

The University of British Columbia
FMST 316
Section 801 Course Syllabus
Human Sexuality – Reel Representations

Class: May 7 – June 18, 2019 – Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am-1pm

Location: Allard Hall (LAW) Room 105

Instructor: Dr. Brandy Wiebe

E-mail: brandy.wiebe@ubc.ca

DO NOT USE CANVAS TO CONTACT ME

Office: ANSO 156

Office Hours: 9:30-10 am in classroom or by appointment

TA: _____

Course Description:

In this course we will explore a range of issues, debates and understandings of human sexuality from a primarily social psychological perspective. Using both the readings and a number of feature length films we will examine popular representations of human sexuality and our own values while expanding our knowledge of the various physical, emotional and social aspects of human sexuality. This class will include both theoretical and empirical explorations of topics encompassed by the theme of human sexuality. Discussion and debate will be central to this course so students will have a chance to reflect on their own values, attitudes and experiences in relation to class materials from various sources, lecture content and other students.

NOTE: All films contain adult content including explicit sexuality and language.

In five of the classes we will view a feature length film followed by approximately 60-90 minutes of lecture and discussion time. If there is insufficient time for a break before the film students will need to decide for themselves when to take this break during the screening. All other classes will consist of lecture, discussion and debate.

Course Readings:

Ryan, Christopher and Cacilda Jetha (2012) *Sex at Dawn: How We Mate, Why We Stray, and What It Means For Modern Relationships*. Harper Perennial.

AND

Woodford, Michael et al, “Contemporary Heterosexism on Campus and Psychological Distress Among LGBTQ Students: The Mediating Role of Self-Acceptance,” *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* Online First Publication: August 2014: 1-21. **Or TBA on Canvas**

Course Evaluation, Due Dates and Description:

Exam 1: **30%** Thursday, May 23

Exam 2: **30%** Thursday, June 13

Critical Paper One: **20%** Due in class Tuesday, May 28

Critical Paper Two: **20%** Due in class Tuesday, June 18

Exam 1, 30% Thursday, May 23 in class

This exam will consist of short answer questions and a long answer question for *Sex at Dawn*. It covers PART ONE-THREE of *Sex at Dawn* and all class materials (including films) from weeks 1-5. Instructions for the long answer question will be released on Connect the week prior to each exam. Preparation according to these instructions are MANDATORY.

Discussion time will be held in Class Four, so ensure readings are done.

Exam 2, 30% Thursday, June 13 in class

This exam will consist of short answer questions and a long answer question for *Sex at Dawn*. It covers PART FOUR AND FIVE of *Sex at Dawn*, the Woodford et al. article and all class materials (including films) from weeks 7-9. Instructions for the long answer question will be released on Connect the week prior to each exam. Preparation according to these instructions are MANDATORY.

Discussion time will be held in Class Eight, so ensure readings are done.

Critical Paper, 2 x 20%, Due in class on Tuesday, May 28 and Tuesday, June 18

Must not exceed 3 double spaced pages plus bibliography (12 pt Times New Roman font)

The goal of this assignment is for you to critically engage with a human sexuality-related topic that interests you. Choose one of the three films we screened in classes 2-5 for the first paper and one of the three films from classes 7-9 and use it as a springboard from which you may explore any sexuality-related topic you chose. Use **at least 1 peer-reviewed academic resource** (excluding the assigned textbook) to critically explore and expand upon the topic you chose. It may be an issue, theme or debate in academic research on sexuality.

In this formal essay please include:

Introduction (4 marks)

- Introduce the issue, theme or debate (why is it important?)
- Clarify why you choose this topic
- Provide a clear thesis statement (what is the purpose of your essay?)
- Discuss the 'common sense' assumptions that people make about your topic

Critically explore your topic using academic sources (10 marks)

- Include at least 1 peer-reviewed academic journal article **published since 2005** (or book chapters-only if passed by me).
- Provide an *integrated* discussion of your academic sources to reflect on the topic you chose

This is the most important part of the essay. **This is a critical exploration of a topic not a film review or analysis, a reiteration of class discussions or an opinion paper!!**

Conclusions (3 marks)

- Include a paragraph reflecting on how the research you conducted affected your view of this topic in light of the materials we have covered in class. How did your research make you think about human sexuality differently?

Style (3 marks)

-Reference in any style you are comfortable with but you must be **CONSISTENT** and thorough in its usage and include **year and page for all references** within the text.

-Writing skills (spelling, grammar, readability, etc.)

-Presented in a professional manner

Be sure to proofread your paper before handing it in!

Take notes to keep track of the information you gather so as not to plagiarize.

Course Policies:

Plagiarism is a serious, punishable offense and will not be tolerated.

Deadlines and Exam: These dates are firmly set and can only be negotiated in the case of unforeseen events (illness, funerals, etc). Documentation is required in the case of a missed exam or late paper. With documentation alternative arrangements will be discussed with the student. Without documentation late assignments will receive a deduction of **10% per day late (Saturday and Sunday 10% each)** and missed exams will be given a mark of 0.

Late submission will not allow time for comprehensive feedback to be given.

Late assignments will not be accepted more than 7 days after their due date.

Submission of assignments: Papers assignments will be submitted as a *hard copy* in class. E-mails will not be accepted. Papers not given to me in person **MUST** be date and time stamped and submitted to the Main Office in ANSO. Assignments slipped under my door will not be accepted.

'Early Alert':

During the term, I will do my best to reach out and offer support If I am concerned about your academic performance or wellbeing. I also encourage you to come and speak with me if you need assistance. In addition, I may identify my concerns using Early Alert. The program allows academic, financial, or mental health concerns to be identified sooner and responded to in a more coordinated way. This provides you with the earliest possible connection to resources like academic advising, financial advising, counselling, or other resources and support to help you get back on track. The information is treated confidentially and is sent because I care about your academic success and wellbeing. For more information, please visit earlyalert.ubc.ca.

Student Needs:

This courses welcomes folks with physical and learning disabilities. If you require any assistance please speak with Dr. Wiebe early in the semester, so that efforts can be made to accommodate all students. The Disability Resource Centre in Brock Hall is available for further consultation and resource provision.

Course Overview and Readings:

May 7 -Class One: Introduction, Theoretical Orientations and Key Historical Moments

May 9 - Class Two: Understanding and Researching Human Sexuality

Film: 'Kinsey' (2004)

May 14 - Class Three: The Body Performed

Film: 'Moonlight' (2016)

Related movies for further interest: 'Get Out' (2017)

Thriller, Racialized Black Bodies

May 16 - Class Four: Attraction and Love

Readings for Discussion: Parts I-III of 'Sex at Dawn'

May 21 - Class Five: Romantic Sexual Relationships

Film: 'Vicky Cristina Barcelona' (2008)

Related movies for further interest: 'Saving Face' (2004)

Rom Com, Asian American Lesbians

'Professor Marston and the Wonder Women' (2017)

Bio Pic, Creator of Wonder Woman's Polyamorous Family

May 23 - Class Six *Midterm Exam 1* Includes Parts I-III of 'Sex at Dawn'

May 28 - Class Seven: Ability, Spirituality and Sexuality

Critical Paper One due in class

Film: 'The Sessions' (2012)

May 30 – Class Eight: All Things Reproductive/Not and STIs

Readings for discussion: Parts IV-V of 'Sex at Dawn' and Woodford et al. Article

June 4 and 6 – NO class. Reading Week.

June 11 – Class Nine: Sexual Coercion

Film: 'The Piano' (1993)

Related movies for further interest (Trigger Warnings!!):

'Dance Me Outside' (1994)

Canadian Indie, Violence against Indigenous Women

'Perks of Being a Wallflower' (2012)

Comedy-Drama, Male Sexual Assault

'Nannette' (2018)

Australian Anti-Comedy Special, Violence against Queer Women

June 13 – Class Ten *Midterm Exam 2* Includes Parts IV-V of ‘Sex at Dawn’ and Woodford et al. article

June 18 – Class Twelve: Sexual Spectrums/Leftover Debate and Discussion
Critical Paper Two due in class

June 20 – NO class. Cancelled.