



Department of Psychology

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November 13, 2008

Debra Modellmog
Professor of English
Coordinator, Sexuality Studies Program
The Ohio State University
421 Denney Hall
164 W. 17th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Dr. Modellmog:

The Department of Psychology enthusiastically supports the inclusion of Psychology 555: Adolescent Psychology as one of the central courses for the Sexuality Studies minor. I have included a current syllabus of the course for your review.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard E. Petty".

Richard E. Petty
Distinguished University Professor and Chair
Department of Psychology

ADOLESCENT SEXUALITY

Instructor: Raymond Montemayor, PhD
Office: 247 Psychology Building
Office Hours: Mon 3:00-4:00, Wed 1:00-2:00, and by appointment
Email: montemayor.1@osu.edu
Telephone: 292-3059

I do not keep extensive office hours because students rarely come by during those times. I am happy to meet with you to discuss any issue on your mind. The best way for us to meet is to schedule an appointment. See me after class or send me an email and we will find a day and a time to get together.

Course Assistant: Eleshia Morrison
Email: morrison.364@osu.edu

Course Description and Objectives

Adolescent sexuality is an issue not only of great importance to adolescents, but to all of us. Our sexuality is a fundamental aspect of who we are, a central component of our identity, and of how others see us. Powerful biological, psychological, and social forces influence the onset of sexuality, the person with whom it occurs, and the context in which it takes place. Once expressed, our sexuality has a profound influence on our lives.

The purpose of this course is to examine sexual behavior as it first unfolds during adolescence. In this course, we will consider many specific aspects of adolescent sexuality, but two issues form the basis for this course: First, what influences the expression of adolescent sexual behavior in all of its manifestations; and Second, what impact does sexual activity have on adolescent development?

Required Text

Susan Moore and Doreen Rosenthal. (2006). *Sexuality in Adolescence: Current Trends*. New York: Routledge.

Grades

Examinations

There are three examinations in this course, each worth 30 percent of your grade. Each exam only covers material since the previous test. The last exam is not comprehensive. Each exam will have about 40 multiple-choice questions from the book, lectures, and class discussions, so it is important for you to come to class and take good notes. Be sure to bring a No. 2 pencil with you on the day of each exam.

I do not give makeup exams except under the most extraordinary conditions, such as you are deathly ill. You must have a doctor's excuse to take a makeup and you must inform me about your inability to take an exam before the exam. Students who request to take a makeup after the scheduled exam will not be allowed to take a makeup and will receive a grade of "0" on that exam. Also, note that the last exam is on Tuesday, March 11 so plan to be here on that day. Spring break does not officially start until after exam week.

Brief Papers

In addition to the exams, you must also write three one-page papers. Each paper should be a one-page discussion about an idea or question you have about some aspect of adolescent sexuality. The idea can come from material from the book or lectures. State the question, the idea, the finding from a study, or the theory, and then write a short discussion about why you find the idea interesting, important, or puzzling. The first paper should be based on an idea from the first third of the course, the second paper from the second third, and the third paper from the last third. This assignment counts 10 percent of your grade.

Paper Due Dates:

First paper, **Tuesday, January 22**
Second paper, **Tuesday, February 12**
Third paper, **Tuesday, March 4**

Extra Credit

You can earn extra credit points by doing an extra credit assignment, and you can do the assignment three times. The assignment is to write two multiple-choice questions and answers. One question should come from lectures and one from the book. Each question should have five possible answers, with only one correct answer. Be sure to indicate the date of the lecture your lecture question came from and the page in the book your book question came from.

You can earn up to two points by writing two multiple-choice questions from material from the first third of the course, up to two more points by writing two multiple-choice questions from material from the second third of the course, and up to two more points by writing two multiple-choice questions from material from the last third of the course. All together, you can earn a total of six extra credit points.

I will include a few of the best questions on the exams. If I use one of your questions, you will receive two points for that question. You must turn in your questions before each exam. No late questions will be accepted.

Extra Credit Due Dates:

The first two questions, **Tuesday, January 22**
The second two questions, **Tuesday, February 12**
The third two questions, **Tuesday, March 4**

I have included two example questions from other exams. Write your questions in the following format:

Example Questions

1. Which of the following is an androgen?
 - A. Progesterone
 - B. Testosterone (**Correct Answer**)
 - C. Oxytocin
 - D. Inhibin
 - E. None of the above is an androgen

2. Which of the following is NOT related to more consistent use of contraceptives by adolescents?
 - A. A positive mother-adolescent relationship
 - B. Having sexual intercourse frequently
 - C. Being in a stable relationship
 - D. Being heterosexual rather than homosexual
 - E. Having sexual intercourse before the age of 17 years (**Correct Answer**)

COURSE OUTLINE

I will be out of town on Thursday, March 6 to attend a conference on adolescence. This is bad timing, but there is nothing I can do about the dates. The last day of class for us is Tuesday, March 4. Remember that your last paper and third extra credit assignment are due on that day.

I also plan to assign a few readings that will be posted on the course website. I will let you know in class when I post readings.

- Chapter 1, Sexuality in the 21st Century
- Chapter 6, Gender, Sexuality and Romance
- Handout, Methodological Issues
- Chapter 2, Theoretical Approaches

EXAM 1: Thursday, January 24

- Chapter 3, Changing Hormones, Changing Bodies
- Chapter 4, Parents and Peers
- Chapter 5, The Global Context , pp 110-117 and 125-131
- Chapter 7, Gay and Lesbian Adolescents

EXAM 2: Thursday, February 14

- Chapter 8, Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Chapter 9, Having a Baby
- Chapter 5, Sex Education, pp. 117-125
- Chapter 10, When Sex is Unwanted
- **No Class, Thursday, March 6**

EXAM 3: Tuesday, March 11, 9:30-11:18 AM