PROFESSOR INFORMATION
REL 3171 SUMMER 2015

Instructor: Christine Gudorf
Office: Online
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: 859 740 4301
Email: Use course mail unless Blackboard is down, then call or contact gudorf@fiu.edu

Messages
Please use Blackboard course mail

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE
This course will focus on the variety of challenges that contemporary sexual practice and research pose for traditional religions. Areas examined include: sexual identity and psychology; sexual unions; natural law on sexuality; reproduction, contraception and abortion; gender roles, and sexual victimization.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Students will be able to:

- Explain the trajectory of meanings of sex, gender and sexual orientation within western religions;
- Discuss the present status of research regarding the above; and
- Describe the challenge that the eroding paradigm of sexual dimorphism presents to at least two different religions, and how, given their histories and teachings, they are likely to respond.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

POLICIES
Please review the policies page as it contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU and additional information on the standards for acceptable netiquette important for online courses.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS & SKILLS
One of the greatest barriers to taking an online course is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently, and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course; but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency using a computer. Please go to the "What's Required" webpage to find out more information on this subject.

Please visit our Technical Requirements webpage for additional information.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATION
Please visit our ADA Compliance webpage for information about accessibility involving the tools used in this course.
Please visit Blackboard's Commitment Accessibility webpage for more information.

For additional assistance please contact FIU's Disability Resource Center.

**COURSE PREREQUISITES**
This course has no prerequisites.

**PROCTORED EXAM POLICY**
This course does not have a proctored exam.

**TEXTBOOK**

![Our Sexuality](image)

Our Sexuality
Crooks and Baur
978-1-133-94336-5
You may purchase your textbook online at the FIU Bookstore.

![Good Sex](image)

Good Sex
Jung, Hunt, and Balakrishnan
Rutgers University Press, 2000
0813528844
978-0813528847

*Note in regards to Our Sexuality by Crooks and Baur:* For some semesters now, I have allowed students to use the 9th or 10th editions while the 11th edition was the listed course text, because the 10th and 11th editions were largely rearranged versions of the same content as the 9th edition, and the text was over $200 new. But the 12th edition has a great deal more updated research in some important areas, and can now be rented for under $50. Therefore we will all use the 12th edition (2014) and the quizzes will all be based on this edition.

**EXPECTATIONS OF THIS COURSE**

This is an online course, meaning that most of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same as for a traditional course; in fact, online courses
require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills that can make them more demanding for some students.

Students are expected to:

- Review the how to get started information located in the course content
- Introduce yourself to the class during the first week by posting a self introduction in the appropriate discussion forum
- Take the practice quiz to ensure that your computer is compatible with Blackboard
- Interact online with instructor/s and peers
- Review and follow the course calendar

COURSE DETAIL
Communication in this course will take place via messages.

The message feature is a private, internal Blackboard only communication system. Users must log on to the blackboard system to send/receive/read messages. **There are no notifications in Blackboard to inform users when a new message has been received; therefore, it is recommended that students check their messages routinely to ensure up-to-date communication.**

This is the best method to communicate with your instructor privately.

DISCUSSION FORUMS
Keep in mind that your discussion forum postings will likely be seen by other members of the course. Care should be taken when determining what to post. Postings are for communication among students, and are not graded.

QUIZZES
There will be weekly online quizzes on the films and the material in the Crooks and Baur, *Our Sexuality* text. Every week that there is a reading assignment from Crooks and Baur, there will be a quiz. Each student will have two attempts at quizzes, with questions randomly drawn from a large database that comes with the text. The higher of the two grades for each quiz will be counted, and these higher grades will be averaged. The rationale for two attempts is that many students lose one attempt to technical problems, so I have added a second attempt. There is a Millionaire game to take as you read each chapter of C&B and a Jeopardy game to take before each quiz. These are designed to help you prepare for the quizzes; they are not required, and are not graded, but they may help. There are occasional hiccups in Blackboard in uploading both the games questions and the quiz questions. You may challenge the grading on these—and I would appreciate your reporting problems—but when you contact me, please refer me to the page in the text that is contradicted by the marked answer.

The *Our Sexuality* reading, though critically important for understanding the ethical material, is for background only. The **Midterm (Exam 1) & Final (Exam 2)** material will come from *Good Sex*, from the lectures and films, and from the assigned articles. These are the religious and ethical materials of the course- *Our Sexuality is basically background.*

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the “Practice Quiz” from each computer you will be using to take your graded quizzes and exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum **hardware requirements.**

ASSIGNMENTS
There are two writing Assignments (550-700 words) that you submit to the Assignment Dropbox and are automatically submitted to Turnitin in answer to the questions listed for each assignment. (See Course
Some questions have two or more parts—be sure to answer all the parts of the question. Watch the due dates on these! You should not attempt these before you have done the relevant readings/ lectures/videos. If you desire an A or B, you must use notes (in-text, footnotes or endnotes) to cite the sources from which your information came. Most, if not all, of your notes will be to course materials. Outside research is not necessary. The purpose of the Assignments is to evaluate your mastery of the course materials, so substituting external sources for the course materials in your arguments is not acceptable. You may augment the course materials if you like, but replacement is not acceptable.

The most common mistake made on these assignments is to talk about the subject and what interests you about it, without ever directly addressing the question asked. Answer the question!

Review the detailed Turnitin Instructions on how to submit your assignments and how to review the Grademark comments (feedback).

**COURSE POLICIES**

If you have a serious reason for missing the open dates for the Midterm (Exam 1) or Final (Exam 2) (e.g., serious accident, hospitalization, incarceration, death in the immediate family) contact your instructor by the day of the exam to arrange a make-up. Do not wait a week, and then email with an excuse.

Inevitably, a number of students for various reasons will miss one or another quiz deadline. Three days before the final exam opens all the previous quizzes will be open from 12:01 am til midnight for those who have not used both their attempts. No quiz make-ups are available at other times, regardless of reason.

Computers are available on campus if your computer is down; many home computers using modems cannot receive all the video or audio presentations—leave time enough to get them on campus if your set-up at home does not work. Check out the compatibility of your home computer with all elements of the course during the first week of classes.

No extra credit work is accepted. Students' grades demonstrate the level of mastery of class materials.

Assignments must be turned in to Turnitin via Blackboard. The easy access portal is located in the Assignment Dropbox.

**INCOMPLETES**

University policy allows incompletes only in cases where the student has completed the majority of work in the class and has a passing grade on the average of all completed work. You must ask for an incomplete—they are not automatic for those who have not completed the course. In most cases, incompletes will expire on the first day the student enrolls in another class, because the longer an IN goes on, the worse the student does, the less he/she remembers, and the more unlikely the IN is to be completed among the press of other work. If the student does not re-enroll, the IN expires under university policy after two semesters (counting summers).

**GRADING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirements</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm (Exam 1)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final (Exam 2)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz Average</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (averaged)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Letter Grade Range

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Above 93</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 - 82</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67 - 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 - 92</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 - 79</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>63 - 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 - 89</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>73 - 76</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60 - 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 - 86</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 - 72</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 - 89</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>73 - 76</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60 - 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 - 86</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 - 72</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### COURSE CALENDAR

#### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Human Sexuality: An Introduction to Its Study</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Read: | - C&B 1 – 2  
| Week 1 | May 11-17 |
| View Presentation: | "Reading Human Sexuality Critically" |
| Video Clips: | CNN - China Sex Shop  
CNN - Sex in America Survey and Studying Sexual Response |
<p>| Quiz #1: | C&amp;B 1 &amp; 2 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Religious and Cultural Interpretation of Sexuality</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|      | **Read:**  
|      | - Good Sex, Ch. 11  
|      | **View Presentation:**  
|      | "Menstruation"  
|      | **Video Clips:**  
|      | CNN - Female Circumcision  
|      | CNN - Menopause  
|      | CNN - Male Circumcision  
|      | CNN - Prostate Cancer |
| Week 2 | Construction of Sexuality: Identity and Social Relationship/Responsibility |
| May 18-24 | **Read:**  
| | - C&B 5  
| | **View Presentation:**  
| | "Sexuality as Constructed I"  
| | **Video Clips:**  
| | CNN - Transsexual Teacher and Perceiving Gender Roles (all 3 parts)  
| | **Quiz #2: C&B 5** |
|      | The [Assigned] Functions of Sexuality |
|      | **Read:**  
|      | - C&B 7  
|      | - Gudorf, "Ending Procreationism" (Chapter Two in *Body, Sex and Pleasure: Reconstructing Christian Sexual Ethics* (Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1994).  
|      | **View Presentation:**  
<p>|      | &quot;Sexuality as Constructed II&quot; |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|      | Video Clips:  
|      | CNN - Bachelor Farmers  
|      | Steinberg's Triangular Theory of Love  
|      | CNN - The Odd Couple  
|      | Quiz #3: C&B 7  
|      | Assignment #1 - Due May 23, 11:59 pm via Assignment Dropbox  
| Week 3 | Religions and Homosexuality  
| May 25-31 | Read:  
| May 25-31 | - C&B 9  
| May 25-31 | - Justin Tanis, “Transgendered People and God,” in Trans-gendered: Theology, Ministry and Communities of Faith (Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 2003). In Course Content  
| May 25-31 | View Presentation:  
| May 25-31 | "Sexuality in Christianity"  
|      | Video Clips:  
| May 25-31 | Kinsey Continuum  
| May 25-31 | Sexual Orientation: Coming Out in the Workplace  
| May 25-31 | CNN - Shepard Profile  
| May 25-31 | Quiz #4: C&B 9  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sexual Development and Sexual Pleasure</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Read:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- C&amp;B,12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- <em>Good Sex</em>, Chapters 1, 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>View Presentation:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Sexuality and Gender&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Video Clips:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Teen Slang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male and Female Sexual Response Cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adolescence: Body Image</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adolescence: Sexual Risk Taking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Quiz #5: C&amp;B 12</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Practice exam opens (Note: This does not count toward grade.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th><strong>Sex in Hinduism/Gender</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 1-7</td>
<td><strong>Read:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- C&amp;B 13 - 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>View Presentation:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Sex in Hinduism&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Video Clips:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reality TV Weddings in India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CNN - Pros and Cons of Abstinence Sex Ed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CNN - Early Adulthood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CNN - Late Adulthood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Quiz #6: C&amp;B 13&amp;14</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|          | **Midterm (Exam 1) June 5, 12:01 am-June 6, 11:59 pm** |
Week 5
June 8-14

**Sexual Coercion and Commercial Sex**

**Read:**
- C&B 17,18
- _Good Sex_, Chapter 10
- Gudorf, "Mutuality in Sexual Pleasure as Normative" (Chapter Five of _Body, Sex and Pleasure_)
- "Getting Clear About Bodyself and Bodyright“ (2 parts) (Chapter Six of _Body, Sex and Pleasure_)

**View Presentation:**
"Sexual Coercion"

**Video Clips:**
- CNN - Anti-pedophilia Internet Task Force
- CNN - Crime of Rape

**Quiz #7: C&B 17**

**Assignment #2 - Due June 13, at 11:59 via Assignment Dropbox**

---

**Sexual Problems/ Sex in Judaism**

**Read:**
- C&B 15
- _Good Sex_, Chapter 9

**View Presentation:**
"Sex in Judaism"

**Video Clips:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|      | Erectile Dysfunction  
CNN - Premature Ejaculation  
HIV/AIDS Client Social Support and Engagement (1 and 2)  
CNN - Chlamydia Test  
Quiz #8: C&B 15 |
Week 6
June 15-19

Sex in Buddhism and Islam

Read:
- *Good Sex*, Chapter 8
- Ziba Mir Hosseini, "The Construction of Gender in Islamic Legal Thought"
- Zainah Anwar, “Islam and Women’s Rights”

View Presentation:
"Sex in Buddhism"
"Sex in Islam"

Quiz Make up Day June 15, from 12:01 am til 11:59 pm

Final Exam June 18, 12:01 am til June 19th, 11:59 pm

Review course materials (Not C&B!) covered since the midterm—don’t forget the powerpoint slides.

Quiz Make-up Day:
April 24, 12:01am - 12:59pm

Week 16
April 27-May 5

Final (Exam 2)
Available:
April 27 at 12:00am – April 30 at 11:59pm

(Be sure to click both SAVE and FINISH on the essay so that I do not find an empty essay box under your name.)