1.0 CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Selected topics of current interest in social psychology.

Prerequisite: Psychology 2820E, or both Psychology 2800E and 2810, plus registration in third or fourth year Honours Specialization in Psychology or Honours Specialization in Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience

Other Psychology students and Special Students who receive 75% in the prerequisite courses may enroll in this course.

3 seminar hours, 0.5 course

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

2.0 COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Professor William A. Fisher
Social Science Centre 7428
661-2111, extension 84665
Email: fisher@uwo.ca

Time and Location of Lectures: Tuesday 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Stevenson Hall 3305

3.0 TEXTBOOK

There is no textbook for this seminar. Assigned readings, listed below, are to be completed as specified before each class meeting, according to the schedule that follows.

4.0 COURSE OBJECTIVES

Psychologists are committed to the scientific study of sexual behaviour for both theoretical and practical reasons. From a theoretical perspective, generalizable psychological theory may be developed and tested in research concerning sexual behaviour. From a practical perspective, psychological knowledge may be applied to ameliorate problematic aspects of sexual behaviour and accentuate positive aspects of such behaviour. In accord with these theoretical and practical concerns, psychologists have worked to develop
conceptual models of factors that influence human sexual behaviour and to apply psychological knowledge to reduce sex-related problems and increase sex-related positive outcomes.

This seminar on the psychology of human sexual behaviour will involve lectures, readings, class discussions, and student presentations focusing on history, ethics, methodology, theory, and selected content areas that are significant in this field of study. Acquisition of foundational knowledge in selected areas of the psychology of sexual behaviour is a primary objective of this course.

Please note that the subject matter of this seminar is human sexual behaviour. The course will involve explicit discussion and imagery of a variety of aspects of sexual behaviour.

Note:

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2111 ext 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit: http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for more information on these resources and on mental health.

5.0 EVALUATION

Evaluation is based on class participation including general class participation and student presentations of assigned readings (20%), four brief periodic unannounced essay-format quizzes on assigned readings (20%), class presentation of student seminar papers (20%), and student seminar papers (40%) that will consist of 10-12 page reviews of the literature in an area of the psychology of sexual behaviour of student interest as agreed upon with the instructor.

The Psychology Department follows the University of Western Ontario grading guidelines, which are as follows (see http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/general/grades_undergrad.pdf):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>Superior work that is clearly above average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>Competent work, meeting requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>Fair work, minimally acceptable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 50</td>
<td>Fail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.0 TEST AND EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

There are no examinations in this course. Class participation including general class participation and student presentations of assigned readings will be continuously evaluated; four brief periodic unannounced essay-format quizzes on assigned readings will take place; class presentation of student seminar papers will take place on November 17, November 24 and December 1, and student seminar papers (40%) that will consist of 10-12 page reviews of the literature in an area of the psychology of sexual behavior of student interest as agreed upon with the instructor are due December 3, 2014.
7.0 LECTURE SCHEDULE

Dates, Topics, and Readings

Note:

Readings listed in the “Class Readings” sections following are required readings for all students. These are the readings that will be examined in periodic unannounced 10-minute essay format reading quizzes.

Readings listed in the “Student Presentations” sections will be assigned to an individual student for 10-15 minute presentations in class. These readings will not be examined in periodic unannounced 10-minute essay format reading quizzes.

September 8 Introduction and History of the Scientific Study of Sexual Behavior

Lecture Only

September 15 Ethical and Methodological Issues in Sexual Science

Ethical Issues: Sex Researchers are Perverts

Class Readings:


Student Presentations:


Tape: William Master's Reminisces (to be played in class)
Further reading for those interested:


September 22 Ethical and Methodological Issues in Sexual Science

Methodological Issues: Sex Researchers are Idiots

Class Readings:


Student Presentations:


Further reading for those interested:


September 29  **Theories of Human Sexual Behavior**

**Class Readings:**


**Student Presentations:**


Further reading for those interested:


**October 6 Sexual Function and Sexual Dysfunction**

**Class Readings:**


**Student Presentations:**


**October 13 Thanksgiving Holiday**

**October 20 Erotica, Pornography, and Behaviour**

**Class Readings:**


Exposure to Erotic Stimuli Causes Antiwoman Attitudes and Antiwoman Acts

Student Presentations:

**Malamuth, N.M., & Check, J.V.P. (1981).** The effects of mass media exposure on the 
Acceptance of violence against women: A field experiment. *Journal of Research in 
Personality, 15*, 436-446.

**Check, J.V.P., & Guloien, T.H. (1989).** Reported proclivity for coercive sex following 
repeated exposure to sexually violent pornography, nonviolent dehumanizing 
pornography, and erotica. In D. Zillmann & J. Bryant (Eds.), *Pornography: Research 

**Zillmann D, Bryant J.** Effects of massive exposure to pornography. In: Malamuth NM, 

October 27   Erotica, Pornography, and Behaviour (continued)

Exposure to Erotic Stimuli Does Not Cause Antiwoman Attitudes or Antiwoman Acts

Class Readings

and Psychiatry, 14*, 47-64.

acts: In search of reliable effects. *Journal of Sex Research, 31*, 23-.

Student Presentations

**Malamuth, N.M., & Ceniti, J. (1986).** Repeated exposure to violent and nonviolent 
pornography: Likelihood of raping ratings and laboratory aggression against women. 
*Aggressive Behavior, 12*, 129-137.

**Barak, A., Fisher, W. A., Belfry, S., & Lashambe D. R. (1999).** Sex, Guys, and 
Cyberspace: Effects of internet pornography and individual differences on men’s 

Guest Speakers:

Jodie Baer, BA: Pornography and Aggression: The Confluence Model Revisited 
Taylor Kohut, PhD: Impact of Pornography on the Couple Relationship

Further reading for those interested:


November 3  Understanding and Promoting Reproductive Health

Class Readings


Student Presentations


November 10  HIV Risk and HIV Prevention

Class Readings


Further reading for those interested:


HIV Prevention Intervention Materials Presented in Class

"Just Like Me"

"Stakes are High"

**November 17  Seminar Presentations**

Six students will present 15 minute clear and compelling talks concerning their seminar paper topic literature review.

**November 24  Seminar Presentations**

Six students will present 15 minute clear and compelling talks concerning their seminar paper topic literature review.

**December 1  Seminar Presentations**

Six students will present 15 minute clear and compelling talks concerning their seminar paper topic literature review.

**December 3  Seminar Papers Due**

8.0 STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC OFFENCES

Students are responsible for understanding the nature and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other scholastic offenses. Plagiarism and cheating are considered very serious offenses because they undermine the integrity of research and education. Actions constituting a scholastic offense are described at the following link:


As of Sept. 1, 2009, the Department of Psychology will take the following steps to detect scholastic offenses. All multiple-choice tests and exams will be checked for similarities in the pattern of responses using reliable software, and records will be made of student seating locations in all tests and exams. All written assignments will be submitted to TurnItIn, a service designed to detect and deter plagiarism by comparing written material to over 5 billion pages of content located on the Internet or in TurnItIn’s databases. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ([http://www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)).
Possible penalties for a scholastic offense include failure of the assignment, failure of the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

9.0 OTHER INFORMATION

Office of the Registrar web site: http://registrar.uwo.ca

Student Development Services web site: http://www.sdc.uwo.ca

Please see the Psychology Undergraduate web site for information on the following:

   http://psychology.uwo.ca/undergradresponsibilities.htm

- Policy on Cheating and Academic Misconduct
- Procedures for Appealing Academic Evaluations
- Policy on Attendance
- Policy Regarding Makeup Exams and Extensions of Deadlines
- Policy for Assignments
- Short Absences
- Extended Absences
- Documentation
- Academic Concerns
- 2012 Calendar References

No electronic devices, including cell phones, will be allowed during exams.

**Additional Information Concerning Sex Research for Those Interested**

Periodicals

   Journal of Sex Research
   Journal of Sexual Medicine
   Archives of Sexual Behavior
   Annual Review of Sex Research
   Canadian Journal of Human Sexuality
   Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Canada
   International Journal of Sexual Health

Websites

   Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada
   Sexualityandu.ca
   Public Health Agency of Canada: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca
   Centers for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov/hiv
   UN AIDS: http://data.unaids.org
Advanced Textbook


Sexual Harassment and Sexual Trauma Resources

Sexual Harassment

UWO Sexual Harassment (Office of Equity and Human Rights) 519-661-3334

Sexual Assault

London Police 911

UWO Student Health Services (Medical Care, Counselling) 519-661-3030

UWO Student Development Centre (Crisis Counselling, Psychological Services) 519-661-3031

Sexual Assault Centre London—St. Joseph’ (24 Hour Crisis and Support Line) 519.438-2272

Regional Sexual Assault Program, St. Joseph’s Hospital (medical care, examination, counselling) 519 646-6100 ext. 64224