the Flutes'	
	♣ Pregnancy and Childbirth	
	♣ Video 'Business of Being Born'	
Week 6	♣ HIV	Ch. 13, 15
	♣ Sexual Violence	(E) Ryan and Kanjorski
	♣ Sex, technology and popular culture	
	♣ Selling Sex	
	♣ Final Exam	

### Course Readings:

- Fausto-Sterling, Anne. "How to Build a Man". In *Constructing Masculinity*. Maurice Berger, Brian Wallace and Simon Watson, eds. NY: Routledge.
- Fox, M. and M. Thomson. "A Covenant with the Status Quo? Male Circumcision and the New BMA Guidance to Doctors." *Journal of Medical Ethics* 31 (2005)
- Gruenbaum, Ellen. "Socio-cultural Dynamics of Female Genital Cutting: Research Findings, Gaps, and Directions." *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 7.5 Sept-Oct (2005).
- Lock, Margaret. "Menopause: Lessons from Anthropology." *Psychosomatic Medicine* 60.4 (1998)
- Miner, H. "Body Ritual among the Nacirema." *American Anthropologist* 58.3 (1956): 503-07. Print.
- Nanda, Serena. "Arranging a Marriage in India". In *The Naked Anthropologist: Tales from Around the World*. Philip R. DeVita, ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Pub. Co.

Ryan, Kathryn and Jeanne Kanjorski. "The Enjoyment of Sexist Humor, Rape Attitudes, and Relationship Aggression in College Students." *Sex Roles* 38.9/10 (1998).

Sanders, Joshunda. "A Low Down Dirty Shame: The New Assault on Black Male Sexuality." *Bitch* 28, Spring (2005).

Tiefer, Leonore. "'Am I Normal?' The Question of Sex." In *Sex is Not a Natural Act and Other Essays*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press (2004).