

# Syllabus - Revised 1/13/2025

## *Human Sexuality* *Spring 2025 - PBSI 210*

### Course and Instructor Information

Course: PBSI 210 (500), cross-listed as WGST 210 (500)  
Time and Location: MWF 10:20 am - 11:10 am Psychology Room 106  
Credit Hours: 3

Instructor: Pamela Stanush Edens  
Email: pamedens@tamu.edu  
Office: PSYC Building, Room 283  
Office Hours: M: 11:15 am - 12:15 pm; W: 9:00 - 10:00 am; Th: 10:00 - 11:00 am or by appointment (please allow 24 hours advance notice)  
Zoom Link for Office Hours: <https://tamu.zoom.us/j/92102649691>

UGTS: Valentina Foinquinos  
Email: vfoinquinos@tamu.edu  
Office Hours: By appointment. Email me to schedule a time.

UGTS: Cassidy Berkovich  
Email: cmberkovich@tamu.edu  
Office Hours: By appointment. Email me to schedule a time.

GroupMe Link: [https://groupme.com/join\\_group/105296534/hedS7YKG](https://groupme.com/join_group/105296534/hedS7YKG)

### Course Description

This course provides an interface between human sexuality, reproductive development, and gender roles across the lifespan; theoretical and research literature promotes understanding of hormonal influences, learning processes, cultural differences, sexual response, love, and attraction.

### Course Prerequisites

Undergraduate level [PSYC 107](#) Minimum Grade of D.

### Special Course Designation

This course has a designation of ICD (international and cultural diversity). It is cross-listed with WGST 210.

### Course Learning Outcomes

- Identify how culture influences sexuality and sexual behavior.
- Explain biological processes related to sex and reproduction across the lifespan.
- Identify sex-related health problems and strategies for reducing or treating those problems.
- Discuss the wide variety of sexual behaviors, feelings, attitudes, and identities.
- Describe sexual violence, "sex for sale", and some of their causes.

Texas A&M University has also identified student learning outcomes that describe our institutional commitment to your educational goals. These include the ability to demonstrate critical thinking, effective communication, and social, cultural, and global competence. Please see: [http://provost.tamu.edu/essentials/pdfs/copy\\_of\\_UndergraduateLearningOutcomesFinal.pdf](http://provost.tamu.edu/essentials/pdfs/copy_of_UndergraduateLearningOutcomesFinal.pdf)

## Textbook and/or Resource Materials

King, B.M. & Regan, P. (2019). Human Sexuality Today (9<sup>th</sup> edition). Pearson. ISBN: 9780134804460 (only rentals or electronic versions are available). This book is REQUIRED.

## Course Components

### Lectures

This class is designated as an in-person class thus both lectures and exams will be administered in the designated classroom. There are no zoom options. Class notes are not provided.

### Assignments

*Quizzes (40 points total; administered on Canvas; due on most Sundays by 11:59 pm):* There will be a total of 8 quizzes. Each quiz will have 10 questions and be worth a maximum of 5 points. The final point total for quizzes will be your 8 quiz grades x 10 points = 40 points possible. The quizzes are open-book and open notes (but not open-student; in other words, do not share any information about the quiz with other students). You will have 20 minutes to complete each one. Material on the quizzes will be primarily from the textbook but some items may come from lecture. These quizzes are typically due on Sundays and have strict deadlines. See below for an opportunity to replace one quiz grade including a missed quiz. Canvas, internet, time management, data entry and other last-minute problems are not valid excuses for missing quiz deadlines.

*Sex In the World Around Us Contributions (SIWAU-CON) (each worth 10 points; 3 required for a total of 30 points) -* These contributions will be submitted in Canvas on a Discussion Board on specified Wednesdays (see calendar/lecture schedule for due dates). There are 2 required during the semester. More detailed instructions for these assignments can be found on Canvas.

### Project: Two Options

- 1) *Option 1: Take-Action Assignment* (consists of two parts) - This project allows you to pick a topic relevant to this course and “do” something with the information.
  - a) *Part 1: Take-Action Outline (10 points)* - See Canvas for detailed instructions
  - b) *Part 2: Final Take Action Project (40 points)* - See Canvas for detailed instructions
- 2) *Option 2: Sexual Self-Analysis* (consists of two parts) - This project allows you to think about various aspects of your sexuality and then write about it.
  - a) *Part 1: Sexual Self-Analysis Outline (10 points)* - See Canvas for detailed instructions
  - b) *Part 2: Sexual Self-Analysis Final Reflection (40 points)* - See Canvas for detailed instructions

*Grade Replacement Assignment - Course Reflection (5 or 10 points) - April 16th by 11:59 pm (can replace one quiz - 5 points or SIWAU grade - 10 points - including a missed quiz/SIWAU) -* This assignment encourages you to think about what you have learned in the course so far and reflect on the impact of the information for you personally. Look on Canvas for more specific instructions about the assignment. You can use the grade on this assignment to replace a low or missed quiz grade or a low or missed SIWAU assignment (Quiz #8 cannot be replaced)

### Exams (100 x 4 = 400 points total)

There will be four **non-cumulative** exams that will be administered in the classroom. Each exam will be worth 100 points and will consist of 50 multiple-choice items (worth 2 points each). Students will be given 50 minutes to complete the exam.

If an exam is missed for any reason, the student must contact me as soon as possible using the email address: pamedens@tamu.edu. If a student has an authorized University excuse *and* contacts me within 48 hours of the missed exam, they will be allowed to take a make-up exam without penalty. If an exam is missed due to illness, an excuse from the Health Center or a Physician must be provided. If a make-up is missed due to a

reason that does not qualify as an University excuse (e.g., oversleeping), a make-up exam can be taken but there will be a 25% penalty as long as the student contacts me within 48 hours after the exam has been administered. If a student does not contact me within 48 hours, however, the maximum score that can be achieved is 50% of the make-up exam score even with an approved university excuse. Students contacting me more than 3 days after the scheduled exam will NOT be allowed to take a make-up exam and will get a zero on that exam. Make-up exams may not be the same as those given on the actual test date and may include both short-answer and multiple-choice questions. It is the student's responsibility to verify that an email sent to contact the professor about a missed exam is received.

- Make-up Exam #1: Feb. 12 at 7:00 am in Room 106 Psychology Building
- Make-up Exam #2: Mar. 7 at 7:00 am in Room 106 Psychology Building
- Make-up Exam #3: Apr. 7 at 7:00 am in Room 106 Psychology Building
- Make-up Exam #4 Apr. 28 at 8:00 am in Room 106 Psychology Building

## Grading Policy

Point System	Point Value	Date
Exam # 1	100 points	Feb. 7
Exam # 2	100 points	Mar. 3
Exam #3	100 points	Apr. 2
Exam #4	100 points	Apr. 25
Wednesday Attendance (10 x 3)	30 points	10 out of 12 Wednesdays
Pop-Up Participation Points (10 x 1)	10 points	10 out of 12 Random Days
Participation Quizzes (8 x 5 points each)	40 points	Select Sundays
SIWAU-CON x 3 (10 points each)	30 points	Select Wednesdays
Project Outline	10 points	Feb. 26
Project Final Submission	40 points	April 7
<b>Total</b>	<b>550 points</b>	

Grade for Course	Total Points Required
<b>A</b>	495 -550
<b>B</b>	440-494
<b>C</b>	385 - 439
<b>D</b>	330 - 384
<b>F</b>	329 and below

## Late Policy

Quizzes and SIWAU cannot be completed late without a university excuse. The Grade Replacement Assignment can be used to replace a missed quiz or SIWAU. All other assignments are due no later than 11:59 pm on the due date listed. If you are going to miss an assignment or exam with a university excuse, you must email me within 48 hours of the due date. Do not wait until the last minute to turn in assignments since having computer problems or internet problems is not a valid excuse. If you are at a location that has intermittent internet problems, it is your responsibility to do the assignment ahead of time to make sure that you can have it submitted on time. Without a university excuse, late assignments for the Take Action project (both Parts 1 and 2) will be accepted using the following penalties:

- 1 day late: 10% penalty
- 2 days late: 20%
- 3 days late: 30% penalty
- Up to a week: 50% penalty

## Course Schedule

Week	Date	Lecture Topic - Chapter	Required Action (Readings and Assignments)
1 - M	Jan. 13	Syllabus	
1 - W	Jan. 15	Why a Course in Human Sexuality?	Chapter 1
1 - F	Jan. 17	Why Course Sexuality/Anatomy	Chapter 1/2
2 - M	Jan. 20	<i>MLK Day - No Class</i>	
2 - W	Jan. 22	Our Sexual and Reproductive Anatomy	Chapter 2
2 - F	Jan. 24	Our Sexual and Reproductive Anatomy	Chapter 2 <b>Quiz 1 (Syllabus) due 1/26 by 11:59 pm</b>
3 - M	Jan. 27	Hormones and Sexuality	Chapter 3
3 - W	Jan. 29	Hormones and Sexuality	Chapter 3
3 - F	Jan. 31	LifeSpan and Development	Chapter 3 <b>Quiz 2 (Chapter 2) due 2/2 by 11:59 pm</b>
4 - M	Feb. 3	LifeSpan and Development	Chapter 10
4 - W	Feb. 5	LifeSpan and Development	Chapter 10 <b>SIWAU-CON #1 due by 11:59 pm</b>
<b>4 - F</b>	<b>Feb. 7</b>	<b>Exam #1</b>	Chapter 10 <b>Covers Chapters 1, 2, 3, 10, ext readings/videos</b>
5 - M	Feb. 10	Sexual Responses	Chapter 4
5 - W	Feb. 12	Sexual Responses	Chapter 4 <b>Make-Up Exam #1, 7 am, Room 106 PSYC Build</b>
5 - F	Feb. 14	Sexual Responses	Chapter 4 <b>Quiz 3 (Chapter 4) due 2/16 11:59 pm</b>
6 - M	Feb. 17	Sexual Responses	Chapter 4
6 - W	Feb. 19	Gender Identity	Chapter 8 <b>SIWAU-CON #2 due 2/19 by 11:59 pm</b>
6 - F	Feb. 21	Gender Identity	Chapter 8
7 - M	Feb. 24	Gender Identity/Sexual Orientation	Chapter 8/9
7 - W	Feb. 26	Sexual Orientation	Chapter 8 <b>Project Outline due 2/26 by 11:59 pm</b>
7 - F	Feb. 28	Sexual Orientation	Chapter 9 <b>Quiz 4 (Chapter 8) due 3/2 by 11:59 pm</b>
<b>8 - M</b>	<b>Mar. 3</b>	<b>Exam #2</b>	<b>Covers Chapters 4, 8, 9, and Extra Readings</b>
8 - W	Mar. 5	Adult Sexual Behaviors and Attitudes	Chapter 11
8 - F	Mar 7	Adult Sexual Behaviors and Attitudes	Chapter 11 <b>Make-Up Exam #2 - 7 am Room 106 PSYC</b>
	<b>Mar 10-14</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>	
9 - M	Mar. 17	Adult Sexual Behaviors and Attitudes	Chapter 11
9 - W	Mar. 19	Adult Sexual Behaviors and Attitudes	Chapter 11
9 - F	Mar. 21	Love and Relationships	Chapter 12 <b>Quiz 5 (Chap. 11) due 3/23 by 11:59 pm</b>
10 - M	Mar. 24	Love and Relationships	Chapter 12
10 - W	Mar. 26	Love and Relationships	Chapter 12 <b>SIWAU-CON #3 due 3/26 by 11:59 pm</b>
10 - F	Mar. 28	Birth Control/STIs	No Readings <b>Quiz 6 (Chap. 12) due 3/30 by 11:59 pm</b>
11 - M	Mar. 31	Condom Demonstration	No Readings
<b>11 - W</b>	<b>Apr. 2</b>	<b>Exam #3</b>	<b>Covers Chapters 11, 12, Birth Control/STIs and Condom Demo</b>
11 - F	Apr. 4	Sexual Problems	Chapter 13
12 - M	Apr. 7	Sexual Problems	Chapter 13 <b>Project Final Assignment Due by 11:59 pm</b> <b>Make-Up Exam #3 Room 106 PSYC - 7 am</b>
12 - W	Apr. 9	Sexual Problems	Chapter 13
12 - F	Apr. 11	Paraphilias	Chapter 14 <b>Quiz #7 (Chapter 13) due 4/13 by 11:59 pm</b>
13 - M	Apr. 14	Paraphilias	Chapter 14
13 - W	Apr. 16	Paraphilias	Chapter 14 <b>Grade Replacement Assignment by 11:59 pm</b>
13 - F	Apr. 18	<i>Reading Day</i>	<b>Quiz #8 (Chapter 14) due 4/20 by 11:59 pm</b>
14 - M	Apr. 21	Communication	Chapter 13 Addendum
14 - W	Apr. 23	Pornography	Chapter 13
<b>14 - F</b>	<b>Apr. 25</b>	<b>Exam #4</b>	<b>Covers Chapter 13 (including Addendum), 14, and Communication/Porn lecture</b>
15 - M	Apr. 28	Take Action Exhibit, Wrap-Up and Reflection	<b>Make-Up Exam #4 Room 106 PSYC - 8 am</b>

### *Attendance Policy*

The university views class attendance and participation as an individual student responsibility. Students are expected to attend class and to complete all assignments.

Please refer to [Student Rule 7](#) in its entirety for information about excused absences, including definitions, and related documentation and timelines.

### *Makeup Work Policy*

Students will be excused from attending class on the day of a graded activity or when attendance contributes to a student's grade for the reasons stated in Student Rule 7 or other reason deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Please refer to [Student Rule 7](#) in its entirety for information about makeup work, including definitions, and related documentation and timelines.

Absences related to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 may necessitate a period of more than 30 days for make-up work, and the timeframe for make-up work should be agreed upon by the student and instructor" ([Student Rule 7, Section 7.4.1](#)).

"The instructor is under no obligation to provide an opportunity for the student to make up work missed because of an unexcused absence" ([Student Rule 7, Section 7.4.2](#)).

Students who request an excused absence are expected to uphold the Aggie Honor Code and Student Conduct Code. (See [Student Rule 24](#).)

### *Academic Integrity Statement and Policy*

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do."

"Texas A&M University students are responsible for authenticating all work submitted to an instructor. If asked, students must be able to produce proof that the item submitted is indeed the work of that student. Students must keep appropriate records at all times. The inability to authenticate one's work, should the instructor request it, may be sufficient grounds to initiate an academic misconduct case" ([Section 20.1.2.3, Student Rule 20](#)).

You can learn more about the Aggie Honor System Office Rules and Procedures, academic integrity, and your rights and responsibilities at [aggiehonortamu.edu](http://aggiehonortamu.edu).

## Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy

Texas A&M University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, please contact Disability Resources in the Student Services Building or at (979) 845-1637 or visit [disability.tamu.edu](http://disability.tamu.edu). Disabilities may include, but are not limited to attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability related needs with Disability Resources and their instructors as soon as possible.

## Title IX and Statement on Limits to Confidentiality

Texas A&M University is committed to fostering a learning environment that is safe and productive for all. University policies and federal and state laws prohibit gender-based discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

With the exception of some medical and mental health providers, all university employees (including full and part-time faculty, staff, paid graduate assistants, student workers, etc.) are Mandatory Reporters and must report to the Title IX Office if the employee experiences, observes, or becomes aware of an incident that meets the following conditions (see [University Rule 08.01.01.M1](#)):

- The incident is reasonably believed to be discrimination or harassment.
- The incident is alleged to have been committed by or against a person who, at the time of the incident, was (1) a student enrolled at the University or (2) an employee of the University.

Mandatory Reporters must file a report regardless of how the information comes to their attention – including but not limited to face-to-face conversations, a written class assignment or paper, class discussion, email, text, or social media post. Although Mandatory Reporters must file a report, in most instances, you will be able to control how the report is handled, including whether or not to pursue a formal investigation. The University's goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and to ensure access to the resources you need.

Students wishing to discuss concerns in a confidential setting are encouraged to make an appointment with [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) (CAPS).

Students can learn more about filing a report, accessing supportive resources, and navigating the Title IX investigation and resolution process on the University's [Title IX webpage](#).

## Statement on Mental Health and Wellness

Texas A&M University recognizes that mental health and wellness are critical factors that influence a student's academic success and overall wellbeing. Students are encouraged to engage in proper self-care by utilizing the resources and services available from Counseling

& Psychological Services (CAPS). Students who need someone to talk to can call the TAMU Helpline (979-845-2700) from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. weekdays and 24 hours on weekends. 24-hour emergency help is also available through the National Suicide Prevention Hotline (800-273-8255) or at [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](https://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org).

## COVID Statement

To help protect Aggieland and stop the spread of COVID-19, Texas A&M University urges students to be vaccinated and to wear masks in classrooms and all other academic facilities on campus, including labs. Doing so exemplifies the Aggie Core Values of respect, leadership, integrity, and selfless service by putting community concerns above individual preferences. COVID-19 vaccines and masking — regardless of vaccination status — have been shown to be safe and effective at reducing spread to others, infection, hospitalization, and death.