

ANTH 331.01 Fall 2013

ANTHROPOLOGY OF SEX AND GENDER

Time: MWF 15:00 – 15:50

Location: SB 103

Instructor: Dr. Lisa Corewyn

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Required Text:

Brettell, C.B., & Sargent, C.F. (eds.). 2012. *Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective*, 6th edition. Pearson-Prentice Hall: New Jersey. Referred to as *GCCP* in course outline schedule.

Online Readings:

Additional readings from the book “Sexual Selections” will be required and are indicated in the tentative schedule of the course outline. You do not need to purchase this book from the bookstore as it is available as an e-book through the University of Calgary’s Library.

Zuk, M. 2002. *Sexual Selections*. University of California Press: California. Referred to as *SS* in course outline schedule.

Course Description:

This course examines anthropological approaches to the study of sex (the genetic distinction between male and female), and gender (the socially and culturally constructed ideas about what it means to be male and female). We first focus on the sex differences between males and females, and will include discussions of evolutionary theory (e.g., sexual selection), primatology, and human origins research. For the remainder of the course, we examine masculine and feminine gender constructions through discussions of motherhood and fatherhood, gender differences in the public and private domain, the controversy over gender differences in learning, and gender stereotypes in the media. We also look beyond the two-sex, two-gender system we have in North America and discuss gender variance in our society and around the world.

Course Requirements:

Evaluation for this course will include two midterms and one final exam. Exams are **not** cumulative. All exams will be multiple choice format, and will be based on lecture material, textbook and online readings, and films for the period prior to the exam.



Midterm exam 1	33.3% Oct 9 th (lectures, readings, films from Sep 9-Oct 7)
Midterm exam 2	33.3% Nov 6 th (lectures, readings, films from Oct 11-Nov 4)
Final exam	33.4% Registrar scheduled – week of Dec 9-19 th (lectures, readings, films from Nov 8-Dec 6)

Final course grades will be assigned as follows:

A+	100 – 94.9%
A	94.8 – 89.9%
A-	89.8 – 84.9%
B+	84.8 – 79.9%
B	79.8 – 74.9%
B-	74.8 – 70.9%
C+	70.8 – 66.9%
C	66.8 – 62.9%
C-	62.8 – 58.9%
D+	58.8 – 54.9%
D	54.8 – 49.9%
F	49.8% and below

IMPORTANT

An outline of the lecture notes will be posted on Blackboard prior to class, and students are encouraged to print these and bring them to class to assist with handwritten note-taking. Note that the posted notes are not sufficient without attending lectures. In addition to assigned readings, exams will be based on all material covered in class, including lectures presented (instructor and guest lectures), class discussions, questions and answers, and films. Any classroom materials missed due to absenteeism are the sole responsibility of the student.

Although related and generally complementary, the material in the textbook and readings are not tightly integrated with the lectures. These should be considered as separate sets of information, all of which must be mastered for the exams. Note to pay special attention to areas in the textbook and readings that overlap with class lectures.

Academic Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation, please register with the Disability Resource Centre at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodations. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Classroom Behavior

It is expected that each student will behave with courtesy and respect toward others. To maintain a distraction-free environment during the class period, the instructor requests that you 1) **turn off cell phones** prior to class and place them in a bag, pocket, or under your desk; 2) **do not carry on conversations while the instructor is speaking**; 3) **avoid late arrivals and early departures** (if you

must depart class early, please notify the instructor in advance if possible). If you use a laptop during class, please refrain from any activities unrelated to class, including emailing, web browsing, playing games, etc. Please minimize disruption to your fellow students by sitting at the back or on the classroom periphery. If the use of a laptop becomes too distracting to the class, you will be asked to turn off the computer and use a paper notebook for the remainder of lectures. It is also rude and unacceptable to sleep during class. Relevant interruptions with questions or comments are welcome by raising your hand and sharing with the class. You may also email questions which will be answered in the next lecture. All email inquiries about exams will be answered in class.

Exams

Exam security is taken very seriously. Since exams will be taken in class where students often must sit close together, please be aware that wandering eyes could lead to suspicion. Keep your eyes on your own exam or to the front of the room. Also, cover your own exam to stop others from being tempted to look at it. Please remain seated during exams until you can leave the row you are sitting in without disturbing others. If you are caught cheating, your exam will be taken and a grade of zero will be given automatically.

Students are strongly urged to take all exams on their scheduled times and dates. Missed exams will automatically receive a score of zero. Accommodation for missed exams will be made at the instructor's discretion in the event of a **documented** emergency (e.g. hospitalization). In the event of an emergency or illness, you **MUST** notify the Anthropology Department office (220-6516) or the instructor **BEFORE** the exam, and documentation **MUST** be provided before a makeup exam will be considered. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in an exam score of zero. Note that performance on makeup exams is typically lower than those taken with the class.

Exams will not be returned to students. The instructor will review portions of the exams in class the week following the exam, by which time scores will be available on Blackboard. If you would like to consult your exam, you may come to posted office hours, or make an appointment. If, after consulting the key, your notes, and the readings, you still have concerns about the grading of your exam, you will be asked to provide a detailed written statement outlining your concerns. Your exam will then be re-graded in its entirety, and scores will be raised, lowered, or left unchanged as warranted. Deadline for submission of written statement is one week after the results of an exam has been posted.

No special arrangements will be made following a poor performance on an exam. For example, we cannot change the weighting of the exams, allow retakes, or accept alternate assignments in lieu of an exam. Please prepare in advance to ensure satisfactory exam performance as no changes will be made after the exam.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

Plagiarism: "to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own" (Webster's). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing will also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the Anthropology Department's policy on intellectual honesty, available at: <https://www.anth.ucalgary.ca/home/links/intellectual-honesty-guidelines>

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

In the event that the classroom should need to be evacuated due to an emergency, please note that the primary assembly point shall be the Social Sciences Food Court, and the secondary assembly point shall be the ICT Food Court.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Subject to change – announced deviations may be necessary to meet the needs of the class. Students should be familiar with assigned chapter material prior to each scheduled class.

Week	Topic/Readings
Week 1 Sep 9-13	Introduction to Sex and Gender Film: “Codes of Gender and Identity” Evolutionary Theory Readings: Biology, Gender and Human Evolution (<i>GCCP</i> : 1-7); Introduction and Chapter 1 (<i>SS</i> : 1-33)
Week 2 Sep 16-20	Evolutionary Theory cont’d. Debunking Myths Sex Differences I: Sexual Selection and Parental Investment Film: “Gender Tango” Readings: Animal Models and Gender (<i>GCCP</i> : 7-13); Chapter 2 (<i>SS</i> : 34-46)
Week 3 Sep 23-27	Sex Differences II: Competition, dominance and aggression in primates Film: “Baboon Tales” Readings: Lifeboat Ethics: Mother Love and Child Death in Northeast Brazil (<i>GCCP</i> : 37-42); Chapters 3 & 8 (<i>SS</i> : 47-60 & 121-135)
Week 4 Sep 30-Oct 4	Gender in Human Origin Models and Prehistory Readings: The Fashioning of Women (<i>GCCP</i> : 61-70)
Week 5-6 Oct 7, 11 Oct 16-18	Domestic Worlds and Public Worlds Film: “Asante Market Women” Readings: The Domestic Sphere (<i>GCCP</i> : 81-88); From Private Affairs to Public Scandals (<i>GCCP</i> : 88-96); Fatherhood and the Mediating Role of Women (<i>GCCP</i> : 97-108)
Week 5 Oct 9	Midterm 1
Week 6 Oct 14	Thanksgiving – NO CLASSES
Week 7 Oct 21-25	Sexual Division of Labour and Gender Stratification Readings: Woman the Hunter: The Agta (<i>GCCP</i> : 214-130); Do Tents and Herds Still Matter? Pastoral Nomadism and Gender Among the Tuareg in Niger and Mali (<i>GCCP</i> : 139-148); Gender, Business and Space Control: Yoruba Market Women and Power (<i>GCCP</i> : 118-158)

- Week 8** Sexual Division of Labour and Gender Stratification cont'd.
 Oct 28 – Nov 1 Gender, Property and the State
Film: “Daughters of Afghanistan”
Readings: Encountering the State: Cross-cultural Perspectives on Women’s Political Experience (*GCCP*: 241-250); Women’s Autonomy, Islam, and the French State (*GCCP*: 271-277)
- Week 9** Gender, Property and the State cont'd.
 Nov 4, 8 The Cultural Construction of Gender and Personhood
Film: “Tough Guise”
Readings: My Encounter with Machismo in Spain (*GCCP*: 163-174); Surgical Transformations in the Pursuit of Gender (*GCCP*: 196-202).
- Week 9**
 Nov 6 **Midterm 2**
- Week 10** **Reading Days – NO CLASSES**
 Nov 11
- Week 10** Culture, Sexuality and the Body
 Nov 13-15 **Film:** “Middle Sexes”
Guest Speaker: Jesse Invik
Readings: Chapter 11 (*SS*: 168-183); Hijras (*GCCP*, p. 223-229)
- Week 11** Gender and the Economy
 Nov 18-22 **Film:** “A Woman’s Place is in the Boardroom”
Readings: Banning of Abortion in Ceausescu’s Romania (*GCCP*: 374-380)
- Week 12** Gender, Household and Kinship
 Nov 25-29 Gender, Politics and Reproduction
Readings: Between a Rock and a Hard Place: The Labyrinth of Working and Parenting in a Poor Community (*GCCP*: 362-377); Rethinking Caribbean Families: Extending the Links (*GCCP*: 303-310); Female Genital Cutting: Culture and Controversy (*GCCP*: 393-403)
- Week 13** Gender, Politics and Reproduction cont'd.
 Dec 2-6 A Brief Look at Women and Microcredit
 Are Boys Genetically Predisposed to be Better at Math than Girls?
Readings: Enter Microcredit: A New Culture of Women’s Empowerment in Rajasthan? (*GCCP*: 410-421); Chapter 12 (*SS*: 184-199)
- Gender and the Media in North America
Film: “Sex Stereotypes and the Media”
Readings: Gender, Horticulture and the Division of Labour on Vanatinai (*GCCP*: 152-154, and 158 to end of chapter)
- Final Exam: Registrar scheduled Dec 9-19 (Date, Time, Location TBA)**

***Please note that readings, film titles, and guest speakers may be subject to change*