

Psychology of Human Sexuality  
PSYCH 3715 FA

**Instructor:** Dr. R. Klein  
**e-mail:** rgklein@lakeheadu.ca  
**Office Hours:** By appointment or,  
• Tuesday and Thursday 4 – 5pm  
**Room:** #SN1013, School of Nursing Building, phone: 343-8535

**Teaching Assistant:** Jessica Lund  
e-mail: jlund@lakeheadu.ca  
Office Hours: by appointment

**Class Meetings:** Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016  
Wednesday & Friday 11:30am – 1:00pm  
Room: SN1015

## General Course Information

**Overview:** The study of human sexuality encompasses a multitude of fields and disciplines. It is therefore a hub course that takes a multi-disciplinary approach to understanding the complex issues involved in human sexuality. The primary objective of the course is to provide students with a breadth and depth of understanding in the scientific study of sexuality.

This course is designed for any student with an interest in this area. We will cover topics such as anatomy, physiology, ethics, unconventional sexuality, aging, and issues regarding the specific problems and treatments of disorders.

My own professional training began in a sexual health laboratory studying risk behaviours and perceptions regarding sexually transmitted infections. I am a health psychologist with specialties in personality and health psychology.

By the end of the course I hope that students will appreciate the complexity and difficulties in researching this topic. Moreover, I hope that students will find the course not only informative academically but also personally relevant and interesting.

### Course Objectives

- Develop a thorough understanding of the anatomy and physiology involved in sex, birth and disorders
- Understand the variety of perspectives involved in studying sexuality
- Understand the various limitations in research methodologies and how to critically appraise the information that is being conveyed

## Required Text

Hyde, Delamater, & Byers: Understanding Human Sexuality, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, Publisher: McGraw-Hill

Connect Access is recommended but *not* required if you are purchasing an earlier edition of the textbook or if not purchasing the book from the bookstore.

**Evaluation** \*The exams are NOT cumulative

Quizzes (2.5% x 4 take-home quizzes = 10%)

Exam 1 20%

Exam 2 20%

Exam 3 20%

Exam 4 20%

Paper 10%

Total 100%

**Bonus points:** You may earn up to a maximum of 3 additional bonus points to be added to your final mark in one of two ways, or in combination:

1. Participate in Psychology Department approved research studies that are posted throughout the academic term(s) on <http://lupsych.sona-systems.com>. An account will be created for you by 2<sup>nd</sup> week of classes. You must complete participation in studies by last day of classes.
2. Submit a synopsis of a recent journal article. This involves choosing a journal article published in 2014 onward that interests you, write a 500-word (2 pages double spaced) critical commentary about that article, and submit an ecopy of your synopsis and the article to the instructor by the last day of classes. Each submitted synopsis is worth 1.5 bonus points.

**Accommodations:** Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and register as early as possible. For more information, please visit: <http://studentaccessibility.lakeheadu.ca>

**Learning Assistance:** Note that there are several avenues to seeking advice and tutoring throughout the course. It is your responsibility to seek the various resources available to you to help you get the assistance you need.

- (1) The Professor's office hours
- (2) Setting up a meeting with the Teaching Assistant
- (3) Visit the Student Success Center website and look for workshops and their on-campus location
  - a. : <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/academics/academic-support/skills-for-success>

- b. Advice on managing stress
  - c. Advice on multiple choice test taking, and efficient studying
  - d. Tutoring assistance
- (4) Tutors (<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/academics/academic-support/tutoring>)

**Grading Scale:** 90 – 100% = A+  
 80 – 89% = A  
 70 – 79% = B  
 60 – 69% = C  
 50 -- 59% = D  
 40 – 49% = E  
 <40% = F  
 O = Academic Dishonesty

### COURSE TIMETABLE

Date	Topic	Readings Assigned from Text
Sept. 07	Syllabus, Introduction, Brief History	Chapter 2
Sept. 09	Religion, Sex Research and beginning anatomy (male)	3
Sept. 14	Anatomy and Physiology (male)	4
Sept. 16		
Sept. 21	Anatomy and Physiology (female)	5
Sept. 23		
Sept. 28	Exam 1	2, 3, 4, 5
Sept. 30	Pregnancy	6
Oct. 05	Contraception // Abortion cont'd	7
Oct. 07	Sexually Transmitted Infections	8
Oct. 12-14	Study Week	
Oct. 19	Sexual Response	9
Oct. 21	Sexual Disorders and Therapy	18 *
Oct. 26	Exam 2	6, 7, 8, 9, 18
Oct. 28	Sexual Development throughout Life: young & Old	10
Nov. 02	Relationship Formation	11
Nov. 04	Relationship Dissolution	12
Nov. 09	Gender and Sexuality	13
Nov. 11	Gender Cont'd	
Nov. 16	Exam 3	10, 11, 12, 13
Nov. 18	Sexual Orientation	14
Nov. 23	Sexual Variation: Paraphilia	15
Nov. 25	Sexual Coercion	16
Nov. 30	Sexual Marketplace: Pornography	17
Dec. 02	Sexual Marketplace: Prostitution	
Dec.	Final Examinations (date to be announced)	14, 15, 16, 17

\* Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> final day to register for class

\*\* Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> final day to drop class

Note: Aside from the exams the topics covered may vary with how quickly/slowly we proceed through the material and therefore may be subject to change.

## **Specific Course Information**

**Lectures and Textbook:** The lectures will be devoted to some of the topics dealt with in the textbook, and to clarifying and expanding upon difficult areas and providing different perspectives and examples. In preparing for the exams, you are responsible for all material covered in the lectures and all material covered in the assigned readings.

**Quizzes:** a series of multiple choice questions will be posted online at the outset of a unit section to provide a practice opportunity in preparation for a unit exam. Quizzes may be handed in at any time to the teaching assistant via email and no later than the beginning of the exam associated with that particular unit section.

**Exams:** Aside from the December Final exam all other exams will take place during the regular class time (1 ½ hours ) and will include approximately 50 to 100 multiple-choice questions and short answer questions.

**Final Exam:** The final exam lasts 3 hours and includes approximately 100 – 150 multiple-choice and possibly a short answer question.

**Re-Evaluation Rules:** If you feel unfairly treated on exams or papers please make a written request for a re-evaluation and give it to me within 7 days of the grades being posted or received. Upon re-evaluation, your mark **may go up, down, or stay the same**. Your exams will involve multiple-choice questions. If you feel that another answer than the "right" one should be counted, then write a convincing rationale and give it to me within 7 days of the grades being posted. If your rationale convinces me, your grade and where appropriate the grade of other students will be adjusted accordingly.

## **Recommendations and Cautions**

1. I do not take attendance. If you miss a class it is YOUR responsibility to get the lecture notes (those in addition to that which is posted online) from a fellow student, the TA, or myself during the allotted office hours.
2. Please be courteous to others in the class and refrain from talking, texting and by turning off your cell phone. Be considerate to your classmates and if you feel compelled to play videogames or surf the net then move to the very back of the classroom so that you do not distract others. If disruptive to the class you will be instructed to leave.

## Academic Integrity

By third year in university it is assumed that you are familiar with the rules and regulations regarding plagiarism and cheating. Lakehead University values academic integrity. As a Lakehead student, you are responsible for knowing the rules and regulations concerning academic honesty, and understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Lakehead policy and the disciplinary procedures. For further information visit the following website:

<http://calendar.lakeheadu.ca/current/contents/regulations/univregsIXacdishon.html>

## Frequently Asked Questions

*Q.* Do you curve class grades on exams?

No, but I do review each exam question to ensure that an appropriate number of students answered a question correctly to ensure that it was fair.

*Q.* What if I get a 79% on my final grade will you bump me up to an 80%?

No. A student can proactively curve his or her own grade by soliciting the advice and guidance from the teaching assistant, professor or learning assistance center and collecting bonus marks (as mentioned in class) added to the final grade.

*Q:* Now that I see my final grade can I redo an exam, rewrite a paper or write an additional paper?

No. This is a third year course and students are held accountable for their initial performance. Be proactive and insure that your paper is acceptable (or exceeds expectations) by asking the TA well in advance of the deadline.

*Q.* I missed an exam or paper deadline because [an unexpected urgent incident] and have not gone to student accessibility services as this is not an ongoing issue... can I re-write the exam or hand in a paper late?

If you miss an assignment or exam you will receive a zero unless you have a medical note or death certificate. Medical notes are easy to attain and if you provide the name of funeral home I can have them fax a death certificate.

*Q.* Why don't you just post the *entire* lecture notes?

In the early years of university I believe it is important, in fact essential, to learn how to effectively copy notes from a lecturer. The notes taken solely from a slide are not sufficient to learning the entire material covered in a lecture. Relying on notes posted online is not optimal for study. Abbreviated notes outlining the lecture will be posted online before class but note that these alone will not be sufficient to achieve a high grade on the exams. If this is a problem or you feel you do not like this system please seek instruction from a different professor. Additionally, I also prefer to not have my lectures distributed freely since they are considered a part of intellectual property.