



Psychology-035-201 Introduction to Psychology of Women Spring 2011 Syllabus

Course Reg ID: 58425
Dates & Times: TTH 9:15-10:40AM
Units: 3.0
Location: Portables, Room P205
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Telephone: 408-223-6770

Office Hours

Office hours are by appointment only, in RD-216. Be certain to write *PsychWomyn_ TTH* in the subject line when sending an e-mail, or I may not be able to read your e-mail in a timely manner.

REQUIRED TEXT

Crawford, Mary. (2006) *Transformations: Women, Gender & Psychology* (1st Edition). New York, New York: McGraw Hill. ISBN 0-07-292077-7

MOODLE

Announcements, lectures, and class calendar will be posted on Moodle, an on-line course management web site. You are advised to log onto your Moodle account twice a week. A link to Moodle can be found at www.evc.edu. The Moodle Student Tutorial will describe the logging on process. For technical assistance, please e-mail helpdesk@sjeccd.org or call 408-270-6411.

COURSE DESCRIPTION Advisory Level: Read: 3 Write 3 English 1A

This course examines women's significant physical and psychological issues within a historical, familiar, societal, and cultural framework of influences. A variety of experiences as they uniquely concern women and those issues, which are traditionally examined from a male point of view, will be explored. The concepts of development, adaptation, well-being, and the diversity of women will be included using psychological theories and current research.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Identify historical, mythological, societal, familial, ethnic and cultural influences that shape the female gender roles
- Explain the biological basis of female behavior throughout the life cycle
- Describe concepts of the female's psychological development throughout the life cycle
- Contrast the uniqueness of the female gender role with the diversity of the female gender role as it applies to broad significant issues such as limitations and potentials, victimization, and stereotyping
- Discuss the prevalent mental and physical health of women
- Examine traditional and contemporary psychological theories of female behavior
- Analyze scientific research relative to contrasting male/female issues and behavior
- Discuss the ongoing changing female gender role and its future potentials and limitations

ABOUT THIS COURSE

In the spirit of Feminist philosophy, which embraces interdependence and collaboration, this course will be conducted as a seminar, utilizing small group activities, classroom discussions, films, lectures and Service-Learning projects to explore core issues facing women in America, and in the world today. If you are open to new experiences, you will find that this course will challenge, outrage, motivate, and inspire you! My role as instructor will be that of a facilitator, encouraging you to think critically and to assume responsibility for your education. One of my goals is to instill in you an understanding and appreciation for global interconnectedness, as well as the importance of community activism.

Confidentiality and Respect

This course provides a forum for discussing sensitive and controversial issues as they relate to gender. There may be times, when you will find your perceptions and beliefs, challenged and the conversations heated and uncomfortable. Try to keep an open mind and remember that these will be great opportunities for learning and personal growth. In addition, there will be times when class members will share very personal experiences, please respect their confidentiality and refrain from sharing their stories. Moreover, always show respect for the opinions and experiences of your classmates, and the instructor. Together we will work towards developing a classroom culture of trust and respect. To ensure that we have open discussions, where we can hear all opinions, we will abide by the rules set forth by Featherstone & Associates, please see the Spring 2011 *Assignments* handout for additional information.

Course Assignments

All assignments are mandatory, and must be completed on time and turned in at the beginning of the class. If you have any concerns regarding an assignment you must speak with me immediately. **Do not e-mail or leave assignments in my mailbox**, they will not be accepted. In order to be fair to all students, no late assignments will be accepted except for serious medical or family emergencies, which must be documented with a medical provider's note. Computer problems are not acceptable excuses for turning assignments in late. Plan to print your assignment out well in advance of the due date to avoid any last minute printing problems. It is your responsibility to keep a hard copy, as well as an electronic copy of all assignments. In this way any lost or misplaced assignments can be reproduced quickly.

Group Work

Throughout the semester you will work on several group projects. **All team members will receive the same grade for the assignment.** This is not negotiable. Team members will also evaluate each other's performance; and the overall grade will be largely informed by these peer evaluations. If the group encounters difficulties with a group member, the group should notify me immediately. Any member of the group can be "fired" if they are not fulfilling their obligations, and will receive an automatic "F" for the assignment.

I. Attendance and Class Participation (30 points)

- Preparation and involvement at each class meeting is vital to both your learning and the success of the course. Therefore, **attendance and class participation is mandatory!** Because unforeseen emergencies occur, you will be permitted **two (2) excused absence**, no questions asked. The remaining 30 class sessions will be worth one (1) point each. Students with **2 or more unexcused absences will be dropped from this class** at any time during the semester.
- **Missed Work:** If you are absent, it is your responsibility to contact a member of your group for information on the work you missed.
- **Attendance Sheet:** You must sign in at every class session. If you do not sign in you will forfeit your attendance points for that day. Anyone found signing in for another student will forfeit their attendance and participation points for that day.
- **Tardiness:** Two excused tardiness, **after that** you will forfeit your attendance and participation points whenever you are late.

II. Quizzes (200 points)

In order to assess your knowledge and comprehension of assigned readings there will be a quiz at the beginning of class whenever a new chapter is introduced. You will be given a study guide and permitted the use of one single sheet (8.5 x 11) of written or typed notes. There are **no make-up quizzes**.

III. Reflections (35 points)

You will be asked to engage in several reflection activities after viewing a film, or after important policy discussions. Because of the personal nature of these reflection exercises, your paper/project will only be graded on whether you completed the assignment, and answered the questions carefully and thoughtfully.

a) "F" Word: Many young women today appear to be reluctant or even afraid to identify themselves as feminist. For this assignment you will survey 4 young women on or off campus to learn why or why not they identify as feminist.

b) Ambivalent Sexism Inventory: The ASI was developed by Susan Fiske and Peter Glick, and it is designed to measure a person's sexist tendencies. For this assignment you are responsible for taking the inventory, and writing a one-page reflection essay.

c) Collage: Using magazine clippings, your group will create during class time a collage that depicts how women are portrayed in the media. Each student is responsible for bringing to class two of their favorite magazines, a glue stick and a pair of scissors. In addition, each group is responsible for bringing one large (approximately 22" x 28" x .05") white poster board.

IV. Oral History: Our Mother's Story (130 points)

This assignment has two components, an oral/written interview of your mother or surrogate mother, and a two-page reaction paper based on what you learned about your mother and your relationship with her. See Spring 2011 Assignment handout for additional information.

V. Sex, Aggression and Music Videos: A Content Analysis (35 points)

This assignment is a partial replication of a study conducted by Rita Sommers-Flanagan, John Sommers-Flanagan, and Britta Davis (1993). It is designed to examine power relationships and gender roles in today’s music videos. See Assignment handout.

VI. Service-Learning (240 points)

In this feminist psychology class, we will engage in the work of feminism, ACTIVISM. The purpose of this assignment is to empower you to work towards improving the human condition for girls and women in your community, on campus and globally. The assignment consist of 20-25 hours of service in an agency of your choice, EVC Women’s Center, or on the “Sex Trafficking: Modern Day Slavery” project; a reflection journal/essay; and a classroom PowerPoint presentation. See Assignment handout.

VII. Extra Credit (20-25 points)

A 1-2 page reaction paper based on your reading of *Half the Sky* by Nicolas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. You can earn an additional 5 points by attending The Women’s Herstory Celebration Book Discussion on March 31st in Gullo II from 12:30-1:30pm.

GRADING POLICY

Assignment		Points	Percentages
Attendance & Class Participation	30 classes @ 1 points each	30	4.5%
Quizzes	10 @2points each	200	30%
Reflections		35	5%
Oral History: Our Mother’s Story	1@ 130	130	19.5%
Group Project: Sex, Aggression, and Music Videos: A Content Analysis	1@ 35	35	5%
Service-Learning Project	1@240	240	36%
	Net Points	670	100.0%
Extra Credit	1@ 20-25		
Grand Total	Net Points + Bonus + Reflection		

Final grades will be based on the Grand Total according to the following scale:

Grand Total	Letter Grade & Cut off Point
670 - 603	A 90% >
602 - 536	B 80% >
535 - 469	C 70% >
468 - 402	D 60% >
401 - 0	F < 59%

Classroom Policies and Expectations

The policies set forth in this syllabus are intended to create a productive learning atmosphere for all students.

- If I am late in arriving to class, you must wait a full 15 minutes after the start of class before you may leave without being counted absent.
- Talking or texting during class is forbidden.
- All pagers and cell phones must be turned off during class. If you must be available for emergencies, place devices in silent mode and sit near the door so that you can leave quickly if necessary.
- **Computers:** Students are NOT permitted to use computers during class.
- **College Honesty Policy:** “Students are expected to write their own papers and to not copy from another student or author (**plagiarism**). Consequences of such actions may lead to reduction of a grade, suspension from class, course failure, or expulsion from the college.” **DON’T DO IT!** Plagiarism and cheating on exams or assignments will result in an **Automatic “F”** for the assignment.
- **Disability and Special Needs:** EVC adheres to a disability policy that is in keeping with Federal law. If you have learning or physical need that requires special accommodations, please inform me immediately, and contact the EVC Disability Support Program in the Student Services Building, room SC-120 or call (408) 270-6447.
- **Withdrawal:** “Students are responsible for dropping courses by published deadlines. You may drop a class by using STAR or MyWeb. Students may also drop classes in person in the Admissions Office. Failure to do so may result in non-passing grades.”

Withdrawal Deadlines Fall 2010

- **February 25, (Friday)** is the last day to drop a class and **NOT receive a “W”** on Permanent Record card.
- **April 28 (Friday)** LAST DAY TO DROP spring session classes and receive a “W” on record

NOTE: The Standards and requirements set forth in this syllabus may be modified at any time at the instructor’s discretion. Notice of any changes in schedule, examinations, the grading or attendance policies will be announced in class, and noted on Moodle.

The Truth Will Set you Free, But First, It Will Piss You Off ~Gloria Steinem

TO CALCULATE YOUR GRADE

Row	Assignment	Possible Points	Insert Your Points
1	Attendance & Class Participation - (# of classes attended max 30 @ 1 pts ea)	30	
2	Quiz # 1	20	
3	Quiz # 2	20	
4	Quiz # 3	20	
5	Quiz # 4	20	
6	Quiz # 5	20	
7	Quiz # 6	20	
8	Quiz # 7	20	
9	Quiz # 8	20	
10	Quiz # 9	20	
11	Quiz # 10	20	
12	Reflections	35	
13	Oral History/ Our Mother's Story	130	
14	Group Project: Sex, Aggression, and Music Videos: A Content Analysis	35	
15	Service-Learning Project	240	
16	<i>Add Rows 1-15</i> Total Possible Points	670	
17	1 Extra Credit Assignments	20-25	
<i>Add Rows 16 and 17 for Grand Total</i>			