Sex Gender and Culture - Course Syllabus

Professor Contact

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Course Information

Course Name:	Sex, Gender and Culture
Course ID:	ANT 3302 (0W60)
Credit Hours:	3.0 hours
Semester/Year	Summer/2020
Location:	Fully online 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 the daily lives and experiences of people around the world, 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), that individuals should act accordingly during social interactions, and that one gender holds more power in society than another. 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, and 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 experienced 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 be able to:

- 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 gender 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 with fixed due dates throughout the semester**.

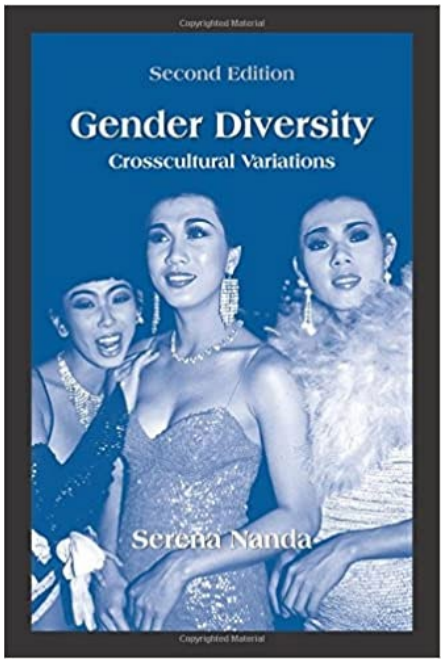
All course content is posted online in the modules. The modules may consist of audio lectures, module pages, links to websites, podcasts, and/or videos. The modules contain materials to help you study the readings as well as information to help you complete your assignments. You are responsible for **all**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

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

- Check Webcourses regularly and keep up with the modules
- Listen to all 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 is one required textbook for this course. You will need this book to successfully complete this course. The textbooks is 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

Grading Scale (+/- letter grades)

Letter Grade	Percent	Letter Grade	Percent
A	94-100%	C+	77-79%
A-	90-93%	C	70-76%
B+	87-89%	D	60-69%
B	84-86%	F	59%>
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)	25%	Complete 3 of 7 writing responses to posted articles.

Point of View (3)	25%	Complete 3 of 6 discussion-based assignments on posted videos, podcasts or other media.
Exams (3)	30%	Multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer questions.

Read and Respond Assignments: There are 7 Read and Respond (RR) 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*.

Point of View Assignments: There are 6 Point of View (POV) assignments posted throughout the modules. These assignments will involve watching/listening to various media and participating in 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.

Exams: There are **3 exams** in this course. Exams will be taken **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. **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.

Here are some tips for taking an online course.

Tips for Doing Well in an Online Course

(courtesy of Jason Miller of USF)

> **Decide if an online course is right for you**. Remember that being in an online course is not for everyone. Some people learn better inside the classroom than

online. Online courses work best for students who are independent learners and don't need the structure of a classroom each week. If you are the kind of student who needs more structure, who is not very adept at using their computer or who doesn't have reliable internet access, you might think of taking the in person version of this course.

Make sure you have the time to take the course. Be sure you set aside time each week to complete the course material. Just because there are no face-to-face class meetings, doesn't mean that there is less time or energy involved in taking this course. In fact, many students comment that online courses take more time than face-to-face courses at the end of the semester.

Keep in touch. Be sure you keep in touch with your instructor. If you have a question, do not hesitate to post to the discussion board or ask for help. Also, be sure to speak up if you are having trouble. Since I cannot see you, I cannot tell if you are having trouble unless you tell me.

Set a schedule. Student in online courses sometimes put off completing work until the last minute and then run out of time or forget. Be sure to put readings and other due dates on your calendar so you do not forget.

Take notes. Just because you are in an online course, doesn't mean you shouldn't be taking notes. Be sure to take notes as you read the text, look at the powerpoint lectures, and watch any videos assigned.

Submit early. Don't wait until the last minute to post to a discussion board or to take a quiz. Posting and submitting assignments early means that you don't miss a due date due to a computer glitch.

Check Canvas regularly. Be sure to check Canvas regularly for announcements and other important messages.

COURSE PACE

This is a very self-guided and quick paced course. We are essentially squeezing a 16-week course into only 6 weeks. You will notice when looking over the course outline that you have several quizzes, assignments, and discussion posts due by certain key days. It is your responsibility to complete these in a timely manner. Procrastination will deeply affect your grade. Please pace yourself according to your own schedule, but also make sure to complete the assignments as well as the quizzes and exams for each Unit before it closes.

COURSE OUTLINE

Changes to the schedule may occur suddenly and without warning.

Week	Dates	Topics	Chapters Readings And Videos	Assignments and Exams Due

Unit 1				

1	5/11/2020 - 5/17/2020	Why Sex? Evolution and Biology of Sex
		
		Research Perspectives on Sexuality
		
		Sexuality and the life cycle
		
		Sexual Health and Ancient Sexuality
				• Getting Started Quiz
				  ○ Due 5/15
				• Choose POV 1 or POV 2
				  ○ Post due 5/17

2	5/18/2020 - 5/24/2020			• POV Response
				  ○ Due 5/24
				• Choose RR1 or RR2
				  ○ Due 5/24
				• Exam 1
				  ○ Due 5/24

Unit 2				
3	5/25/2020 - 5/31/2020	Creating Sexual Morality The Masculine and the Feminine Beyond Binary Trans-isms		• Choose POV 3, POV 4, or POV 5 ○ Post due 5/31

4	6/1/2020 - 6/7/2020			• POV Response
				  ○ Due 6/7
				• Choose RR3 or RR 4
				  ○ Due 6/7
				• Exam 2
				  ○ Due 6/7

Unit 3				
5	6/8/2020 - 6/14/2020	Gender and Power in Relationships Gender at Work Enforcing Gender and Sexual Victimization Sex (and Gender) Sells Sexual Compulsion		• POV 6 ○ Post due 6/14

6	6/15/2020 - 6/19/2020			• POV Response
				  ○ Due 6/19
				• Choose RR 5. RR 6, or RR 7
				  ○ Due 6/19
				• Exam 3
				  ○ Due 6/19

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, 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.

I understand that we are all currently going through a national emergency with the spread of COVID-19. If this has any impact on your work at all, please let me know what effect it is having as soon as possible so we may figure out a solution.

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, dehumanizing, 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.

This is an EXTREMELY fast paced course and many things are due within the six weeks we have together. It is your responsibility to keep up with the work and complete everything on time. N**o late work will be accepted**.

Second, I prefer the inbox function in Webcourses for all course communication. if you email me using your Knights account, include **ANT 3302W** in the subject heading and don't forget to include your full name so I know who you are.

Lastly, again, read the syllabus, it really is like your best friend for this course.

Really Important Things: 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 FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020.** 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 ConductLinks to an external site. for further action. See the UCF Golden RuleLinks to an external site.. 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 gradeLinks to an external site.**. 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.

Student 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 ServicesLinks 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.