



Department of Psychology
Psychology 439 (L02) – Psychology of Gender
Winter 2011 – Course Outline

Instructor:	H. Lorraine Radtke	Lecture Location:	2301
Phone:	403-220-5223 (Calgary) 403-357-3675 (Red Deer)	Lecture Days/Time:	W/12:00 pm
Email:	radtke@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	2506 H		
Office Hours:	W/11:00 am or by email		

Course Description and Goals

Gender refers to how cultures define male and female, masculine and feminine. It can be thought of as a system of power relations, a means of structuring social relations, and a constraint on who we are as individuals and our social practices. Consequently, the psychology of gender intersects with virtually every other field within psychology. Hence, we will explore the meaning of gender, theories of gender development, gender and social relationships (stereotypes, emotion, relationships, sexuality), and the association of gender with mental 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 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, offering a corrective to the historical male bias at the centre of feminist critiques of psychology in the 1960s. 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 distinctions intersect with gender in shaping our experience. The learning environment will be a hybrid between the traditional lecture model and a collaborative learning model. Thus, a key course component is a group project, providing students with an opportunity to work together on a gender-relevant problem. Through the sharing of project outcomes with the class, all students will benefit from the knowledge generated by each group.

Prerequisites

Psyc 312 – Experimental Design and Quantitative Methods for Psychology
Psyc 345 – Social Psychology or Psyc 351 – Developmental Psychology

Required Text

Brannon, L. (2011). *Gender: Psychological perspectives* (6th ed.). Boston: Pearson. [Available in the Red Deer College Bookstore.]

Blackboard will be used to post lecture notes and other important announcements.

Evaluation

Final course grades will be based on four course components:

1. Exams (50%)
2. Class participation (5%)
3. Group project (20%)
4. Individual paper based on group project (25%)

1. **Exams** (50% of final grade): There will be **three** non-cumulative exams, with written answers. Exam questions will be generated from the textbook and lectures. No study aids are permitted during exams.

Exam	Date	Material Covered	Weighting
1	February 2	Chapters 1-4	12%
2	March 2	Chapters 5-7, 9	18%
3	March 23	Chapters 10, 13, 14, 16	20%

2. **Class participation** (5% of final grade): A collaborative learning model requires students to actively participate in the learning environment. One opportunity is to attend the group presentations, ask the presenters questions or make comments about the presentation, and provide written feedback (of course, this does not include your own group's presentation). You will receive .5% for each completed peer feedback sheet you hand in. Students who provide feedback on all of the presentations will automatically receive the full 5%. Completed peer feedback sheets will be handed in at the end of the class in which the presentation was made. A copy of the feedback sheet is posted on Blackboard so that you can see what is involved, but the instructor will provide the feedback sheets when they are needed.
3. **Group project** (20% of final grade): Details of the 10 topic areas, method for assigning students to groups, project requirements, and evaluation criteria are posted on Blackboard.

Project Deadlines	Project Component	Weighting
M January 24	Email rank order of 10 topic areas to instructor	0%
W January 26	Groups and group members posted on Blackboard	0%
W February 9	Project plan Informal peer evaluation	5% 0%
W March 30 Or W April 6	Group project presentation (ppt) Formal peer evaluation Self-review of teamwork	12% 3% 0%

- Students who do not email their rankings of the topic areas by the deadline will be randomly assigned to a group.
- A print copy of the project plan and the **signed peer evaluations** are to be handed in during class. Details are provided on Blackboard.

- Power point presentations will be emailed to the instructor **one day before** the scheduled presentation so that they may be posted on Blackboard for the other students to download.
- A student who misses their group's presentation will receive 0% for the project presentation grade unless they provide documentation for a medical excuse.
- **Signed formal peer evaluations** are to be handed in during the class when the group is presenting. Details are provided on Blackboard.

4. **Individual paper** (25% of final grade; due **April 13, 2011 by 4:30 pm**): Each student will submit a paper based on the group project. Although all the members of each group will be drawing on the same material used in the group presentation, each group member is expected to write their own paper in their own words. Care must be taken to avoid plagiarism. Details, including requirements for the paper and evaluation criteria, are posted on Blackboard. Late assignments will be accepted, but will be penalized one letter grade per day (e.g., an A paper handed in on X will have the grade reduced to A-, etc.). Students must provide a printed copy of their paper. They are to be handed in to Tanya Harding in 2506 I between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm.

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, it is at the instructor's 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. To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic/Activity	Readings/Due Dates
W Jan 12	The study of gender	Ch. 1
W Jan 19	Researching sex and gender Gender stereotypes: Masculinity and Femininity	Ch. 2 Ch. 3
F Jan 21	Last day to drop a course with no W grade and tuition refund.	
M Jan 24	Last day for registration/change of registration.	Email your project rankings
W Jan 26	Gender stereotypes cont. Hormones and chromosomes Meet your group members	Ch. 4
W Feb 2	Exam 1 Theories of gender development	Ch. 5
W Feb 9	Developing gender identity	Ch. 6 Project Plan and Informal peer evaluations
W Feb 16	Intelligence and cognitive abilities Relationships	Ch. 7 Ch. 9
M Feb 21	Family Day. College closed.	

W Feb 23	Reading days. No lecture.	
F Feb 25	Reading days. No lecture.	
W Mar 2	Exam 2 Sexuality	Ch. 10
W Mar 9	Sexuality cont. Gender, health and fitness	Ch. 13
W Mar 16	Stress, coping and psychopathology How different?	Ch. 14 Ch. 16
W Mar 23	Exam 3	
W Mar 30	Group Presentations (#1-5)	Formal peer evaluations Self-review of teamwork
W Apr 6	Group Presentations (#6-10)	Formal peer evaluations Self-review of teamwork
W Apr 13		Paper

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 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 15 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 15 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 403-220-8237. 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 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 275), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)

Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 403-220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombuds provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or ombuds@ucalgary.ca (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>).

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Jan 21st, 2011**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **Jan 24th, 2011**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Apr 15th, 2011**.