ANT 3302W Sex, Gender and Culture

Fall/2018 (3 credit hours)

Fully online

Professor Contact

Professor: Dr. Sandra Wheeler

Office & Hours: Tuesdays 1:00 – 3:00 pm in Chat (online office hours) and by appointment for in-person office hours

E-mail: Sandra.Wheeler@ucf.edu

GTA: Brenna Raisor

Contact: Inbox and on Discussion Board in Webcourses

University Catalogue Description

The traditional and changing roles of women and men viewed in a cross-cultural perspective.

Course Description

Sexuality and gender have powerful effects on daily life, but these effects are often overlooked, underestimated, and misunderstood. A primary problem is the widely held belief that there are only two sexes (female and male), only two genders (women and men), and individuals should act accordingly during social interaction. In reality, lived experiences of sex and gender are much more diverse and complex and vary greatly across and within cultures and belief systems.

This course seeks to examine how people experience gender - what it means to be masculine or feminine - and sexuality in a variety of historical and cultural contexts. We will explore human sexuality and desire from an evolutionary perspective, how sexuality and gender are learned and experienced, and how gender and sexuality relate to other categories of social identity and difference, such as race and ethnicity, economic and social standing, urban or rural life, spiritual and religious beliefs, etc.

Topics to be covered will include:

- The biological basis of sex and the difference between sex and gender
- The various ways that sexuality is researched
- How sexuality is experience throughout the life cycle from a cross-cultural perspective
- How different cultures moderate, mediate, and moralize sex and sexual practices
- Gender variance and gender nonconformity
- Gender, power and inequality cross-culturally
- Prostitution, sex work, human trafficking, and pornography

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course you will:

- Understand the evolutionary aspects of human sexuality and gender
- Identify and appreciate the diversity of human sexual practices and beliefs in the United States and around the world
- Assess the social, historical and cultural processes that support and restrict constructions of sexuality and gender around the world
- Learn how to critically assess media and other popular representations of gender roles and stereotypes
- Learn what anthropology can contribute to debates on contemporary issues concerning sexuality and gender

Course Format and Requirements

This is a fully online course! Online learning is not for everyone; some people may not be able to manage learning in a course that does not fully meet face-to-face. Online learning requires planning and disciplined self-pacing to be successful

in this learning environment. I highly recommend treating this course like a regular face-to-face lecture course, as this will help in keeping up with the posted modules each week. So remember, **module content, assignments, and exams will be paced like a regular face-to-face course; this means that course content will be posted on a weekly basis**.

All course content is posted online in the modules. The modules may consist of audio lectures, module pages, links to websites, podcasts, and/or videos. The modules contain materials to help you study the readings as well as information to help you complete your assignments. You are responsible for **all** material presented in Webcourses.

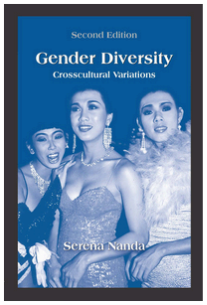
This course format requires you to have reliable access to the Internet. Lucky for you, there are computers available for your use all over campus (if you're on campus).

To do well in this course, you will need to:

- Check Webcourses regularly and keep up with the modules
- Listen to all posted audio lectures and take notes
- Complete all readings, assignments, discussions, and exams by their due dates
- Review the Syllabus, Course Expectations and Course Protocols so you understand how the class will be run

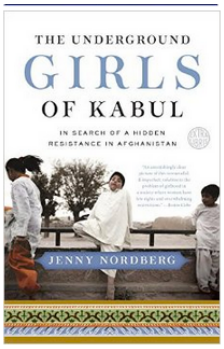
Required Texts

There are **three required textbooks** for this course. You will need **all three** to successfully complete this course. The textbooks are available for purchase in the UCF Bookstore and through various online vendors. I will also provide you with additional electronic readings (pdf's) in the course modules.



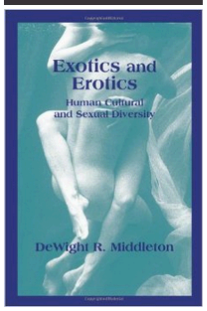
Gender Diversity: Crosscultural Variations, 2nd Edition

Author: Serena Nanda
Year: 2014
Publisher: Waveland Press
ISBN: 978-1-4786-1126-4



Underground Girls of Kabul: In Search of a Hidden Resistance in Afghanistan

Author: Jenny Nordberg
Year: 2014
Publisher: Penguin Random House
ISBN: 9780307952509



Exotics and Erotics: Human Cultural and Sexual Diversity

Author: DeWight R. Middleton
Year: 2002
Publisher: Waveland Press
ISBN: 978-1-57766-200-6

Grading Scale (+/- letter grades)

A	94-100%	B+	87-89%	C+	77-79%	D	60-69%
A-	90-93%	B	84-86%	C	70-76%	F	59% or below
		B-	80-83%				

Student Evaluation

Your final grade for the course is weighted and will be based on your performance on the following:

Assignment	Percent	Description
Read and Respond (3)	20%	Complete 3 out of 7 writing responses to posted articles.
Point of View (3)	20%	Complete 3 of 6 discussion-based assignments on posted videos, podcasts or other media.
UGK Discussion (4)	20%	Complete all 4 online small group discussions on *Underground Girls of Kabul* text.
Exams (3)	40%	Multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer questions on course material.

Read and Respond: There are 7 Read and Respond assignments posted throughout the modules that correspond with the topics covered in that module and the assigned readings. These assignments contain either readings or videos that you are required to read/watch and then answer the posted questions. You are required to **complete at least 3** of these. You may choose any 3 you like, but you must turn in each online by their respective due dates as no late work is accepted. If you complete more than 3, only your 3 highest scores will count. All writing responses will be checked for plagiarism, so make sure you turn in your own work *in your own words*. Reading responses are worth 20% of your final grade.

Point of View: There are 6 Point of View (POV) assignments posted throughout the modules. These assignments will involve watching/listening to various media and participating in small group discussions based on the materials presented. You will complete an initial post and are required to respond to *at least one* other student to receive full credit for each assignment. You are required to **complete at least 3** of these. You may choose any 3 you like, but you must complete each online by their respective due dates as no late work is accepted. If you complete more than 3, only your 3 highest scores will count. Point of View assignments are worth 20% of your final grade.

***UGK* Discussions:** For this assignment, you will be discussing the book (online), *Underground Girls of Kabul*. I will put you into small groups in Webcourses to facilitate your discussions. You are required to **complete all 4** of the discussions for this text. The *UGK* Discussions are worth 20% of your final grade.

Exams: There are **3** exams in this course. Exams will be held **online** and are made up of true/false, multiple choice, short answer, and fill-in-the blank questions. There will be **no make-ups** for exams without proper documentation (this means a doctor's note etc.). Once you begin an exam, **you must finish it!** The exams are timed so if you run over the allotted time, you will be cut off and you will not be able to make up the missed questions. **Important:** ProctorHub is enabled for the exams so **you must take your exam with a computer that is webcam enabled**. Currently, ProctorHub is not yet compatible with Apple iOS (iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad), Android smartphones or other mobile devices. Exams are worth 40% of your final grade. **The final exam is scheduled during Final's Week and is not cumulative.**

Weekly Schedule

Taking online courses can be *more* difficult than taking traditional face-to-face courses because of the level of self-discipline needed to devote the time for coursework, meeting deadlines and keeping up with the course materials. Don't think that taking an online course is easier, it can actually be much more challenging and time intensive than many people think.

The following table provides the **weekly cycle of work that you are expected to complete** for this class. The due dates are firm (unless otherwise noted) but this is just a suggestion how to allocate your time reading and completing assignments throughout the week:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
• Exams close by 11:59pm • POV's due • RR's due	• Start review of module pages	• Read text and additional readings	• Watch any video or media in modules • Work on POV assignments	• Exams open 8am • Work on RR assignment	• Work on POV response (if applicable)	• Dance

What About Make-Up Work?

Make-up assignments, quizzes or exams will be given **ONLY** in extreme circumstances like a zombie apocalypse, hurricanes, pan-Internet virus, birth/arrival of a new baby (hey, there were 2 last term!), family emergencies, etc. These circumstances include exceptional EMERGENCIES (that require that you show me some kind of official documentation), and the make-up assignment/exam/quiz may be different than the original assignment/exam/quiz. Out-of-town vacations, trips, mild colds, computer malfunctions, power outages and other similar circumstances **do not** qualify as extreme.

In exceptional circumstances, an incomplete grade may be given per School and University policies. Individual arrangements must be made with your professor for the completion of the course requirements, but in no case will the date set extend beyond the end of the following semester. Students who experience chronic medical or personal problems that prevent them from logging in regularly are encouraged to review policies relating to securing a leave of absence from their university studies.

Respect for Diversity and Inclusion

This class will be conducted in a way that respects **all aspects of diversity and it is my intent to teach this course so that all students, no matter their gender identity, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, immigration status, ethnicity, and culture, are respected.** If you would like me to use specific personal gender pronouns (PGPs) when communicating with you, just let me know. The very nature of this course requires us to delve into topics that may make some students

uncomfortable. It may challenge what you believe to be 'natural' or 'normal.' That's okay, the classroom (even an online one) should be a safe place to discuss human diversity in all its rich colors. Some of you may even find a few of the materials, assigned readings, and classroom discussions offensive. There are graphic descriptions and imagery of sexual practices and gender-related interactions, and a variety of videos contain adult themes and language. **Please be assured that it is never my intent to sensationalize, shock or offend anyone.** The intention is to discuss the material in a contextual and anthropologically significant manner. If something does offend you, take a moment to explore why this is the case, and then rationally explain why so we can discuss the issue further.

While there are various opinions and feelings concerning some of the topics covered, **the purpose is to educate and understand, not judge**. It is important that everyone be given a chance to complete their thoughts without interruption, and it is expected that everyone show respect for one another and the diverse issues and topics that will be presented and discussed. Consequently, any student who behaves inappropriately, makes crude, suggestive, or otherwise offensive comments, or becomes disruptive will be blocked from participating in online discussions and in extreme cases, may be removed from the course. This will be bad for you. And really, no one likes a troll.

Some course materials presented show nudity or the human body displayed in various ways. If you feel uncomfortable with this, please let me know and we can make accommodations.

UCF Mobile App!!

The UCF Webcourses mobile app has been greatly improved for your use. Having said that, I would not recommend using the Mobile App to complete any written work if possible and I would definitely not use it to take any exam! BUT, it is great for checking on grades and announcements, and even listening to your audio lectures! You should be logging into your 'W' courses a few times a week, and you should preferably be completing your assignments and exams on a laptop or desktop whenever possible!

Important Things

First and foremost, read this syllabus. The syllabus is your guide so that you can keep up with the scheduled readings, modules, and assignments. There are many due dates for assignments, so you have to stay on top of this as **no late work will be accepted**. Second, if you email me or your TA using your Knights account, include **ANT 3302W** in the subject heading and don't forget to include your full name so we know who you are. Otherwise, use the Inbox function in Webcourses to contact us. Lastly, read the syllabus, it really is like your best friend for this course.

Other Important Things: Classes start: **AUG 20**; Drop/swap deadline: **AUG 23**; Add deadline: **AUG 24**; Withdrawal deadline: **OCT 26**; Classes end: **DEC 1. The final exam is scheduled during Final's Week from DEC 3-7.** Check out UCF's Academic Calendar for other important dates.

Really Important Things: As of Fall 2014, we are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, **YOU MUST TAKE THE GETTING STARTED QUIZ BY 5pm AUG 24, 2018.** Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid. And no one wants that.

Academic Responsibility

Time management, problem solving, responsibility and personal accountability are among the most important things you can learn in college. To be successful in this class (and in college in general), you will need to check Webcourses regularly (and often!), keep up with assigned readings and make every effort to complete assignments, quizzes and exams on time and in a professional manner!

Academic honesty: Plagiarism and/or cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" or "Z" for the entire course). It may also be subject to appropriate referral to the UCF Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the UCF Golden Rule. I will assume that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, **don't cheat** by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. **If you let your friend copy your homework, that is plagiarism also and you will both be subject to a Z grade.** Keep this in mind before you decide to "help out" a friend. Also, please keep in mind while the Internet is an excellent source of *quick* information, it is not necessarily an excellent source of *valid* information and may also be a source of plagiarism in its own right.

I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change or expect me to change your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone. This is particularly the case when it comes to final grades.

Students Accessibility Services

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Accessibility Services (Links to an external site.), Ferrel Commons 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, or sas@ucf.edu before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Deployed Active Duty Military Students

If you are a deployed active duty military student and feel that you may need a special accommodation due to that unique status, please contact your professor to discuss your circumstances.

Copyright

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. **The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only.** All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

There are many fraudulent websites claiming to offer study aids to students but are actually cheat sites. They encourage students to upload course materials, such as test questions, individual assignments, and examples of graded material. Such materials are the intellectual property of instructors, the university, or publishers and may not be distributed without prior authorization (see Copyright statement above). Students who engage in such activity are in violation of academic conduct standards and may face penalties. Also, it's just not cool.

Third-Party Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need **not** make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.

Course Lecture and Assignment Schedule

Changes to the lecture and assignment schedules are not expected but may occur. Your professor reserves the right to make reasonable adjustments to the assignment schedule. Any changes will be announced through Webcourses. Due dates for assignments and exams can be found in the table below.

*ANT 3302W Sex, Gender & Culture Course Schedule:

Module	Topic	Readings, Assignments & Due Dates
Getting Started	Getting Started	Complete Getting Started quiz by 5pm Aug 25
Module 1	Introduction Why Sex? Evolution and Biology of Sex	Read Ch 1 in *Exotics and Erotics* Module 1 Additional Readings **POV 1 Taking Sex Surveys: due Sept 2** **RR 1 Evolution and Human Sexuality: due Sept 2**
Module 2	Research Perspectives on Sexuality	Read Ch 2 in *Exotics and Erotics* Module 2 Additional Readings **POV 2 Size Matters: due Sept 16** **RR 2 1990's Sex in America: due Sept 16**
Module 3	Sexuality and the life cycle	Read Ch 3 in *Exotics and Erotics* Module 3 Additional Readings
Module 4	Sexual Health and Ancient Sexuality	Module 4 Additional Readings
Exam 1 Online (available 8:00 am on THURSDAY, SEP 27 to 11:59 pm EST on SUNDAY, SEP 30, 2018)		

Module 5	Creating Sexual Morality	Read Ch 4-5 in *Exotics and Erotics* Module 5 Additional Readings Read Part 1 in The Underground Girls of Kabul in preparation for your first UGK Discussion **POV 3 The Cutting Tradition: due OCT 7** **RR 3 Saying No to Sex: due OCT 7** **UGK Discussion 1: due Oct 12**
Module 6	The Masculine and the Feminine	Module 6 Additional Readings Read Part 2 in The Underground Girls of Kabul in preparation for your second UGK Discussion **POV 4 Gender Perceptions Interview: due Oct 21** **RR 4 Boys and Girls Play Ball (Differently): due Oct 21** **UGK Discussion 2: due Oct 26**
Module 7	Beyond Binary	Read Chapters 1-5 in *Gender Diversity: Cross Cultural Variations*
Module 8	Trans-isms	Read Chapters 6-8 in *Gender Diversity: Cross Cultural Variations* **POV 5 Natural Family Values: due Nov 4**
Exam 2 Online (available 8:00 am on THURSDAY, OCT 25 to 11:59 pm EST on SUNDAY, OCT 28, 2018)		
Module 9	Gender and Power in Relationships	Module 9 Additional Readings Read Part 3 in The Underground Girls of Kabul in preparation for your third UGK Discussion **RR 5 Men's Perspectives: due Nov 18** **UGK Discussion 3: due Nov 9**
Module 10	Gender at Work	Module 10 Additional Readings Read Part 4 in The Underground Girls of Kabul in preparation for your fourth UGK Discussion **RR 6 Gender and Work: due Nov 26** **UGK Discussion 4: due Nov 30**
Module 11	Enforcing Gender and Sexual Victimization	Module 11 Additional Readings **POV 6 Whip Smart: due Nov 18**
Module 12	Sex (and Gender) Sells	Read Ch 6 in *Exotics and Erotics* Module 12 Additional Readings **RR 7 Dollars are a Girls (and Boys) Best Friend: due Dec 2**
Module 13	Sexual Compulsion	Module 13 Additional Readings
Exam 3 Online (available 8:00 am on MONDAY, DEC 3 to 11:59 pm EST on FRIDAY, DEC 7, 2018)		

*Course schedule is subject to change. I will notify you of any changes in Webcourses.