

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

PSYC 4823 Psychology of Human Sexuality

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Prerequisite: PSYC 2963 Developmental Lifespan Psychology, PSYC 4223 Theories of Personality, and PSYC 2613 Research Methods, or consent of instructor

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Biological and sociological foundations of human sexuality, human reproduction, sexual functioning, psychological sexual disorders, cultural sexual differences, gender roles, stereo-typing, current and controversial topics in sex education, public policy and politics of human sexuality.

B. Additional Information

This course is an elective.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify sexual disorders and deviant sexual behavior;
2. Identify psychological theories relevant to sexual behavior, including psychoanalytic theories, biological theories, behavioral theories, evolutionary psychology theories, social learning theories, information processing theories, cultural and sociological perspectives, historical context of sexual research and history of sexual behavioral discussions as well as additional physiological sexual response and biological aspects of sexual behavior; and
3. Develop and express a psychological theory specific to sexual behavior and discuss and defend one aspect of their chosen theory.
4. Master appropriate psychological language and vocabulary specific to theories of sexual behavior and sexual psychology.

5. Locate, identify, access and process research specific and current to psychology of sexual behavior, deviant sexual behavior, society/policy issues of sexual behavior in the culture.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Ethical Decision Making

Students will recognize and analyze ethical dilemmas.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate effectively with a variety of audiences in any setting.

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills

Students will draw conclusions and solve problems.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Biological and sociological foundations of human sexuality
- B. Human reproduction
- C. Sexual functioning
- D. Psychological sexual disorders
- E. Cultural sexual differences
- F. Gender roles
- G. Stereo-typing
- H. Current and controversial topics in sex education
- I. Public policy
- J. Politics of human sexuality