

ANT 208 Section 001: Anthropology of Sex Spring 2013

3 Credit Hours

Primary Instructor: Dr. Christopher Lynn

Additional Instructors: Lynn Funkhouser, Johnna Dominguez

Syllabus subject to change.

Office Hours

Office:	339 Capstone Medical Center (700 University Blvd, next to College of Nursing)	
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Office hours:	T/Th 11-12	T/Th 2-3 PM

Course Description

This course is an introduction to human sexuality from a four-field perspective (cultural, biological, linguistic, and archaeological) with emphases on sexual pluralism and psychosexual evolution. We will trace the evolution of human sociosexual behavior, including human sexual physiology; reproductive strategies; contemporary courtship, mating, and marital patterns; gender differences in the brain and behavior; and sexual and social emotions. We compare the sexuality of humans to non-humans, especially to that of other primates. We also discuss human sexuality from the perspective of different cultures throughout the world based on ethnographic and archaeological accounts. Among the topics we may discuss are the psychobiocultural dimensions and implications of attraction, fidelity, sex techniques, circumcision, gender, incest, auto-eroticism, homosexuality and transsexuality, and sexually transmitted diseases.

Prerequisites

From the Student Records System

No prerequisites found.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the semester, you should be able to:

- Demonstrate awareness of cultural sexual mores on language and folklore
- Describe some of the psychological, biological, and cultural components of human sexuality and the interactions between them
- Examine your own beliefs and assumptions about a variety of topics related to human sexuality
- Identify the biological, behavioral, and sociocultural factors that influence sexual health
- Explain human sociosexual behavior from an evolutionary perspective
- Appreciate the relativity of sexual behavior from an anthropological perspective.

Attendance Policy

Attendance will be monitored through administration of an in-class quiz or exam each class meeting. Lectures will be made available via Tegrity on Blackboard.

Required Texts

UA Supply Store Textbook Information

- **BOLIN / HUMAN SEXUALITY**
(Required)
- **JOYCE / ANCIENT BODIES, ANCIENT LIVES**
(Required)
- **CROCKER, WILLIAM H / THE CANELA: KINSHIP, RITUAL AND SEX IN AN AMAZONIAN TRIBE**
(Required)

Other Course Materials

Blackboard

This course will use Blackboard, which can be accessed via myBama. There is a box called Blackboard on the Academics tab that should list your courses that are currently let up with Blackboard. Blackboard is the way I will communicate to you about important changes in the syllabus or course activities. The syllabus is likely to change in minor ways. I will send out announcements if it changes in major ways (e.g., readings altered, which would affect what you read for quizzes), so you can download a revised copy. I will NOT reprint the syllabus. This is the only printed version you will receive from me. All future correspondence will be electronic, and Blackboard will be the primary vehicle of that correspondence.

Facebook

Interesting but less required information will often be communicated via Facebook. The course has a closed Facebook group at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/ant208/>. This is where I will often ask you to post the data you generate from our course activities, as it is a good forum for online discussions. Please request to join to participate in ongoing discussions, post extra credit summaries, and read relevant news items.

Also, please "like" the UA Department of Anthropology on Facebook so we can keep in touch with you and you can stay informed about the department: <http://www.facebook.com/UAAnthroDept>

Exams and Assignments

Activities (10 points): There will be several activities that we will require or encourage you to experience this semester. Some of these will take place in class and others will require your participation on your own time. These activities will not be evaluated, but your participation in them will be monitored. They are designed to enhance your learning experience, and we will often draw upon your experiences of these activities to facilitate in-class discussions. Information about these activities will be mentioned in class and made available in more detail via Blackboard.

Exams (70 points): There are 4 exams, including the midterm and final. Exams will consist of multiple choice questions. The midterm and final exams are cumulative. The exams will cover material presented in lecture, in the assigned readings, activities, and in the films. You must take the exam on the scheduled date.

Quizzes (20 points): Quizzes will be administered at every class meeting except on exam dates. Quizzes will cover the assigned reading for that date. Material from these readings is also subject to appear on exams. There will be 25 quizzes worth 1 point each. Thus, you will have the opportunity to earn up to 5 extra credit points through attending every lecture and answering quiz questions correctly.

Grading Policy

Exam 1:	15 points
Midterm exam:	20 points
Exam 3:	15 points
Final exam:	20 points
Quizzes:	20 points
Activities:	10 points
TOTAL	100 points

These represent the course points available for each exam or assignment. Assignment and exam points may vary, but scores will be calculated to determine the course points earned. For instance, each quiz will be worth 1 course point. If there are two questions on a quiz, but you only get one correct, your score for that quiz will be 0.5.

Outline of Topics

DATES	TOPIC	READING		ACTIVITY
		<u>Bolin & Whelehan</u>	<u>Joyce/Crocker</u>	
Thurs, Jan 10	Introduction & syllabus	Ch 1		pre-test
Tues, Jan 15	Anthropological Perspective	Ch 2, pp. 21-31		cultural consensus activity
Thurs, Jan 17			Crocker preface/intro	
Tues, Jan 22	Sexological Perspective	Ch 2, pp. 32-45		
Thurs, Jan 24			Crocker ch 1	folklore activity
Tues, Jan 29	Evolutionary Perspective	Ch 3		Lynn lecture
Thurs, Jan 31			Crocker ch 2	self-deception activity
Tues Feb 5	EXAM 1			
Thurs, Feb 7	Sexual Anatomy & Physiology	Ch 4		ethology activity
Tues, Feb 12		Ch 5		
Thurs, Feb 14	Comparative Psychology and Morphology	Ch 6		smelly t-shirt activity
Tues, Feb 19			Crocker ch 3	
Thurs, Feb 21	Sexual Differentiation: Genotypic, Chromosomal, Phenotypic	Ch 7		<i>Science of Sex Appeal</i>
Tues, Feb 26			Crocker ch 4	
Thurs, Feb 28	Childhood (Developmental) Sexuality:	Ch 9		
Tues, Mar 5	Puberty, Adolescence	Ch 10		Circumcision/vaginaplasty movie
Thurs, Mar 7	MIDTERM EXAM			
Tues, Mar 12	Human Sexual Response	Ch 11		Johnna lecture
Thurs, Mar 14			Crocker ch 5	orgasm activity
Tues, Mar 19	Pregnancy & Childbirth	Ch 8		
Thurs, Mar 21			Joyce intro & ch 1	birth control activity
Tues, Mar 26	SPRING BREAK			
Thurs, Mar 28				
Tues, Apr 2	Sexual Orientations	Ch 13, pp. 347-354, 412-424		
Thurs, Apr 4			Joyce ch 2	queer activity
Tues, Apr 9	EXAM 3			
Thurs, Apr 11	Gender identity	Ch 13, pp. 384-411		<i>Paradise Bent</i>
Tues,	Aging		Joyce ch 3	

Apr 16				
Thurs, Apr 18				
Tues, Apr 23	Dark Sides of Sex: STIs, sex trade	Ch 14	Joyce ch 4	
Thurs, Apr 25			Joyce ch 5	
FINAL EXAM: Thurs., May 3, 8-10:30 AM				

Extra Credit Opportunities

You may earn up to 15 course points via extra credit opportunities. There are several extra credit opportunities in this course, as follows:

- You may earn up to 15 course points by **submitting a sexology-related research paper or 10 course points for a book review to a peer-reviewed journal** (e.g., [JOSHUA](#) and [EvoS Journal](#) are two forums for undergraduate research). See Dr. Lynn to discuss/approve topic or book, details, and due dates.
- You may earn up to 6 course points by **attending sexology-oriented events or activities (up to 2 points per activity)**. There are numerous opportunities during the course of the semester to enhance your education through attending or participating in sexology-oriented activities. Examples include attending or participating in a burlesque performance (the Pink Box Burlesque is a Tuscaloosa troupe that performs regularly) or attending a relevant lecture. To receive extra credit, you will need to attend the event and write up your experiences in the form of a document in the course's Facebook group. This will enable other students to read about your experiences and interact. **BEFORE ATTENDING SUCH AN EVENT**, contact Dr. Lynn to obtain approval and ensure that it is a relevant activity meritorious of extra credit. You will be expected to tell us the Who, What, When, Where, and Why of the event. Ideally, your description will stimulate discussion, and you will be expected to interact in that discussion. Finally, you may be called on to give an in-class summary of your experience if it sounds particularly compelling.
- You can also earn extra credit by **attending ALLELE lectures**. There are four public lectures this semester, and there may be additional departmental lectures. "Like" [the ALLELE series on Facebook](#) to stay apprised of dates. You can receive 2 points per lecture by attending and signing in afterward.

Other extra credit opportunities may be announced through the course of the semester.

Classroom Decorum

The Code of Student Conduct requires that students behave in a manner that is conducive to a teaching/learning environment. Students who engage in behavior that is disruptive or obstructive to the teaching/learning environment will be subject to disciplinary sanctions outlined by the Code of Student Conduct. Disruptive/obstructive behavior is not limited to but may include the following: physical abuse, verbal abuse, threats, stalking, intimidation, harassment, hazing, possession of controlled substances, possession of alcoholic beverages, use of cell phones and beepers in class, reading of newspapers, talking to fellow students during faculty or student presentations.

Behavior will be closely monitored by Dr. Lynn and the TAs. Each class member will accumulate 1 extra credit point toward the next exam for every day THE ENTIRE CLASS complies with the decorum policy. If ANYONE violates the policy, the entire class will be penalized the entire accumulation of points toward that exam and will have to start over.

Policy on Missed Exams & Coursework

Attendance: If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact a classmate to get notes from a particular lecture. Lectures will be recorded and available in a Tegrity folder on Blackboard, but I cannot guarantee that every lecture will be available and will not meet with you to clarify a whole lecture because of an absence. It behooves you to use Tegrity to clarify material that you may not have understood during class or to help you clarify material you missed in conjunction with classmates' shared notes.

Activities: There will be several course activities that will not be evaluated but will be used for discussion purposes and to gauge your engagement in the course. While you will not be given a grade for such items, you will be penalized if you do not complete them.

Exams: If you miss an exam for any reason whatsoever, whether excused or unexcused, valid or not, you can make it up by writing a double-spaced 15-page term paper on a topic of Dr. Lynn's choosing. This will be turned in to a GTA by the last day of class.

Quizzes: Quizzes can be taken at any time during the class period and turned in to the GTAs. If you miss class, quizzes cannot be made up.

Research Opportunities

The Anthropology Department offers several avenues for getting involved in undergraduate research. We offer a course in Undergraduate Research that you can take in conjunction with mentoring by a department faculty member. There is a portal on the department website that will help us guide you to appropriate mentor and project: <http://anthropology.ua.edu/ugres.php>. Additionally, I take new students into the Human Behavioral Ecology Research Group (HBERG) every semester who are interested in getting involved in the kind of research I conduct and which is related to this course. Under some circumstances, I may offer extra credit for such participation, but you can also get involved without receiving credit, if you simply desire research experience. You can learn more about HBERG activities here: <http://anthropology.ua.edu/hberg/>. To apply to work with me, fill out the form at this portal: <http://anthropology.ua.edu/hberg/4/>.

Policy on Academic Misconduct

All students in attendance at the University of Alabama are expected to be honorable and to observe standards of conduct appropriate to a community of scholars. The University expects from its students a higher standard of conduct than the minimum required to avoid discipline. Academic misconduct includes all acts of dishonesty in any academically related matter and any knowing or intentional help or attempt to help, or conspiracy to help, another student.

The [Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Policy](#) will be followed in the event of academic misconduct.

Disability Statement

If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss any course accommodations that may be necessary. If you have a disability, but have not contacted the Office of Disability Services, please call 348-4285 or visit 133-B Martha Parham Hall East to register for services. Students who may need course adaptations because of a disability are welcome to make an appointment to see me during office hours. Students with disabilities must be registered with the Office of Disability Services, 133-B Martha Parham Hall East, before receiving academic adjustments.

Severe Weather Protocol

In the case of a tornado warning (tornado has been sighted or detected by radar, sirens activated), all university activities are automatically suspended, including all classes and laboratories. If you are in a building, please move immediately to the lowest level and toward the center of the building away from windows (interior classrooms, offices, or corridors) and remain there until the tornado warning has expired. Classes in session when the tornado warning is issued can resume immediately after the warning has expired at the discretion of the instructor. Classes that have not yet begun will resume 30 minutes after the tornado warning has expired provided at least half of the class period remains.

UA is a residential campus with many students living on or near campus. In general classes will remain in session until the National Weather Service issues safety warnings for the city of Tuscaloosa. Clearly, some students and faculty commute from adjacent counties. These counties may experience weather related problems not encountered in Tuscaloosa. Individuals should follow the advice of the National Weather Service for that area taking the necessary precautions to ensure personal safety. Whenever the National Weather Service and the Emergency Management Agency issue a warning, people in the path of the storm (tornado or severe thunderstorm) should take immediate life saving actions.

When West Alabama is under a severe weather advisory, conditions can change rapidly. It is imperative to get to where you can receive information from the [National Weather Service](#) and to follow the instructions provided. Personal safety should dictate the actions that faculty, staff and students take. The Office of Public Relations will disseminate the latest information regarding conditions on campus in the following ways:

- Weather advisory posted on the UA homepage
- Weather advisory sent out through Connect-ED--faculty, staff and students ([sign up at myBama](#))
- Weather advisory broadcast over WVUA at 90.7 FM
- Weather advisory broadcast over Alabama Public Radio (WUAL) at 91.5 FM
- Weather advisories are broadcast via WUOA/WVUA-TV, which can be viewed across Central Alabama. Also, visit

wuatv.com for up-to-the-minute weather information. A mobile Web site is also available for your convenience.