College of Charleston
School of Education, Health and Human Performance
Department of Health and Human Performance
Health 217- Human Sexuality

Instructor: Kym Long-Wallace
Office days and hours: By appointment and conducted online
Email: wallacekl@cofc.edu (Include Health 217 in subject line)

Course Description: Health 217 focuses on providing information necessary for establishing a sound knowledge base on topics including sexual anatomy and physiology, birth control, basic psychological concepts of sexuality, sexually transmitted infections, and sexual victimization. The information is presented in relation to the decision-making process as applied to understanding one's own and others' sexuality.

Course Goals:
1) Increase knowledge of the biological, psychological and sociological theories of human sexuality.
2) Prepare students to think critically about the results of scientific studies.
3) Increase awareness of stereotypes, sexual orientation issues, and sexual victimization and how these affect the welfare of human beings.

Course Objectives:
1) Students will understand the biology of anatomy and reproduction.
2) Students will understand the theories of the formation of gender identity and sexual orientation.
3) Students will understand the political implications of human sexuality.


Required Hardware: Computer with high speed internet access, sound card, microphone, external speakers, scanner

Software: Firefox (recommended browser)
Adobe Reader
Adobe Flash Player
Quick Time
WINzip

Delivery Format: The asynchronous on-line format allows self-motivated, task-driven students the flexibility to complete coursework over the internet. Students must have access to a computer with high-speed internet access throughout the course. Computer failure/unavailability does not constitute an excuse for not completing assignments by the due date.

The class will be administered through OAKS, the College’s learning management system. (Log on to MyCharleston and then click the OAKS icon at the upper right; then click on Health 217) You should check in every day.
Technical Issues: If you have problems related to the course, please contact me immediately. If you have technical problems, please contact the Student Computing Support Desk at 843.953.5457 or email studentcomputingsupport@cofc.edu. Check for computing downloads and tutorials at blogs.cofc/scs/.

Resolve problems promptly. Computer failure/unavailability does not constitute an excuse for not completing assignments by the due date.

Attendance- The great advantage of taking classes online is that you can attend at your convenience. That advantage, however, requires great responsibility. There is no professor taking attendance at a certain place or time so the impetus for completing assignments on time is on the student. Late submissions will not be accepted so plan ahead. Waiting until the last minute to prepare an assignment is not wise. You may lose power, have problems with your computer, or an emergency may arise. If an assignment is due at 11:59 don’t wait until 10pm on the due date to begin.

Modules- Modules are due by 11:59pm (Eastern Standard time) on their due date. Modules not submitted by their due date and time will not be graded. You should expect to spend 2+ hours on each module.

Module Objectives:
Module 1) Understand sexuality from historical, biological, psychological, and sociological perspectives.
Module 2) Understand the scientific method. Understand the methods used to study sexuality and become familiar with major studies.
Module 3) Understand the anatomy of the male and female reproductive anatomy. Understand the social and political implications of routine infant circumcision and female genital mutilation.
Module 4) Understand the endocrine system and how gonadotropin and sexual hormones affect sexual function.
Module 5) Understand the differences between sex and gender. Understand the theories of the formation of gender identity. Understand atypical chromosomal and hormonal presentations and methods of treatment. Recognize the formation of gender stereotypes and how these stereotypes are affected by and affect socialization.
Module 6) Understand the theories of how sexual orientation is formed. Explore the political and social implications of orientation and how prejudice against particular orientations develops.
Module 7) Understand how conception occurs, the major events of pregnancy, how teratogens affect fetal formation, and how breastfeeding impacts the infant. Recognize the major methods of childbirth. Understand the political and social implications of childbirth methods, maternal and paternal age at childbirth, and public breastfeeding.
Module 8) Understand the differences between contraception and birth control. Be familiar with all different types of contraceptives and birth control, including their mechanisms, costs, advantages, and disadvantages. Explore the political implications of certain types of birth control.
Module 9) Understand the major types of sexually transmitted infections, how to prevent their transmission, and how to treat them. Explore the political issues connected with sexually transmitted infections, particularly HIV/AIDS.
Module 10) Understand the biological, social and psychological phases of sexual development from conception to death. Explore issues surrounding the sexuality of children and the elderly.
Module 11) Explore the theories of how love develops and the different types of love. Understand modern theories about how to develop healthy relationships.

Module 12) Understand the types and causes of sexual dysfunction in men and women. Explore the political issues surrounding treatment of sexual dysfunctions. Understand the major types of paraphilias and theories of how they develop.

Module 13) Understand the different ways that people can be sexual victims. Explore theories of how to reduce sexual victimization

Discussions- Each discussion question will be open four days before it is due. Students are required to post to each question (minimum 200 words), citing at least two sources. Students are also required to respond respectfully to two classmates’ posts (minimum 75 words). The responses may be in agreement with, be in disagreement with, or additional back-up of the classmate’s position.

Presentation- Each student will prepare a presentation on a human sexuality topic. Topics have to be approved by the instructor by September 20. Presentations must be uploaded by November 3. Specific instructions, possible topics, and a grading rubric are on the OAKs website under the content tab. In addition to creating a presentation, each student must also view and comment on three classmate presentations. (Comments due by November 7)

Course Grading:
Course grading is based on the following-
2 tests @ 100 points each
1 presentation @ 100 points
5 discussion questions @ 15 points each
13 modules @ 15 points each

All tests consist of 85 questions with a variety of multiple choice options. Study guides are posted for each test. There is an 85 minute time limit on each test.

Grading Scale:
92%+ A
88-91% A-
85-87% B+
82-84% B
79-81% B-
76-78% C+
73-75% C
70-72% C-
67-69% D+
64-66% D
61-63% D-
<61% F

Communication: Communication is an essential part of learning and especially important in an on-line class. I check my e-mail frequently and will respond to your messages within 48 hours – usually much sooner. I am available for “virtual office hours” at the email listed. Contact me to set up a time. This will usually not be necessary since I check emails several times per day.
Policies:
www.cofc.edu/studentaffairs/general_info/studenthandbook.html. This student handbook is a guide to your responsibilities and rights as a student.

Academic Honesty- Faculty members are required to report violations of the honor code to the Office of Student Affairs. If you are found guilty, your grade in the class will be XF and this will be indicated on your transcript. Examples of cheating include giving or receiving aid during a graded activity, using any type of “cheat sheet”, copying from or looking at another person’s graded activity, or submitting another person’s work as your own.

Disability- In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities ACT (ADA), all qualified students enrolled in this course are entitled to "reasonable accommodations." Students should apply at the Center for Disability Services located on the first floor of the Lightsey Center, Suite 104. Please notify the instructor during the first three days of the course of any accommodations needed for the course. If there is a student in this class who has a documented disability and has been approved to receive accommodations through SNAP, please notify me and provide documentation immediately.

Expectations-
· I expect you to check the course site on OAKS and your e-mail at least 5 days per week to stay current with course work so that you will be aware of any changes or developments in the schedule.
· I expect you to contact me by e-mail if you are having problems with the course or encounter an emergency that interferes with your course work.
· I expect you to complete the reading and course activities on time.

If you have questions about assignments or the course content, I request that you post them to the “Questions” topic in the OAKS discussion board. If you can answer another student’s question, go ahead. I will check the discussion on a regular basis to help with problems and answer questions, too.

I will usually respond to your e-mail messages within 48 hours if not sooner. I may not check e-mail on the weekends, so plan accordingly

Student’s Bill of Rights
· Right to a competent education/instruction
· Right to be treated fairly
· Right to question content and process

Student’s Bill of Responsibility
· Responsible for his/her own actions
· Responsible for learning
· Respectful treatment of classmates and professor

Due Date: Subject Matter: Textbook Chapter:
8/22 Introduction (Mod 1) Chapter 1
8/26 Studying Sexuality (Mod 2) Chapter 1
8/29 Sexual and Reproductive Anatomy (Mod 3) Chapters 2, 4
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>9/4</td>
<td>Discussion Question 1</td>
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<td>9/8</td>
<td>Gender Identity and Roles (Mod 4)</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<td>9/12</td>
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<td>9/17</td>
<td>Hormones and Sexuality (Mod 5)</td>
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<td>Sexual Orientation (Mod 6)</td>
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<td>Discussion Question 3</td>
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<td>9/29-30</td>
<td>TEST 1 (Mid-term)</td>
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<td>10/6</td>
<td>Birth Control (Mod 7)</td>
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<td>STIs (Mod 8)</td>
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<td>Pregnancy and Childbirth (Mod 9)</td>
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<td>10/28</td>
<td>Love and Relationships (Mod 11)</td>
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<td>Sexual Dysfunctions, Paraphilias (Mod 12)</td>
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<td>Sexual Victimization (Mod 13)</td>
<td>Chapter 15</td>
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<td>Test 2 (Final)</td>
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