



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY
ALABAMA A & M UNIVERSITY

Course Number	COUN 527
Course Title	Human Sexuality and Development
Call Number/Section	
Class Times	
Class Location	
Textbook	What Every Mental Health Professional Needs to Know About Sex (2nd ed.) (2016) Buehler, S., Springer Publishing Company ISBN-13: 978-0826174444; ISBN-10: 0826174442
Instructor	
Office and Office Hours	
E-mail address	
Telephone number	

Course Description

The course is designed to provide an applied foundation for understanding human sexuality and development. Students will examine the dynamics of various situations and developmental fundamentals on how human sexuality develops through family, cultural and society influences.

Course Objectives/Knowledge and Skill Outcomes

1. Understanding and applying counseling approaches to address sexuality and relationship concerns.
2. Develop skills for reflecting and connecting clients' narratives to sexual transactions, sexual experiences, sexual attitudes, and sexual identities.
3. Gain insight to diverse sexual values and expression
4. Demonstrate the appropriate skills conduct sexual history interviews and ask personal questions in a professional manner.
5. Gain insight into students' own values, beliefs, and decision-making techniques when working with sex/relationship issues.

6. Gain an understanding of the physical, psychological, and social aspects of sexual development and functioning.
7. Gain knowledge in the evaluation and treatment of sexual problems and will know when and how to properly refer clients to appropriate clinical treatment.

Assignments

1. Sexual values interviews

You may choose a partner from the class or outside of the class (a spouse, friend, family member, etc.) with which to conduct these interviews. All participants should be over the age of 18 and able to provide consent to be interviewed as adults about their sexuality. To maintain privacy, do not identify your partner by name or any other identifying features including the nature of your relationship to them.

Each week, you will conduct an interview session with the same partner covering a particular topic related to sexuality values (an interview guide will be provided). Sessions should be about 30 minutes each and aim for depth of understanding rather than surface level Q&A – this means you need to use your counseling skills to a) make your participant comfortable and able to disclose, as well as b) “dig deeper,” and follow up your participants’ responses with additional probing questions. You may record interviews (with consent) for your own reference, but you do not need to turn in recordings.

You will submit a 1–2-page summary paper each week describing what you learned about your participant. You should use a pseudonym to identify your participant (e.g. “John or Jane Doe” instead of their real name) in your weekly and final reports.

2. Sexuality Presentation

The final report you submit will be a reflection paper (aim for 6-8 pages) describing your experience of interviewing your participant. More information on what to specifically include in the final paper will be posted on Blackboard.

You will select a topic from a list or provide one of your own (pending approval) to create an informative video presentation. This is a 3-part assignment:

1. Literature review: Presentations should include at least five academic references (articles from reputable academic research journals – stay off Google and USE THE LIBRARY). For each reference provide a) an APA formatted citation, b) the article abstract, and c) your thoughts about the article (about a paragraph or two). (20 Points)
2. Presentations will take the form of video recordings uploaded to Canvas (or accessible through a *working* link that can be viewed in the Firefox web-browser, posted in the indicated discussion thread). In the video, be sure to incorporate visual aspects – at the very least you can include a power point with the share-screen option in zoom. For those of you a little more savvy in video production, feel free to get creative. (60 points)

3. Final Exam

The final exam in this course will consist of two parts, a) a multiple-choice test covering the entire course, and b) a short answer section.

Grading Procedure

Assignment	Points
Sexual Values Interviews (10 pts each)	150
Sexuality Presentation	300
Final Exam	150
Total	600

Points range	Grade	Percentage
538-600	A	90%-100%
478-537	B	80% - 89%
417-477	C	70% - 79%
357-416	D	60% - 69%
0- 356	F	0% - 59%

Course Policies

ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are due on the date specified. Late work will not be accepted unless approved in advance.

GUIDELINES

This syllabus represents a contract between the student and the instructor for this course. The syllabus delineates essential details about the course, course content, and performance. As the instructor, I reserve the right to modify assignment structure, re-arrange topic discussion, and to make as needed changes to the course. Students will always be notified in advance of said changes in writing, via email and/or blackboard. Additionally, a student is officially enrolled in this course until the university procedure for withdrawal from the course has been executed. Some of the materials in this course are possibly copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and only for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of the course. They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further. They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the Teach Act.

LIBRARY SUPPORT

The Libraries at Alabama A&M provide access to materials and services that support the academic programs. The Alabama A&M University Library Website is <http://www.aamu.edu>. This site provides access to the resources to all campus libraries.

REMEDICATION

Faculty in the College of Education expect all candidates to be proficient in the areas of spoken and written communication. Consequently, the course instructor reserves the right to recommend remediation for any candidate who oral and written communication skills are considered unsatisfactory. This remediation might include an objective diagnostic writing evaluation or additional course work, not for punitive measures, but to improve students' knowledge and comprehension in this course.

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The University provides environmental and programmatic access for persons with documented disabilities as defined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disability Act of 1990. Any student who desires information or assistance in arranging needed services for a disabling condition should contact the Director of Special Students Services, Student Center, Room 203, 256-372-4263.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The attendance policy complies with the Alabama A & M University guidelines. A graduate student is permitted **one** (1) unexcused absence for each credit hour generated by the class. Two absences will lower your grade by one grade; this holds true for subsequent absences. Students are expected to attend all classes. This instructor does not have to be contacted in the event of your absence, except in the event of extended absences. Students are allowed one unexcused absence. **Two absences = 1 letter grade lower; Three absences = failure of course.**

ETHICS STATEMENT

All acts of dishonesty in any work constitute academic misconduct that could result in a failing grade for the class or expulsion from the Program/University. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication of information. Students who commit acts of academic dishonesty will be immediately referred to the Department's Academic Standards Committee for adjudication, which could result in expulsion from the Program and from the University. Resource: the AAMU, Office of Academic Affairs, Academic Policies and Procedures Manual, most recent revision.

CLASSROOM DECORUM

It is expected that students will take responsibility for their own education and will help to create an environment conducive to learning. Additionally, each classroom should be embraced as a professional experience. Cell phones will be turned off or placed on the silent mode during class. Disregarding this request will lower your grade by one letter grade. Appropriate attire is required.

Laptops may be used in class but are only to be utilized for class related activities (e.g., taking notes). If it becomes apparent you are using the computer for non-class activities (e.g., checking your email, playing games) then you may be asked to turn off your computer and refrain from

bringing it into class in the future. Laptop use is restricted to the back or sides of the classroom so that other students are not distracted during lecture.

Students who violate the Student Code of Conduct will be referred to the Department's Academic Standards Committee. The Psychology & Counseling Master's Program adhere to the code of ethics that govern our profession: ACA, <http://www.counseling.org/knowledge-center/ethics>; and the NCC, <http://www.nbcc.org/assets/ethics/nbcc-codeofethics.pdf>.

IRB COMPLIANCE

Should this course implement a research/evaluation project, no stage of the research project for this course is to begin prior to the student, course instructor, a student advisor receiving a stamped copy of the IRB Approval Form. Initiating any stage of research/evaluation prior to approval is a direct ethical and academic violation and will result in failing the course. Students may request additional information about IRB requirements from the Office of Research Grant and Support.

COURSE EVALUATION

Alabama A&M University is committed to professional growth and development for each faculty member as well as to enhance course development. To assist in this process, students are asking to complete an online faculty evaluation at the end of each academic course. Individual Responses are not shared with the faculty member, only a summative report of students' responses.

DISCRIMINATION/HARRASSMENT

Alabama A&M University is committed to providing a workplace and educational environment, programs, and activities free of discrimination and harassment. This policy does not allow curtailment or censorship of constitutionally protected expression. This procedure applies to present and former employees of the University, students, applicants for admission or employment, and participants in University programs or activities (includes customers for services, vendors, contractors, and volunteers). A complaint may be filed with the Office of Human Resources (HR) by any present or former employee of the University, student, applicant for admission or employment, or participant in a University program or activity, who believes (s)he has been discriminated against or harassed in violation of this Policy. Any such complaint must be filed within 300 calendar days of the incident. The Complaint Form can be found at: <http://www.aamu.edu/administrativeoffices/hrservices/Documents/Complaint%20Form.pdf>

Tentative Schedule

Weeks/Dates	Topics	Assignments
Week 1	Syllabus Chapter 2: Comfort with Sexuality	
Week 2	Chapter 3: Anatomy Chapter 4: Evolution of the Field.	

Week 3	Chapter 5 Assessment	Sexual Values Summary due
Week 4	Chapter 6: Women's Issues	Sexual Values Summary due
Week 5	Chapter 7: Men's Issues	Sexual Values Summary due
Week 6	Chapter 8: Relationships and Sex Therapy	Sexual Values Summary due
Week 7	Chapter 9: Parents' Questions Chapter 14: Reproduction	Sexual Values Summary due
Week 8	Chapter 10: Sexual Minorities Chapter 18: Alternative Sex Practices	Sexual Values Summary due
Week 9	Chapter 11: Mental Health Chapter 12: Trauma	Sexual Values Summary due
Week 10	Chapter 13: Painful Sex Chapter 15: Medical Issues Chapter 16: STIs	Sexual Values Summary due
Week 11	Chapter 17: Aging	Sexual Values Summary due
Week 12	Chapter 19: Out of Control Sexuality Chapter 21: Sex Therapy, now and future	Sexual Values Summary due
Week 13	Sexuality Presentations	Sexuality Presentations due
Week 14	Sexuality Presentations	
Week 15	Sexuality Presentations	
Week 16		Final Exam