Verbiage found on this syllabus applies to both learning environments (online and campus). Access to the website begins on September 5, 2012 and will end on December 22, 2012. There are no on campus requirements unless you experience technological difficulties that prevent successful completion of the class. In this case, you will be required to use a campus computer center.

Instructor:

Dr. T. Smith-Bryant

Office:

North Pavilion, Suite 232, Room 224

Office hours:

Wednesdays 11:00am – 2:00pm or by appointment (strongly recommended)

E-mail:

Use the e-mail system within the Blackboard class-site

Required texts:


It is strongly suggested that you do not order your textbooks from online resources. Extensions are not granted due to textbook delivery delays.

Course description:

An introduction to the study of the psychology of human sexuality including the study of human sexual behavior, sexual attitudes, sexual motivation, sex roles, relation between sexual behavior and attitudes and personality characteristics, sexual variance, sexual problems, etc. (BSSD)

PREREQUISITE: A grade of C or better in PY 102, or consent of department. Three hours each week.

Course objectives:

- Develop an understanding of the role of sexuality in life
- Acquire knowledge of sexuality and the psychological, sociological and cultural influences upon it
- Abandon misconceptions about human sexuality
Course suggestions:

- **REO! Read, Early and Often!!!** Read assigned material and be ready to discuss the reading assignments before class. **REO** will be very helpful to your success in this course since classes will not always follow the textbook.

- Study groups are very helpful in mastering the materials required by this course.

- You may find the Social Science Computer Center (SSCC) beneficial. The SSCC is located in the Commons Building, Room 110, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus.

- It is strongly recommended that students maintain a folder/binder that holds copies of ALL course documents and class work. Make sure that you keep a copy of all electronic assignments. Make sure that you download a copy of your grades (grade sheet/excel format), the graded assignments, discussions and examinations.

- It is suggested that students complete written assignments offline, then copy and paste all required components to the course-site online.

- Students must contact me immediately after missing any required, graded components of the class. For example, contact the instructor immediately after missing any exams, assignments, and discussions. It is your responsibility to communicate difficulties as soon as they begin.

Disability support services:

A letter from Disability Support Services (R-CB122; G-SA175; or TP-ST120) authorizing your accommodations will be needed. Please request a PDF copy of your accommodation letter from your counselor, if one is not provided, so that you may send it directly to me through e-mail. Any student who may need assistance in the event of an emergency evacuation must identify to the Disability Support Services Office; guidelines for emergency evacuations for individuals with disabilities are found at [www.montgomerycollege.edu/dss/evacprocedures.htm](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/dss/evacprocedures.htm).

Combat2College:

If you are a veteran or on active or reserve status and you are interested in information regarding opportunities, programs and/or services, please visit the Combat2College website at [www.montgomerycollege.edu/combat2college](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/combat2college) and/or contact Joanna Starling at 240-567-7103 or Joanna.starling@montgomerycollege.edu.

Class decorum:

- Profanity is strictly prohibited as well as lewd and obscene expressions. Students are expected to participate in course discussions.

- All comments and opinions are to be respected. No banter, teasing or mockery will be tolerated.

- Refer to Montgomery College’s student handbook.
Use Standard English (punctuation and grammar) in all communications.

**Electronic mail:**

Electronic mail (e-mail) is an asynchronous tool used to transmit electronic messages. Student e-mail at Montgomery College is an official means of communication for the College. It is expected that you check your student e-mail regularly and frequently, as you are responsible for information and announcements that will be sent to you from the College. In this online class, you are required to use the internal e-mail system provided through the course-site on Blackboard. If you are experiencing technical challenges that prevent you from accessing Blackboard, you may contact me at tracey.smith-bryant@montgomerycollege.edu. If you contact me through e-mail (tracey.smith-bryant@montgomerycollege.edu), please write the course title and section number in the subject line. Please allow two business days for a response.

**Announcements:**

Announcements are broadcast messages intended for the entire class and are used to disseminate essential information pertaining to the class. Online class announcements are an important aspect of the class. Therefore, you are expected to check for new announcements daily.

**Technical support:**

For all general distance education related questions, contact the Office of Distance Education and Learning Technologies at 240-567-6000 or dl@montgomerycollege.edu.

For all Blackboard and MyMC related questions and issues (especially technical challenges), contact the IT Service Desk at 240-567-7222 or ITServiceDesk@montgomerycollege.edu or Blackboard Online Support Center at http://d2.parature.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8167.

Please do not go to MC libraries, campus computer centers, student support centers or department offices to resolve technical challenges. You must contact the MC IT Service Help Desk.

**Grading and student assessment:**

- The final grade is based on the average of your earned scores from examinations and discussions total.
- All requirements are equally valued at 100 percent/points. You can refer to the following scaled used to assign grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 - 100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Superior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 - 89</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Good (Above Average)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 - 79</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 - 69</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Pass without Recommendation (Below Average)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 - 59</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Blackboard grade book is not used to determine the final grade in the class. It is for this reason you are not to use the Blackboard grade book to determine your standing in the class. The Blackboard grade book is used to record and store scores not to calculate the class grade.

You may receive your final grade on MyMC at https://mymcprod.montgomerycollege.edu/cp/home/displaylogin.

Incomplete grades are given to students who have completed and passed (minimally C/70 overall grade average) all of the work until toward the end of the semester (80% of the class/twelve weeks semester/four weeks summer) when tragic circumstances (hospitalization or parent(s) death) occur, which prevent the student from completing the remaining tasks for the course. Under extreme/tragic circumstances, complete documentation must be provided. An incomplete grade is given at my discretion and is based on an individual/case by case criteria. It is expected that the student communicates with the professor as soon as difficulties begin.

“The Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. § 552a (2000), which has been in effect since September 27, 1975, clearly states that no agency shall disclose any record which is contained in a system of records by any means of communication to any person, or to another agency, except pursuant to a written request by, or with the prior written consent of, the individual to whom the record pertains ….” 5 U.S.C. § 552a (b).” Therefore, the professor will only discuss the grade(s) with the student enrolled in the course.

Examinations:

- There are five exams culminating with the “final” exam delivered online. Content of the examinations will come from the reading assignments. Although exams are delivered online, you are expected to complete each exam without assistance (no notes, books, outlines, classmates, et cetera).

- Each exam will be released on the established date(s) for the designated time period. Students must complete and submit each exam during the allotted time.

- Before you sign on to take an exam, be sure that you have, at least, one hour of uninterrupted service. If your service provider is unreliable, be sure to take all exams at a computer center on campus. Do not go to the Assessment/Testing Center unless you have scheduled an appointment. Do not attempt to take exams using a cell/mobile phone, smartphone, electronic reader, ipod/iphone/ipad or any electronic device that can connect wirelessly (wi-fi). It is strongly suggested that you complete the exam using a computer that has a hard-wire connection to the internet. Concerns have been identified with Blackboard while using Internet Explorer. Staffers suggest that you use Google Chrome, Firefox or Safari. Verify the browser before signing onto Blackboard no matter where you take the exam. If you are unsure of your internet connectivity, go to a computer center on one of the three campuses. If you go to the library, MC or public, confirm that you will have one uninterrupted hour of connection before
entering the exam. Use the Blackboard practice test to check and verify that your computer/laptop browser settings can work with Blackboard assessment function.

- Do not enter through the MyMC Portal to take the exam. Go directly to Blackboard at https://bb-montgomerycollege.blackboard.com/

- Here are additional precautions listed by Blackboard:
  - Make sure there is only one Blackboard session open at a time. In other words, do not have one window open while you are taking an exam and another open for course navigation. The multiple logins may cause an error.
  - If possible please have only the browser window where you are taking the exam open. Closing all others unrelated browser windows will give you the best chance of completing your assessment without errors.
  - While you are taking your exam you should also close any other programs or applications that are not essential for completely your exam (e.g. RealPlayer, MusicMatch, Adobe Photoshop, QuickTime, Microsoft Outlook, MSN Messenger etc.)
  - If you have a firewall and or anti-virus software installed on your system, you may want to disable it functions while you are taking the assessment only.
  - Please do not press the “Backspace” (or the “Enter”) button on your keyboard or click the "Back" button on your browser during your assessment.
  - Do not “refresh” your screen or browser. Do not use any buttons on your keypad that will complete that “refresh” action.

- Familiarize yourself with the stipulations associated with all exams!
  - You have ONE attempt at the exam, you cannot enter then exit and RE-ENTER the exam. Questions will appear. You have one-hour to answer all of the questions. The clock starts when you first access the exam. You will not be able to submit answers after the time has expired. SAVE AFTER EVERY QUESTION! You will have access to the exam between 12:00am - 11:00pm on the scheduled day(s) of the exam. The exam function terminates at 11:00pm, regardless of when you start. In many cases, you will receive your score after you have submitted the exam. Academic dishonesty (cheating) will not be tolerated.

- You are expected to take each exam at the scheduled time. When you miss an exam due to a serious and unavoidable circumstance, you may, at my discretion, be permitted to take another exam. All make-up exams are completed in the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Assessment/Testing Center. The assessment center is located in the Student Services Building, Room 323 and may be contacted at 240-567-1555.
• All make-up exams are presented in a short-answer format and do not contain the same number of questions regardless of the circumstances under which the exams were missed. Additionally, exams are taken in paper format, not computerized.
• If you have not made prior arrangements, you must contact me within two days following the missed exam to discuss the possibility of a make-up exam. You will NOT be permitted to make-up more than one exam without a confirmed physician’s note.
• There are no make-up tests for the final exam.

Assignments:
• You will notice that the assignments link is active with available assignments. These assignments are not graded. They are provided to assist the student in developing a study schedule. Additionally, you may use the assignments as a tool to learn the material.

Discussion board:
• The discussion board topics are worth 25 points each (totaling to 100 points). The discussion board is an asynchronous tool used to parallel on-campus, face to face discussions. You may discuss your ideas, beliefs and opinions with your classmates. The discussion topics are provided as a starting point for discussion between classmates in the form of essays. Discussions allow you to explore psychological topics on a deeper level. Plagiarism will not be tolerated.
• You have a limited amount of time to respond to each posting. You will not receive credit by responding to the discussion board at the end of the semester, late postings, or for a “compiled response”.
• Your postings must reflect original thoughts and ideas. Therefore, you may not plagiarize the content of other discussion board postings. Plagiarism is a serious offense. The first time you are caught, you will fail the assignment. The second time you will be reprimanded according to the Montgomery College’s student code of conduct and reported to the Dean of Students.
• All researched material must be documented using APA style formatting. Wikipedia may not be used as a resource.
• The minimum word requirement is 1000 for all essays unless otherwise requested. The word count only applies to the essay. It does not include introductions, salutations, headings, long quotes, references, or footnotes.
• Your discussion board responses must be in essay format. Essential elements of an essay are introductory, body and conclusive paragraphs. All students are expected to adhere to the rules of English governing grammar and punctuation. No emoticons, text messaging, profanity or colloquial language permitted.
• The discussion response may not be submitted as an attachment.
The following deductions may be taken from discussion board responses:

- Below word count – percentage below taken as deduction
- Late: one day late -5 points; two days late -10 points; three days late -15 points, four days late -20 points, five days late -24 points. Please remember that the time of the submission is not used to determine the deduction(s). To ensure that your assignment is dated properly, do not attempt to submit an assignment at 11:55pm or later.
- Deductions are taken for missing elements/sections of the assignment -5 points.

How to reply to discussion posts

Note: You can reply to published threads, but cannot reply to locked or hidden threads.

1. On the Course Menu, click Discussions.
2. On the Discussion Board page, click the name of the forum.
3. On the Forum page, click the name of the thread.
4. On the Thread Detail page, click a post's title. The post appears in the Current Post portion of the content frame. You can view the text of the post and information about the post, such as the Author and Posted Date.
5. Click Reply. Alternatively, click Quote to include the post's text as part of your reply.
6. On the Reply to Post page, click View Original Post on the Action Bar to include the original message on the page while replying. Click Close Original Post to hide the original post from view. If needed, edit the Subject.
7. In the Message text box, type your reply. You can use the Text Editor functions to format the text and add files, images, web links, multimedia, and Mashups.
8. Alternatively, under Attachments, attach a file using one of the following options:
   - To upload a file from your computer, click Browse My Computer.
   - If your school licenses content management, click Browse Content Collection.
9. Click Save Draft to store a draft of the post or click Submit to post the reply. After submitting, you cannot edit or delete your post unless your instructor has enabled those features for the forum. If enabled, Edit or Delete appear next to Reply when viewing your post.
Result

Your reply appears on the Thread Detail page, indented under the parent post. If you attached a file, a paper clip icon appears in the post's row. Click the title to open the post in the Current Post portion of the content frame. Use the Move to previous and Move to next arrows to view another post or use the breadcrumbs to return to the forum or the Discussion Board page.

Academic dishonesty:

The following is an excerpt from Montgomery College’s Student Code of Conduct:

I. Academic Dishonesty. The maintenance of the highest standards of intellectual honesty is the concern of every student, faculty and staff member at Montgomery College. The College is committed to imposing appropriate sanctions for breaches of academic dishonesty. The list below is not all-inclusive of prohibited behavior. Nothing in this section precludes an academic department from issuing supplemental guidelines giving examples of plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty and academic misconduct, which are pertinent to the subject matter of the class.

A. Academic Dishonesty or Misconduct can occur in many ways. Some common forms include:

A.1 Cheating on assignments or examinations
A.2 Plagiarizing from written, video, or Internet resources
A.3 Using tests or other material without permission
A.4 Forgery
A.5 Submitting materials that are not the student’s own
A.6 Taking examinations in the place of another student, including assessment tests
A.7 Assisting others in committing academic dishonesty
A.8 Failing to use quotation marks for directly quoted material unless using block quotes or other accepted formats.
A.9 Copying from another student during an examination

- When academic dishonesty is discovered, a zero will be applied to the assignment, discussion or exam. This is the minimum sanction provided by the student code of conduct. If additional acts of academic dishonesty occur, a student may fail the entire class.

Extra credit:

Extra credit opportunities and assignments may be given during the course of the semester. As a rule, do not count on extra credit for passing the class. Extra credit points accumulate throughout the semester and are added to your lowest test score (this does not include make-up tests) at the end of the semester.
prior to the calculation of the final grade. I DO NOT GIVE UNFAIR ADVANTAGE TO INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS BY SELECTIVELY ALLOWING EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES.

Please note: this syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate instructional and/or students’ needs. It is the sole responsibility of the student to conform and maintain an updated course syllabus.

Class schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks 1 - 4</th>
<th>Perspectives on Sexuality</th>
<th>Chapter 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sex Research: Methods and Problems</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gender Issues</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination 1 (Chapters 1, 2 and 3)</td>
<td>September 27 – 29, 2012</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion 1</td>
<td>October 1, 2012</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Weeks 4 - 7</td>
<td>Female Sexual Anatomy and Physiology</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male Sexual Anatomy and Physiology</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sexual Arousal and Response</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination 2 (Chapters 4, 5 and 6)</td>
<td>October 18 – 20, 2012</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion 2</td>
<td>October 22, 2012</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Weeks 7 - 10</td>
<td>Love and Communication in Intimate Relationships</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sexual Behaviors</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sexual Orientations</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination 3 (Chapters 7, 8 and 9)</td>
<td>November 1 – 3, 2012</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion 3</td>
<td>November 5, 2012</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Weeks 10 - 13</td>
<td>Contraception</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sexuality During Childhood and Adolescence</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sexuality and the Adult Years</td>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination 4 (Chapters 10, 12 and 13)</td>
<td>November 29 – December 1, 2012</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion 4</td>
<td>December 3, 2012</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Weeks 13 - 15</td>
<td>Sexual Difficulties and Solutions</td>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Atypical Sexual Behavior</td>
<td>Chapter 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sexual Coercion</td>
<td>Chapter 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination 5 (Chapters 14, 16 and 17)</td>
<td>December 15 – 17, 2012</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

✓ Note, chapters are not sequential so you must follow the syllabus
✓ Due dates are subject to change
✓ Last updated: August 31, 2012