

PSYC 316-501

PSYCHOLOGY OF HUMAN SEXUALITY

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Course Disclaimer:

Due to the nature of this course if you do not feel comfortable engaging in discussion boards topics that will include sexual intercourse (oral, vaginal, and anal), masturbation, sex toys, sexual disorders, varieties of sexual expression (BDSM, fetish behaviors, and sexual addiction), rape, sexual abuse, and prostitution this may not be the course for you.

Course Description and Objectives:

An overview of human sexuality from the perspectives of physiological, developmental, social, and clinical psychology. Specific topics include theory and research methodology, sexual arousal and behavior, contraception, sexual orientation, variations in sexual behavior, sexual coercion, sexual dysfunction and sex therapy. Emphasis is placed on the psychological aspects of these topics rather than their biological, medical, sociological, or ethical aspects.

By the end of the semester, students will:

1. Be more aware of their own values and the values of others.
2. Understand the impact of the sociocultural issues have on sexual attitudes and behaviors.
3. Be able to communicate sexual information with an increased degree of comfort and accuracy.
4. Process accurate knowledge of sexuality throughout the life span; and integrate this knowledge according to values, attitudes, diversity, traumas, and sexual pleasure.

Texts and Reading Assignments:

Carroll, J.L. (2018). *Sexuality Now: Embracing Diversity* (6th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Publishers.

GET THE BOOK BEFORE THE FIRST WEEK OF THE COURSE, your first week assignments will be based on Chapters 1 and 2.

Projects:

Survey Papers

Choose **TWO** of the following survey paper topics. Write a summary of what you found (3-4 pages). There will be **TWO** specific due dates for submission.

Topics are the following: Masculine Development versus Feminine Development, Gender and Emotion, Dating Scripts, Romance, Sexual Double Standard, and Self-Objectification.

Sexual Genogram

I would like for you to write a sexual genogram. I would like for you to consider when, where, how, and what you learned about sexuality throughout your life. How has this information and your experiences helped to shape you into the person you are today?

If you have any questions about this course please email me at tcemborski@westfield.ma.edu

