



Department of Psychology

Psychology 439 (L01) – Psychology of Gender

Winter Session 2007

Instructor: H. Lorraine Radtke

Phone: 220-5223

Email: radtke@ucalgary.ca

Office: Admin 255B

Office Hours: MW/2:00-3:00 pm

Lecture Location: SH 284

Lecture Days/Time: MWF/1:00 pm

Course Description and Goals

The psychology of gender intersects with virtually every other field within psychology. Hence, we will explore the meaning of gender, the development of gender, gender and social relationships (stereotypes, emotion, relationships, sexuality), and the association of gender with education, employment, and health. We will also touch on the distinction between gender and sex. A gender perspective involves recognizing that femininity and masculinity/female and male are defined in relation to one another, and therefore are often assumed to be opposites. Nevertheless, the psychology of gender maintains a focus on similarities and differences. Rooted in feminist theory and scholarship that was spawned by the second wave of the women's movement, the psychology of gender foregrounds the experiences of girls and women and existing gender inequities and offers a corrective to the historical male bias at the centre of feminist critiques of psychology in the 1960's. The male experience is incorporated, and we will specifically consider some of the research from the developing field of Masculinity Studies. An important theme woven into the treatment of each topic is diversity--it is well recognized that other social differences intersect with gender in shaping our experience.

Gender is an integral aspect of who you are and your relationships with others. You may gain insight into how gender shapes your experience. More generally, you will develop a broad understanding of the field, including theoretical frameworks, areas of research focus and knowledge generated by the research enterprise. At the end of the course, you should be able to address the question, "what is gender?", with a response reflecting the complexity of the topic. You will gain an appreciation for the on-going debates about gender in our society.

[NOTE: This course is under development. Consequently, there may be some changes to aspects of the course, such as the lecture schedule. Any changes will be posted on Blackboard.]

Required Text

Brannon, L. (2005). *Gender: Psychological perspectives* (4th ed.). Boston: Pearson.

Evaluation

Final course grades will be based on two course components - (1) Exams (60% of final grade), and (2) Assignments (40% of final grade).

(1) Exams (60% of final grade): There will be **three** non-cumulative exams, with short answer format.

Date	Course Component	Weighting
Monday, February 5, 2007	Exam 1 (Lectures 1-12; Brannon, Ch. 1-5)	15%
Monday, March 12, 2007	Exam 2 (Lectures 13-23; Brannon, Ch. 6-10)	20%
Scheduled by the Registrar (April 16-26)	Final Exam (Lectures 24-36; Brannon, Ch. 11-36)	25%

(2) Assignments (40% of final grade): You will complete **two** written assignments chosen from a list.

Date	Course Component	Weighting
Monday, February 26, 2007 By 4:30 pm	Assignment 1	20%
Friday, April 13, 2007 By 4:30 pm	Assignment 2	20%

Both assignments have a 2000 word maximum. Papers may be handed in during class or in the green box outside A275. Late assignments will be accepted, but will be penalized one letter grade per day (e.g., an A paper handed in on February 27 will have the grade reduced to A-, etc). Students must provide a printed copy of their paper; emailed papers will not be graded.

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, the instructor has the discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades. In this course, there will be no rounding up of final grades, especially in light of the opportunities students gave to increase their final grade via bonus credits.

Lecture Schedule

Jan. 2		Block Week (Jan. 2-6)
Jan. 8	M	Lecture 1: Introduction
Jan. 10	W	Lecture 2: Ch. 1 - The Study of Gender
Jan. 12	F	Lecture 3: The Study of Gender cont.
Jan. 15	M	Lecture 4: Ch. 2 - Researching Sex and Gender
Jan. 17	W	Lecture 5: Researching Sex and Gender cont.
Jan. 19	F	Lecture 6: Ch. 3 - Hormones and Chromosomes: Last day for Winter registration and change of registration. No fee refunds for withdrawals after this date.
Jan. 22	M	Lecture 7: Hormones and Chromosomes cont.
Jan. 24	W	Lecture 8: Ch. 4 - Intelligence and Cognitive Abilities
Jan. 26	F	Lecture 9: Intelligence and Cognitive Abilities cont.
Jan 29	M	Lecture 10: Ch. 5 - Theories of Gender Development
Jan 31	W	Lecture 11: Theories of Gender Development cont.
Feb. 2	F	Lecture 12: Theories of Gender Development cont.
Feb. 5	M	Exam 1
Feb. 7	W	Lecture 13: Ch. 6 - Developing Gender Identity
Feb. 9	F	Lecture 14: Developing Gender Identity cont.
Feb. 12	M	Lecture 15: Ch. 7 - Gender Stereotypes
Feb. 14	W	Lecture 16: Gender Stereotypes cont.
Feb. 16	F	Lecture 17: Ch. 8 - Emotion
Feb. 18-25		No classes – Reading Week
Feb. 26	M	Lecture 18: Emotion cont. (Assignment 1 due)
Feb. 28	W	Lecture 19: Ch. 9 - Relationships
Mar 2	F	Lecture 20: Relationships cont.
Mar 5	M	Lecture 21: Ch. 10 - Sexuality
Mar 7	W	Lecture 22: Sexuality cont.
Mar 9	F	Lecture 23: Sexuality cont.
Mar 12	M	Exam 2
Mar 14	W	Lecture 24: Ch. 11 - School
Mar 16	F	Lecture 25: School cont.
Mar 19	M	Lecture 26: Ch. 12 - Careers and Work
Mar 21	W	Lecture 27: Careers and Work cont.
Mar 23	F	Lecture 28: Careers and Work cont.
Mar 26	M	Lecture 29: Ch. 13 - Health and Fitness
Mar 28	W	Lecture 30: Health and Fitness cont.
Mar 30	F	Lecture 31: Ch. 14 - Stress, Coping, and Psychopathology
Apr 2	M	Lecture 32: Stress, Coping, and Psychopathology cont.
Apr 4	W	Lecture 33: Stress, Coping, and Psychopathology cont.
Apr 6		No classes – Good Friday
Apr 9	M	Lecture 34: Ch. 15 - Treatment for Mental Disorders
Apr11	W	Lecture 35: Ch. 16 - How different?
Apr12		Last day to allocate Research Credits to Winter Session half courses and full courses.
Apr 13		Lecture 36: Summing It Up (Assignment 2 due): Last day of lectures. Last day to withdraw from full courses and Winter Session half courses.
Apr 16-26		Final Exam scheduled by the Registrar

University of Calgary Curriculum Objectives

This course addresses the following core competencies:

- Critical and creative thinking
- Analysis of problems
- Effective oral and written communication
- Gathering and organizing information
- Abstract reasoning and its applications
- Insight and intuition in generating knowledge
- Interpretive and assessment skills

With the following course characteristics:

- Class discussion; students are prompted to think critically about course material
- Emphasis is placed on problems and controversies related to gender
- Oral communication skills will be developed through class discussion; written communication skills will be developed through course assignments and written exams
- Course assignments require students to gather data, search the literature and organize this material in a written submission
- Theories and controversies related to gender will be analysed and evaluated
- Course assignments require students to take a position on some issue and argue their point
- Course assignments require students to interpret data and the research literature; lectures will encourage critical evaluation of extant literature

Curriculum Redesign Features

This course addresses the following curriculum redesign features:

- An international component
- An experiential learning component relevant to the program objectives
- Provision of broad and extended faculty-student interaction at the program level
- Integration of research

With the following course characteristics:

- Gender and diversity is an important course theme
- Course assignments
- Lectures will promote discussion and student participation
- Many research examples from the current literature are drawn upon in discussing course topics; course assignments involve research in some form

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within fifteen days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next fifteen days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same.

If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within fifteen days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

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

Absence From A Test

Make-up exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). You must contact the instructor before the scheduled examination or you will have forfeited any right to make up the exam. At the instructor's discretion, a make-up exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup exam is written within two (2) weeks of the missed exam.

A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test for health reasons. The student will be required to pay any cost associated with the Physician Counselor Statement.

Course Credits for Research Participation

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to an individual's final grade. Students can create an account and access the Research Participation System website at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in research is April 12, 2007.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in the Administration building, room 170 or may be contacted at 220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 220-3911 suypaca@ucalgary.ca
Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is January 19, 2007. The last day to withdraw from this course is April 13, 2007.