



## **PSY 2306 PSYCHOSEXUAL BEHAVIOR**

PSY 2306 SYLLABUS: FALL 2024

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Isabella (Belle) Ortiz

Office Hours: Mondays & Fridays 3-5pm BIN 212

Phone number: 903-246-2664

University Email Address: [Isabella.Ortiz@tamuc.edu](mailto:Isabella.Ortiz@tamuc.edu)

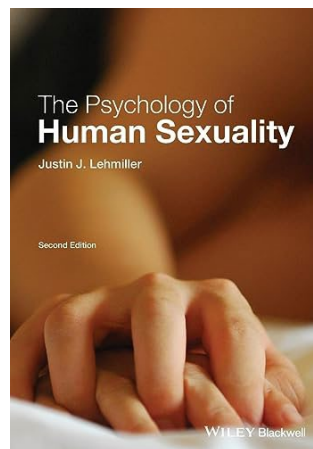
Preferred Form of Communication: Email or text message

Communication Response Time: within the hour, at minimum 24 hrs (excluding holidays)

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

Textbook(s) REQUIRED:

The Psychology of Human Sexuality (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) by Justin Lehmiller



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Software Required:

Internet access (e.g. computer, tablet, cellphone)

A means to type documents/create presentations (e.g. Microsoft Word/PowerPoint)

Online TAMUC Waters Library resources

## **Course Description**

**A study of the physiological, psychological, and psychosocial (biopsychosocial) factors involved in the construction of different concepts of human sexual behavior. Amongst the many topics covered in class, at least five different research and literature perspectives will be considered: (1) Evolutionary, (2) Developmental, (3) Clinical, (4) Social/Personality, and (5) Feminist.**

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

- 1.) Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge about the different psychological perspectives on human sexuality and sexual functioning through a combination of textbook readings, PowerPoint lectures, and in-class review sessions.
- 2.) Students will be able to analyze, compare, and contrast different aspects of topics related to sexual education (health care, anatomy, physiology, and behavior) through in-class discussions and weekly discussion boards.
- 3.) Students will be able to apply knowledge related to information through literacy, scholarly work, and research literature by incorporating instructors' feedback on their writing assignment and presentation and utilizing given academic resources.

## **Course Specific Procedures/Policies of Student Behavior**

My expectations in this area should be very simple to fulfill. Please be aware of the following for this course:

- (1) Electronic devices should be turned off or put on silent when in class (unless you're taking notes with a computer/tablet).
- (2) Immaturity will not be tolerated. If a student's behavior is disrupting the class, he/she will be asked to leave.
- (3) Respect: Given the nature of this course, we may discuss issues that some of you may find embarrassing, uncomfortable, and/or even "inappropriate." To remain in this class, you must be respectful of others and maintain a mature and professional manner at all times. Failure to do so will result in your expulsion from the course.
- (4) Do not talk during class unless you are participating in class discussion.

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## **Recording:**

Video and audio recording of lectures and review sessions without the consent of the instructor are prohibited. On request, the instructor will usually grant permission for students to audio tape lectures, on the condition that these audio tapes are only used by the individual making the recording. Unless explicit permission is obtained from the instructor, recordings of lectures and review sessions may not be modified and must not be transferred or transmitted to any other person, whether or not that individual is enrolled in the course.

## **Syllabus Change Policy:**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Instructional Methods**

This course will primarily be conducted face-to face via lectures, supplemented by online engagement via D2L.

#### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES OR TIPS FOR SUCCESS IN THIS COURSE**

- **Show up to class. A lot of information about due dates, goals of the assignments, and grading will be discussed in class- as well as information you will need for quizzes and tests.**
- **Email or text me: If something goes wrong, if you think something is wrong, or whatever the circumstance might be, please reach out to me. I'd rather get an email during the semester, than a freaking out student at the end.**
- **Start with the end in mind. If you plan on pursuing the A in this course, think about what kind of topic or presentation you want to develop, and make sure EVERYTHING you do in the class connects to that final project. Soak it all in. That way, you won't be making unnecessary work for yourself or for me.**
- **Don't overwork yourself. Make sure you set boundaries to meet your goals for this class. Have a plan!**
- **Utilize the resources that are provided for you via D2L. In utilizing all resources provided, there is no reason why you shouldn't be able to achieve an "A" in his course. Your instructor is also included in the umbrella of "resources" for this course. We give you resources to help you so use them!**
- **Lastly, don't plagiarize ANYTHING. I have not had an instance of plagiarism so far but have a zero-tolerance policy for anything that is plagiarized. Please refer to the links below for this university's rules on academic dishonesty.**

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- **Turn something in whether you like it or not: If you skip an assignment, you will automatically get a zero. Don't make me give you a zero, I promise I want you to get a good grade as much as you want to receive a good grade. A low grade is better in the long run. Please submit something.**
- **Read the textbook! This information makes up 100% of the questions on your quizzes and a good portion of questions on your tests. I recommend setting aside a specific day/time to read your chapters.**
- **Complete all assignments thoroughly and on time. I am lenient about late work/assignments, but this depends on the circumstance and the student.**
- **Actively participate in class discussions. Contribute regularly. There are no wrong answers during class discussions, I just want to hear back from you. Participation is worth 5% of your grade.**
- **Don't be afraid to ask questions, ask for clarification, or ask for help. When in doubt, ask!**

## **GRADING**

At the end of the semester, I will combine your total lab grade with your total class grade to average out a final grade for the course as a whole. If you are not enrolled in the lab for this course, your final grade will be calculated by just your lecture grade. Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale and percentages:

A= 90%-100%

B= 80%-89%

C= 70%-79%

D= 60%-69%

F= 59% or Below

Attendance/Class Participation 10%

Discussions/Assignments 10%

Chapter Quizzes 10%

Paper 20%

Presentation 20%

Tests 30%

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## **Attendance**

Attendance is required for this course. You will sign in on a printed sign-in sheet upon entering class. This helps me to record how often you are coming to class/who is attending lab and so forth. While I will take attendance daily, I will record attendance randomly throughout the semester. Attendance is worth 5% of your final grade. If you cannot attend class due to an unforeseen circumstance/emergency, please let me know and I will accommodate you by allowing you to attend class through Zoom (this will not affect your attendance grade). This is an option for students on a case-by-case basis.

## **Class Participation**

Make sure you are actively participating in class each day. During class discussions, you can participate by answering questions and discussing topics with me (the instructor) and your classmates. Class participation is worth 5% of your grade, so be sure to engage as much as possible throughout the semester. Discussing the material and applying your knowledge to daily concepts has been shown to aid in a deeper understanding of the subject matter- which is what makes this component of the course so important. If I allow you to attend via Zoom, you must have your camera on and still participate in the class via chat box to earn a participation grade.

## **Chapter Quizzes**

Quizzes will be assigned in D2L during the week the chapter is covered in lecture. There is one quiz per book chapter, for a total of 15 quizzes throughout the semester. The quizzes will open on the Monday that we cover the material from the chapter, and close on the following Sunday, so you will have 1 week to complete each quiz. Each quiz will consist of ten (10) multiple-choice questions that are derived **DIRECTLY FROM YOUR TEXTBOOK**. So, be sure that you have read the corresponding book chapter before you take each quiz! You will have fifteen (15) minutes to complete each quiz. While these quizzes are technically “open book”, be aware that the time limit imposed will make it difficult to look up the answers to each question. Therefore, I suggest that you read thoroughly and refresh your memory before attempting quizzes. Collectively, these quizzes will account for 10% of your final grade.

## **Midterm Paper**

Each student will choose a topic from a provided list (in D2L) on which to present, during the first two weeks of the semester. Visit D2L to sign up for your chosen topic during the first 3 weeks of class - **DEADLINE LISTED IN D2L!** The sign-ups can be found on D2L under the heading/discussion post titled “Paper Topic Sign-Ups”. Only 1 person can cover each topic. First come first serve. Please pay attention to your classmates' selections. If someone chooses a topic you want before you do, you must

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pick another. These topics will be directly related to the course content. As we progress through the semester I will walk you through the different sections of an APA paper to ensure your success in this area. By the time your midterm paper is due, you should have a solid research paper and know how to write a student-level paper in APA format. A helpful goal of this assignment is to prepare you for finals (your presentation to the class). You will be using the information you find for your paper to aid in your presentation. Keep in mind, this assignment is worth 25% of your final grade. You will submit this assignment on D2L under the “Paper Submission” heading that can be found under the “Paper” heading. The rubric for this assignment can be found on the course page in D2L. Please read the rubric carefully to ensure you are meeting the paper guidelines! This is exactly what I use to grade your paper with. I highly recommend using the following resources for your research:

- Google Scholar
- TAMUC Waters Library Online
- Research Gate

**Important things to remember about your paper:**

- Your paper **MUST** be in APA-7 format
- Times New Roman, 12pt font, etc.
- You **MUST** have both a cover page and reference page (s)
- All references must be retrieved from online peer reviewed journal articles

## **Final Presentation**

Presentations will cover the topic you selected at the beginning of the semester for your paper. Presentations will be given at the end of the semester - see the schedule once it is released. Your specific presentation group/presentation day will be announced on D2L closer to the end of the semester. This presentation will be considered your “final” assignment. **YOU MUST PRESENT IN FRONT OF THE CLASS AND MAY NOT PRESENT VIRTUALLY.** Presentations will consist of short-timed summaries verbalized by each student in front of the class. You must present for a minimum of 10 minutes or you will receive a point deduction for time. You may not surpass 12 minutes or you will receive a point deduction for time. I will cut you off if you go past 12 minutes. **TIME YOURSELF. PRACTICE YOUR PRESENTATION AHEAD OF TIME.** After midterms, I will review tips with the class on how to construct a visually pleasing, professional, academic PowerPoint presentation. To complete this assignment, you will create a PowerPoint presentation to present to the class as you discuss your summary. You will need to submit your presentation as a PowerPoint copy (**NO OTHER FILE TYPES WILL BE ACCEPTED**) **BY EMAIL** to my email address (Isabella.Ortiz@tamuc.edu) by the deadline listed on the schedule. I will upload these to D2L for your classmates to observe before presentations are given in class.

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Failure to submit a copy of your visual presentation by the deadline will result in a 0 on the assignment. Presentations are worth 25% of your final grade, so not submitting this and not presenting will significantly impact your grade.

- Watch wordiness on your slides- summarize
- Include imagery/graphics on each slide that is appealing to the eye
- Create an original presentation
- Present the material in an interesting way
- Give real life/relatable examples
- Present for a minimum of 10 minutes and don't exceed 12 minutes
- Don't read directly from your PowerPoint- summarize the most important information and only use it as a guide
- Use note cards (but don't read directly from those either)
- Treat your presentation like a "professional conversation"

## **Tests**

There will be 5 tests throughout the semester. Each test will open on a Monday at 12:00 AM and will close the following Sunday at 11:59 PM, giving you 1 week to take these on D2L. Each test will cover material from 3 chapters (e.g. 1-3, 4-6, etc.). Tests will consist of 60 multiple choice questions (20 questions per chapter topics). Test questions will come from a combination of lecture materials (materials covered in class) and your textbook. You will have 120 minutes to complete each test. No need to fear if you do not like your initial test score. You are allowed to take each test 2 times. Whichever score is higher is the one I will use for the gradebook. You will review the information that is on your tests several times through participating in chapter reviews, taking quizzes, participating in triple chapter reviews, completing your chapter readings, and participating in in-class discussions.

## **Lab Discussions & Assignments**

As part of your grade for the lab portion of this course, you will have several assignments throughout the semester, and weekly lab discussion posts. For assignments, you will complete both in-class and at home activities including (but not limited to) answering questions about film clips that we watch in class/you are assigned to watch on your own and constructing written reflections on lab activities. For discussions, you are expected to answer questions thoroughly utilizing information from your textbook and lecture materials. Your discussion answers must total 150 words at minimum. You must respond to at least one classmate. Your response must total 50 words at minimum. Remember to be kind in your responses to your classmates. Negative comments/bullying/etc., will not be tolerated.

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## **Research Participation**

A goal of this class is to help you familiarize yourself with research methods. One way to obtain this goal is to have you participate in research studies. Participating in research studies contributes to students and faculty at A&M - Commerce, your understanding of how research is conducted, and human knowledge in general. All students in this class will be required to participate in the psychology department's participant pool or complete alternative assignments (see me for more information on alternative assignments). Students must complete a total of 6 experiment credits. However, if you complete your first 4 experiment credits without any "no-shows" you will receive 2 free *punctual participant credits*. In other words, if you show up to your experiments on time you will only need to complete 4 experiment credits. When you first sign into the experiment management system (EMS) you will be asked to take a prescreen. The prescreen takes about 20 minutes to complete. If you complete the prescreen in the first two weeks of the semester you will receive ½ free experiment credit. This can be combined with later experiments that are worth ½ credit. If you fail to complete this portion of the class your grade will be lowered by one full grade. In effect, if you have an 'A' in the class but fail to complete your research participation (either through participating in research studies, alternative assignments, or a mixture of both) your final grade in the class will be a 'B.' More information about participating in research, such as how to log in to the EMS, is given at the end of this syllabus.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

#### **LMS**

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

### **ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you



do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu). Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

### ***The syllabus/schedule are subject to change*** **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

You can contact me via the phone number or email address listed at the beginning of the syllabus, I do not have a specific preference. Note that I most likely will answer a text message faster. You may schedule a Zoom appointment with me any time by emailing or texting me. I am also willing to meet before or after class time, with the exception of meeting on campus at scheduled times as needed. I am more than willing to work with you to the best of my abilities and accommodate your needs as a student. My goal is to help you succeed! You just have to reach out. My average response time during the week is within the hour and 24 hours at maximum. This excludes holidays.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

Attendance in class is required, as much of the information discussed in class will be on your quizzes and exams. Attendance counts for 5% of your overall grade at the end of the semester. If you leave class early, you will be marked as absent. This means, if I am using attendance towards grades that day, you will not get the points for that day to go towards your grade. I am willing to work with students if an emergency arises. Please contact me if this is the case and we can discuss it further. **LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!** Failure to complete quizzes and tests by the due date will result in a score of zero in the gradebook. If you follow the course schedule outline, there is a high possibility that you will

succeed! There will be a few extra credit opportunities throughout the semester. The easiest way to gain extra credit is to participate in an online or in-person research study through SONA. Information on being a research participant can be found under the heading “Important Documents”. Other extra credit opportunities will be posted on D2L as they arise under the heading “Extra Credit”.

## **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

## **University Specific Procedures Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.

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The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.

[http://www.tamuc.edu/student\\_guidebook/Student\\_Guidebook.pdf](http://www.tamuc.edu/student_guidebook/Student_Guidebook.pdf)

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

## **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

## **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

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Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

**The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)**

## **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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