



SYG4060: Sociology of Sexuality

Fall C 2023 Online

I reserve full right to amend, alter, & otherwise change this syllabus at any time.

General Information

"There is no gender identity behind the expressions of gender... identity is performatively constituted by the very 'expressions' that are said to be its results" --- Judith Butler

"There's really no such thing as the 'voiceless'. There are only the deliberately silenced, or the preferably unheard" --- Arundhati Roy

"Maybe the target nowadays is not to discover what we are but to refuse what we are." --- Michel Foucault

This exciting course introduces sociological perspectives of sexuality and how issues such as socialization, gender, race/ethnicity, social class, and global inequality intersect with sexuality. We will review and examine a diversity of articles that explore sexuality in a multitude of ways and introduces categories of sex and sexuality in a global perspective. This class explores foundational concepts and debates surrounding sexuality to push the boundaries of how we think of sex and sexuality. Furthermore, this class also goes in-depth into the theory of sexuality, the history of sex and sexuality, real-world experiences, and the institutionalization of gender, sex, and sexuality. We will explore issues such as how

categories of sexuality are created; what is sexuality and how notions of sexuality are produced and reinforced; and how culture, religion, race, and class all intersect with sexual identifications. This is a discussion-based class that will explore sociology of sexuality in an exciting and interactive way.

This course will be presented objectively and is not presented to espouse, promote, advance, inculcate, or compel any individual to adopt as a belief any of the subjects of the discussion that may be construed as concepts constituting discrimination based on race, color, sex, or national origin as provided by Florida law. Please note that I do not endorse such concepts but may present them for academic discussion and consideration. The law does not prohibit discussion of such concepts in an objective manner and without endorsement. If you feel uncomfortable with how content in the course is presented or discussed, please contact me for further conversation or, if you feel comfortable doing so, you may say so in class in a manner that aligns with our class expectations (see Class Expectations section of the syllabus).

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identity the difference between gender, sex, and sexuality
- Discuss the fluidity of sex and sexuality
- Recognize the arguments made by important scholars and publications within Sociology of Sexuality
- Understand how categories of gender, sex, and sexuality are socially created

Technical Requirements and Skills:

One of the greatest barriers to taking a course with online/ components is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course; but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency using a computer. Please go to the "What's Required" webpage to find out more information on this subject.

Please be certain that you have a dependable internet connection and an updated internet browser. Please take the practice quiz to make sure here are no technical issues. If you should have any trouble, please contact the FIU Online Help Desk. The Help Desk can also be reached by email, chat, and phone at (305) 348-3630.

Tech issues such as a slow, frozen, or unreliable computer/WiFi will not be taken into consideration for an extension or resubmission of work. Should you need a more reliable computer/WiFi please note that FIU has several computer labs and the Library has free laptops you can use.

Required Textbook:

Fitzgerald, Kathleen J. and Kandice L. Grossman. ***Sociology of Sexualities***. Second Edition Sage Publications, Inc. 2020

ISBN: 9781544370675

You may purchase your textbook online at the FIU Bookstore

Course Work:

Webcam Discussions: 4 points x 13

There will be a total of 13 discussions during this course, each of which will be worth 4 points. These discussions will usually require you to respond to questions presented by the instructor based on audio-visual materials or on articles from additional sources. In general, you should plan on contributing one original embedded Webcam post of approximately 2 minutes' length per Module and Webcam responses of 15-seconds to two of your classmates' posts. These responses should contribute to furthering the discussion in a substantive way by building on the ideas presented by your classmate. Your contribution to the discussion board will be graded based on the rubric provided below.

Keep in mind that discussion forums are open to all members of the class for the duration of the term, so care should be taken when determining what to post. If you need to send a private message to the instructor or a fellow classmate, the Canvas Message function should be used (<http://lmshelp.fiu.edu/>)

Written Textbook Appreciations: 4 points x 13

There will be a total of 13 written textbook appreciations during this course, each of which will be worth 4 points. Respond in 400 to 800 words, to one of the questions provided, by making a **coherent argument** that harnesses

sociological concepts from the specific Module's textbook reading (with in-text citations included: e.g. Jones, 1998, p. 8). This argument should constitute **three quarters** of your paper. A Bibliography and/ or Endnotes section should also be added at the bottom of your paper. Please do not use a cover page as in an online forum, this just means more scrolling for the reader.

These textbook appreciations must be in your own words and demonstrate how the course material has led you to a deeper and more meaningful understanding of your own and/ or your close family or friends' experiences in dealing with the issues highlighted in the Module.

Giving only your opinion is not sufficient. **One quarter** of your appreciation must consist of **empirical evidence** that substantiates your argument. This can be accomplished by providing and citing anecdotal evidence obtained through a first-hand interview (e.g. citing: last name *or initials if promised confidentiality*, Personal Communication, date), direct participant observation (e.g. citing: place of observation, date), diary/letter entry (e.g. citing: last name *or initials if promised confidentiality*, diary/ letter, date) or archival material (see link below for citation recommendations as per type of document). Check with the professor if you would like to use any alternate materials that could be taken as evidence for this course.

Citations: You are free to use whichever format you like (MLA, APA, Harvard, etc.) However, every outside resource such as statistics must be cited with Author's Last Name, Year Published, & Page Number. **No Use of Quotes:** Quotes are not allowed. **Original Content:** Using a paper or material from a previously submitted paper from another course is not allowed. All content must be original. **Grammar:** Grammar is part of your grade, so I expect proper grammar and sentence structure.

For further citation formatting, see <https://library.fiu.edu/citation>

Rubric for Textbook Appreciations and Webcam Discussions

Category of Grading	1/2 Point	1 Points	2 Points	3 Points	4 Points
Content:	Minimal references to	Some references to Textbook/	Referenced the Textbook/	Referenced all the major	Reviewed all major

Textbook pertains to the Written Appreciation and Additional Resource pertains to the Webcam Discussions	Textbook/ Additional Resource, skipped most of the major theories/scholars of assigned chapter/additional resource, no critical analysis	Additional Resource, covered some of the major theories/scholars of assigned chapter/ additional resource, little critical analysis	Additional Resource, demonstrated average critical thinking, went over most of the major theories/scholars of assigned chapter/ additional resource	theories/scholars of assigned chapter/ additional resource to show understanding and synthesis of knowledge	theories/scholars of assigned chapter/ additional resource, critically analyzed and synthesized course knowledge, and demonstrated both a sociological perspective and globalized thinking and learning
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Course Overview Breakdown

- Webcam Discussions: 50%
- Textbook Appreciations: 50%

Course Policies

This is an online course, which means most (if not all) of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same for a traditional course. In fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

- **Deadlines:** You are given the due dates beforehand; this means you are responsible for making appropriate accommodations. The ***due dates for discussions and assignments may not be extended as you must keep pace with the materials in each module.*** Since this is a fully online course and many of you work full-

time and have other responsibilities where flexibility is the key to success, make sure to pace yourself by submitting both a textbook appreciation and a webcam discussion for each module by the due date. If you missed submitting a textbook appreciation or discussion during the term, a make-up opportunity is offered to you during the last two weeks of the course. However, all assignments/discussions must be submitted by the last day of the course.

- **Readings/Assignments (Textbook Appreciations and Webcam Discussions) :** Success in this course requires familiarity with the readings and additional resource materials. The student is responsible for reading the Textbook, listening to and/or reading Additional Resource materials and responding to Module questions.
- **Be respectful.** The topic of this class is inherently personal. Thus, there will be diversity of opinions within the discussion boards. This does not mean that you have to agree with everything being said or read. In fact, I highly encourage you to challenge, question, and explore the course through multiple perspectives. You must, however, be respectful and courteous of each other's opinions and in your emails to the professor. This should be a safe space to learn and grow as academics.
- **Review** and follow the course calendar.
- **Expect emails from the professor** regarding assignments and/or schedule changes. (The professor reserves the right to modify the syllabus.).
- **Academic Integrity** Plagiarism is a serious offense. If you use the work of other authors without giving them credit you will receive a '0' and be reported to Academic Affairs. Hence, always submit original work. You are expected to be honest in all academic work, consistent with the academic integrity policy as outlined in the [Code of Student Conduct](#) and any additional syllabus language. All work is to be appropriately cited when it is borrowed, directly or indirectly, from another source. Unauthorized and/or unacknowledged collaboration on any work, or the presentation of someone else's work, is plagiarism. Content generated by an Artificial Intelligence third-party service or site (AI-generated content) without proper attribution or authorization is another form of plagiarism. If you are unsure about whether something may be plagiarism or another form of academic dishonesty, please reach out to me to discuss it as soon as possible.
- **Accommodations:** Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations must contact the Disability Resource Center. The DRC will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Please communicate with me as soon as possible regarding this matter. Please visit our ADA Compliance webpage for information about accessibility involving the tools used in this course. Please visit Canvas's Commitment Accessibility webpage for more information. For additional assistance please contact FIU's Disability Resource Center.

Notes:

- Detailed instructions for Textbook Appreciations and Additional Resource Webcam Discussions are provided within the modules.
- All assignments are due before Sunday, 11:59 PM of the respective week.

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Grading:

Letter Grade Distribution Table					
Letter	Range %	Letter	Range %	Letter	Range %
A	95 or above	B	83 - 86	C	70 – 76
A-	90 - 94	B-	80 - 82	D	60 – 69
B+	87 - 89	C+	77 - 79	F	59 or less

Course Calendar:**Week 1**

- Review the Academic Honesty Policy
- Get Webcam Ready
- Read the Course Syllabus
- Chapter 1: The Social Construction of Sexuality: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Webcam Discussion

Week 2

Chapter 2: The Science of Sexuality: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Webcam Discussion

Week 3:

Chapter 3: Gender and Sexuality: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Webcam Discussion

Week 4:

Chapter 4: Social Class, Space, Place, and Sexuality: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Webcam Discussion

Week 5:

Chapter 5: Sexuality, Inequality, and Privilege: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Webcam Discussion

Week 6:

Chapter 6: LGBTQ and Sexuality-Based Mobilization and Activism: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Webcam Discussion

Week 7

Chapter 7: Media, Sport, and Sexuality: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Webcam Discussion

Week 8:

Chapter 8: Sexuality, Schools, and the Workplace: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Webcam Discussion

Week 9:

Chapter 9: Religion, Family, and Sexuality: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Webcam Discussion

Week 10:

Chapter 10: Sexuality and Reproduction: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Discussion

Week 11:

Chapter 11: Sexual Health: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Webcam Discussion

Week 12:

Chapter 12: Commodification of Sex: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Webcam Discussion

Week 13:

Chapter 13: Sexual Violence: complete Textbook Appreciation and Additional Resource Webcam Discussion

Week 14:

Make-Up: If you neglected to submit one assignment and/ or discussion, you may take advantage of this make-up Textbook Appreciation and/or Additional Resource Webcam Discussion opportunity

Week 15

Make-Up: If you neglected to submit one assignment and/ or discussion, you may take advantage of this make-up Textbook Appreciation and/or Additional Resource Webcam Discussion opportunity