Instructor: Dr. Jahna Ashlyn, Office Hours: Life Sciences 118-D, W 6-6:50 pm
Email: jashlyn@csusm.edu Phone Message: 594-5359 (psych dept. office)
Course Website: Blackboard, (syllabus, lecture outlines, objectives, exam scores)
Required Text: *Our Sexuality* (11th Ed.) Crooks & Baur (you need the latest edition; it will not be on reserve)
Also Required: Four Red & White F-289-PAR-L ParScore test forms (kiosks near cashiers @ bookstore); try not to crease/curl (No Bluebooks needed)
Optional: Study Guide for *Our Sexuality* (11th Ed.), Crooks & Baur “Clickers” If you own one already, bring it to class, register via Blackboard. It is optional. MAY be used periodically; beginning mid semester. Not used for attendance or assignments/exams.

Course Description: Examines physical, intrapsychic, and interpersonal aspects of sexuality; also anatomical, physiological, and emotional aspects, love and attraction, sexual dysfunction treatment, sexually transmitted diseases, sex and aging, legal aspects of sexual behavior, sexual exploitation, and eroticism in American culture. Presentations will be frank and explicit. Guest/panel attendance and/or video viewing are not mandatory, but you may be tested on it.

Course Objectives: This course is primarily a lecture course. It takes the biological, social, and psychological approaches to understanding human sexuality. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to identify the strengths and shortcomings of each of the theoretical perspectives within each of these topics: historical and cultural influences on sexuality, gender differences, anatomy and reproduction, contraception, sexual response and behavior, communication, attraction/orientation, sexual difficulties and enhancement, and typical as well as atypical sexual styles and behaviors. You should also know how each of the approaches complement each other.

Exams/Grading: There will be three non comprehensive midterms, plus a comprehensive final exam (with all new questions, equally emphasizing all topics/chapters; see schedule below for exam dates). Each exam, including the final, are closed-note, closed-book, consist of 40 multiple choice questions, and require Red & White F-289-PAR-L ParScore test forms (and only those types). Each exam, including the final is worth 1/3 of your overall grade (no, there is no “class participation” part of your grade). If you take all four exams your lowest test score, including that of the final exam, can be dropped. Important: Although you will find out your midterm 3 score and curved grade/percent before taking the final exam, the curve changes following the final exam whether you take the final exam or not because the overall curve used to assign course grades is based on the “best of three” exams scores, i.e., after the lowest score is tossed out (for those who took all four exams). So, if you decide not to take the final and use that as the grade that is dropped, it is at your own risk. The curve could change as much as a few percentage points (that’s not just a worse-case scenario).

If you miss an exam, you do not get to throw out an exam – no exceptions. NOTE: That does not mean that you need to come to the exam and turn in a test form if you want your instructor to throw out a particular exam – just don’t show up (midterm, final, whichever); and, you don’t need to email her to let her know which exam to throw out (she will know – it will either be the lowest one if you took all four, or the one you missed if you just take three). If you miss two midterms, your instructor will make your final exam worth 2/3 of your total course grade.

Bring an extra test form (for big mistakes!), #2 pencils and a good clean eraser. None of these will be provided. Always include your full last name (the one you used when you enrolled) on everything you turn in, for subject put psy 355, bubble in your student (SDSU) ID, and once you get your exam questions find your exam version (at the top of the first page) and bubble that in on your test form (where it says ‘Test form’) also. Leave ‘Exam Number’ blank. You do not need to write (or bubble in) your ID number on your test form or question sheet. Cheating, in any form, will not be tolerated: the dean’s office will be notified, you will fail the class.

Don’t Be Late: If you arrive after the first student has finished/left, you will not be able to take the exam, no exceptions. Makeup Exams. No makeup exams (midterms or final) will be given for any reason (even emergencies); nor will exams be given earlier or later than the date/times scheduled for the rest of the class. Please do not ask. If you miss one exam, that can be the one you drop. If you miss two MIDTERMS your final exam will be worth 2/3 of your overall grade. If you miss one (or more) midterms AND the final exam, you are out of luck.

Also note that, it is not possible to simply take an incomplete to avoid getting a bad grade. Incompletes are for
assignments (not exams) or projects that are not finished on time.
If you are having a difficult semester (personal/family/work/social/health issues), you should consult an advisor (dean’s office) about petitioning for a late withdrawal (note however, that they have pretty strict policies about this). But, this is not something that your instructor deals with for you. Other than throwing out an exam there are no extra credit or "make-up papers/projects".

**Special Needs Accommodation/Testing** students are encouraged to contact Disabled Student Services.

Grading is on a very “friendly” curve. If you get 90% of the “class unit” you will get an A. The class unit is the average of the top 10% of the scores in the class: If there are 40 students -- the average of the top 4 scores. If you get between 80-89% you get a B, 70-79% a C, 60-69% a D, and <60 an F; ‘+’ and ‘−’ are given for x7-x9 and x0-x2 respectively. So, everyone can get an A, and no one has to get a poor grade. Your instructor will do all the calculations for you and post the scores on the course web according to your special ID if you sign a waiver on the first exam. The default special ID is the last five digits of your student ID number, but you can make up a new five digit ID next to the waiver signature. If you do not sign the waiver you can find out your score at the end of the next class meeting.

**Grades are not negotiable**: Do not ask your instructor to change your grade. It is against university policy for an instructor to change a student’s grade after it has been submitted (regardless of experiences you may have had with other instructors/professors at SDSU or elsewhere). **Course grades are based entirely on exam performance, please do not ask your instructor to consider anything else when determining your grade.**

**Material Covered on the Exams.** Most but not all of the material on the exams is in the text. You are responsible for all material covered in lecture including videotapes and examples via class discussion. Objectives for each exam including the final, are available for download from the course webpage. **Some exam questions (very few) may not have been referenced in the objectives**. The final is all new questions and emphasizes all topics/chapters equally. Your instructor cannot email or print out and give these supplements to you. **Course outlines**, which are close to but not exactly the same as your instructor’s Power Point slides (you are responsible for any differences) are available from the course webpage.

**Returning Exams**: The test forms and test questions will not be returned to you. You can look at a copy of the test after the class meeting only in office hours, but you will not be allowed to keep or copy (by Xerox or by hand) an exam.

**Attendance**: Your instructor does not take attendance (so no, attendance is not part of your course grade).

**In-class decorum** (not to be insulting, but some people have no clue): Please, be diligent about turning off noisemakers (cell phones, pagers, etc.). Once class time begins, your instructor needs to get lecture started, so please reserve individualized questions for office hours.

**Office Hours/Email/Messages**, if you have questions that you don't want to ask during class, you may ask the instructor during office hours (top of previous page). The office hours listed at the top of the first page are the only hours available for your instructor to meet with you this semester.

Regarding email, because it is such a large class: **Please read your syllabus and look on Blackboard for announcements before sending email questions to your instructor/TA.** In a class this size, emails asking questions that are already stated in the syllabus or in Blackboard announcement(s) will have such low priority that they may not get a reply. Also, because so many class resources are provided (e.g., outlines, objectives) some students get the idea that they don’t need to go to class and just show up for exams. Those students tend to do a lot of emailing right before exams asking to be “caught up on things” via email. This is just not possible with a class this size. If you are not going to go to class, you should find a classmate you can get lecture notes from. Because of past issues with mass emailing, the Blackboard feature allowing students to email each other will not be enabled for this class. Ditto, the Blackboard ‘Discussion Board’ feature (not enabled) – too many complaints in the past about students who don’t attend class asking other students for completely filled-out objectives near exam time.

**Below is the Course Schedule.** The material will be covered in this order and the Exam dates are definite. Each exam will focus on the material covered in lecture, including all slides and videotape segments, any guest speakers, presented since the last exam (from the beginning of the course for the first exam) up to and including the lecture prior to the first midterm; and all chapters/readings related to the topics covered in lecture during that time frame. If a chapter appears in the schedule below without specific page numbers, it means read the entire chapter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPROXIMATE SCHEDULE*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sept 15  Sex and Gender, Ch. 5
Sept 22  Physiology/Anatomy: Females, Ch. 3
Sept 29 (~8:00 Exam)  1st half: Physiology/Anatomy: Males, Ch. 4; 2nd half: MIDTERM 1, DON'T BE LATE! Covers Intro – Female Anatomy and Gender, Ch’s 1-3, 5
Oct  6  finish Physiology/Anatomy: Males, Ch. 5; beg Sexual Arousal, Ch. 6
Oct 13  Finish Sexual Arousal, Ch. 6; beg Communication, Ch. 7
Oct 20  Finish Communication, Ch. 7; beg Sexual Behavior, Ch. 8
Oct 27  cont Sexual Behavior, Ch. 8; Beg. Ch. 14, Sexual Difficulties & Treatment of Sexual Difficulties
Nov  3 (~8:00 Exam)  Finish Ch. 14, Sexual Difficulties & Treatment of Sexual Difficulties; 2nd half: MIDTERM 2, DON'T BE LATE! covers Male Anatomy – Sexual Difficulties, Ch’s 4, 6, 7, 8, 14 (first part: “Sexual Difficulties & Origins”)
Nov 10  Sexual Orientation, Ch. 9
Nov 17  Birth Control, Ch. 10
Nov 24  Class Does Not Meet!! (Night before Thanksgiving) BUT, Read: Pregnancy and Birth, Ch. 11 on your own (ask questions next week)
Dec  1  Atypical Sexual Behavior, Ch 16
Dec  8 7 pm  Midterm  3, DON'T BE LATE!  Covers Enhancement/Treatment – Atypical Sexual Behavior, Ch’s 9, 10, 11, 14 (Enhancement/Treatment portion)
Dec 15, Wednesday, 7 pm, Final  Exam is Comprehensive: covers all topics/chapters; equal emphasis on all sections; same length, format, level of detail as midterms; all new questions. Don't be Late!!

~ = approximately, if it starts earlier, you are responsible for being there.
* In case of campus closure, cover material (reading) as scheduled. A missed exam will be given the next time class meets. If the first meeting back after closure is a scheduled exam date, the exam will be given as scheduled.

Safety Issues, State Budget, Large Class Issues

Safety Issues
To be prepared for emergencies, each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the evacuation plan specific to each classroom. The evacuation plan is posted within each classroom and should be examined on the first day of class.

Important Information about the current State Budget and its effects on the California State University System

To avoid faculty and staff furloughs at SDSU in the future, you may want to consider contacting your legislators in Sacramento so that they better understand how cutting the state budget for higher education affects your education and your future.

Because of the current state budget cuts, larger classes are more common (and even larger than usual), even upper division courses. With a large class size there are special issues. Sheer logistics make it impossible for students to get as much personal attention as you would with a smaller class.

Communication is another special issue with large classes, Please read your syllabus and look on Blackboard for announcements before sending email questions to your instructor/TA’s.