

The Psychology of Gender

PSYC*3300

General Information

Course Title: The Psychology of Gender

Course Description:

In this course, psychological and social similarities and differences between the human sexes are examined. An attempt is made to understand the origins of these differences and similarities, whether they are due to socialization practices, biological factors, or cultural mores. In doing so, a survey of major theoretical approaches of the area, particularly as they have been applied to various topics of psychology of gender, is integrated in the course. In addition, an in-depth analysis of gender role stereotypes and their implications for the individual is presented.

Credit Weight: 0.5

Academic Department (or campus): Psychology

Semester Offering: Winter 2017

Class Schedule: Wednesdays 7:00-9:50

Class Location: Albert A. Thornbrough (THRN), room 1307

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Paula Barata

Instructor Email: pbarata@uoguelph.ca

Office location: Mackinnon Extension rm. 3017

Office hours: Wednesdays 3:30-5:30

GTA Information

For Inquiries about Discussion Question Submissions:

GTA Name: Sadie Goddard-Durant

GTA Email: goddards@uoguelph.ca

For Inquiries about Lead Notes and Discussion Submissions:

GTA Name: Ashna Jassi

GTA Email: ajassi@uoguelph.ca

Course Content

Specific Learning Outcomes:

- (1) Define and describe various principles, theories, and research findings related to gender and psychology
- (2) Explain how gender is constructed across different contexts.
- (3) Demonstrate ability to apply course material to broader psychological research and life experiences.
- (4) Demonstrate ability to analyze the impact of gender in men and women's lives across a variety of contexts.
- (5) Demonstrate ability to find, understand, and evaluate discourse (especially academic discourse) related to psychology and gender.
- (6) Demonstrate ability to communicate academic research clearly and succinctly.

Lecture Content:

Class meetings will consist of a mixture of lectures, small and large group discussions, and student poster presentations. Most classes will begin with a lecture on the weekly topic. This will be followed by small group discussions (in groups of 6-7). One or two students in each group will be asked to take primary responsibility for leading discussions. The class will also come together for a full class discussion.

As you can see, a large part of each class is discussion based. Discussions are a type of active learning and should help you absorb the material, see connections between readings, and explore controversy. It is therefore essential that you come to class prepared by carefully reading the assigned materials, answering the discussion questions and thinking through the issues. I will provide you with discussion questions (and sometimes extra readings or videos) before each class.

Week: Date	Lecture Content	Chapter
#1: Jan 11	Introduction to Psychology of Gender	1
	History of Sex and Gender	2
#2: Jan 18	Researching Sex and Gender	2
	Theories of Sex and Gender	5
#3: Jan 25	Gender Stereotypes (Grading for discussion questions begins)	3
	Miss Representation (video excerpts)	
#4: Feb 1	Poster session #1	1-5
	Intelligence and Cognitive Abilities	4
#5: Feb 8	Poster session #2	6
	Academic (Under) Achievement	6

Week: Date	Lecture Content	Chapter
#6: Feb 15	Mid-term	
	(Winter Break: Feb 20-24)	
#7: Mar 1	Poster session #3	10
	Physical health: Sex X Gender	10
#8: Mar 8	Poster session #4	13
	Mental Illness: Experience and Bias	13
#9: Mar 15	Emotional Expression	7
	The Mask You Live (video excerpts)	
#10: Mar 22	Poster session #5	9
	Sexuality: Arousal and Attitudes	9
#11: Mar 29	Poster session #6	11
	Intimate Relationships	11
#12: Apr 5	Sexual Violence	11
	The Price of Pleasure: Pornography, Sexuality and Relationships (video excerpts)	

Course Assignments and Tests:

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Mid-term exam	Feb. 25 th	20%	#1, #2, #4
Poster session	Various	15%	#5, #6
Poster evaluation	Various	10%	#4, #5
Answers to DQs	Starts Jan 25	20%	#1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6
Lead notes and Discussion	Starts Jan 25	10%	#1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6
Final exam	April 12 th 2:30PM - 04:30PM	25%	#1, #2, #4

Final examination date and time: April 12nd 2:30PM - 04:30PM

Final exam weighting: 25%

Final Examination regulations are detailed at:

[Examination Regulations](#)

Mid-term exam (20%) and final exam (25%)

The exams will consist of multiple-choice and short-answer questions. You are responsible for all assigned chapters in the text (even if the material was not covered in class), and all material presented in lectures. The mid-term will cover the material from the first 5 weeks. The final will be cumulative, but will have a heavier emphasis on the material covered after the mid-term.

Poster session (15%)

Students will work in pairs to answer a particular research question through a poster display and a short presentation.

Poster evaluation (10%)

Student will evaluate 4 posters during each of the 5 poster sessions in which they are not presenting their own poster. Each completed poster session evaluation form will be worth 2%. The evaluation forms will be posted on CourseLink.

Answers to Discussion Questions (DQs) (20%)

Students will submit answers to 8 of 9 posted DQ sets before each class. Four of these submissions will be randomly selected to be marked and will be worth 4 points each (16%). The remaining four will receive 1% each as long as they are complete (4%). Note that this allows you to miss one set of discussion questions without penalty. (Due before class begins: Wednesdays 6:59pm).

Lead Notes and Discussion (10%)

The class will be divided into 12 groups of 6-7 students. Each student will be responsible for leading the discussion in their group on 2 occasions (5% points each). When it is your turn to lead (or co-lead) the discussion, you will present a summary of the discussion to the class and submit notes from the discussion as well as one paragraph that highlights one or two points from the discussion. Your paragraph should demonstrate how your thinking about the topic was impacted by the discussion. (Due two days after class: Friday at 10pm)

Course Resources

Required Texts:

Helgeson, V. S. (2017). Psychology of Gender (5th ed). New York: Routledge.

Other Resources:

Discussion questions for each class, class slides, poster instructions, evaluation sheets, and extra readings and video links will be available on our CourseLink page.

Course Policies

Grading Policies

A grade of 0 will be assigned for non-completion of any assignment or examination when scheduled, except for documented medical or compassionate reasons (see Academic Consideration below).

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of the assignments (i.e., poster, poster evaluations, answers to discussion questions, etc.) as you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Course Policy on Group Work:

The group mark for the poster presentation is graded based on the final product (poster and presentation) and the same grade will be assigned to both students. If problems arise, you should first try to resolve them by clearly communicating the problem to each other and attempting a solution. If the issue persists, both of you should make an appointment to speak to the course instructor.

Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures:

Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

University Policies

Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for

Academic Consideration:

[Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions](#)

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of

detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

[Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible.

For more information, contact [SAS](#) at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email csd@uoguelph.ca or see the website: [Student Accessibility Services Website](#).

Course Evaluation Information

Please refer to the [Course and Instructor Evaluation Website](#) .

Drop date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is **March 10th**. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Academic Calendar:

[Current Undergraduate Calendar](#)