

COURSE SYLLABUS: Power, Women & Relationships Lab

PSY 4916 Summer 2011

1. Basic Information

Instructor: Asia A. Eaton, Ph.D.
Office: DM 445A
Email: aeaton@fiu.edu
Office phone: 305-348-0229

Class: Lab Meetings every other Thursday, DM 192, 12:00-1:30pm
Research Assistant hours scheduled individually

2. Lab Description

Our psychology lab at FIU is called the PWR lab (for "Power, Women, and Relationships"). This lab studies and is concerned with the psychology of gender and sex roles, the psychology of social power and leadership, and LGBT and heterosexual romantic relationships and friendships. Dr. Suzanna Rose and Dr. Asia Eaton are the supervising faculty members of this lab. Research assistants will be working primarily with Dr. Eaton.

Dr. Rose's research interests include romantic relationships, women's friendships, sexuality and sexual orientation, and women and leadership. She is the Senior Associate Dean for the Sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences at FIU and is also a strategic career consultant who has advised women faculty extensively across the U.S. about their careers in academe and has given numerous presentations at professional conferences on career development. You can learn more about Dr. Rose here: <http://www.fiu.edu/~srose/>

Dr. Eaton conducts research on the topics of gender, social power, and attitudes and persuasion. She is particularly interested in how gender-based inequities in social power and leadership underlie gender stereotypes and affect men and women's behavior. Her dissertation examined how stereotypes about and differences in men and women's persuadability are rooted in the sex-segregated division of labor. She is also interested in how the possession of power affects an individual's information processing and behavior. You can learn more about Dr. Eaton here: <http://www.fiu.edu/~aeaton>

Together, Dr. Rose and Dr. Eaton are currently conducting research examining the content of modern heterosexual and LGBTQ men and women's initial romantic encounters (including traditional dates, hookups, hanging out, etc.). They are also working on a review of power dynamics in heterosexual romantic relationships in the U.S.

3. Research Assistant Position Description

The primary qualifications required to obtain a Research Assistant (RA) position in the PWR lab include motivation, commitment, and consistency.

Your main responsibility is to assist Dr. Eaton in all phases of data collection.

The 4-credit version of this class requires a 10-hour commitment per week (with 6 hours served in-person at the lab) towards any or all of the following responsibilities:

- Running pretests and survey studies at MMC and BBC (primarily at MMC)
- Data Coding and Entry
- Copying materials
- Handling participant sign-up and compensation
- Creating materials for the lab community
- Creating and reviewing study materials
- Consistent attendance at the bi-weekly PWR Lab meeting
- Reading articles for the PWR Lab meeting

The benefits of being an RA in the PWR Lab include:

- Course credit through PSY 4930 or PSY 4916, depending on your needs
- Learning about how psychological findings are generated and how psychological research is conducted
- Learning about whether grad school in psychology is right for you
- Skill and knowledge acquisition, including improved communication skills, learning statistics and psychology software, learning about psychological theory and concepts
- Opportunity for letters of recommendation

4. Course Materials

Readings: Journal articles, book chapters, syllabi, and handouts are all posted in the documents section of the PWR Lab Gmail account. You can access our Gmail account using the ID: pwrlabfiu@gmail.com and the password: **pwrlabfiu2010**.

5. Research Assistant Assignments

1) Lab Meeting Attendance

As an RA for the PWR Lab, you are required to attend all PWR Lab meetings and to actively participate in meetings by asking questions and making suggestions related to the research being presented in lab.

2) Lab Meeting Readings

You are required to read all articles and chapters assigned for each lab meeting *in advance* of the meeting. The purpose of these materials is to enable you to better comprehend the research being discussed and conducted in the PWR lab and facilitate your active participation in meetings.

3) Lab Meeting Facilitation

Once per semester, at the end of the semester, each Research Assistant is required to lead one lab meeting by presenting and facilitating group discussion on a single scientific article relevant to the lab's research interests. The lab supervisors will assist RAs in choosing the article.

4) Weekly Lab Work

As a Research Assistant taking the 4-credit course, you are required to participate in lab operations, tasks, and responsibilities for 10 hours every week. Of these 10 hours, 6 hours MUST be spent performing lab duties on campus each week. The remaining 4 hours may be spent reading articles and preparing for lab meetings outside of the lab. Lab duties may include data entry, running pretests, running studies, creating and reviewing study materials, data coding, copying materials, retrieving books from the library, etc.

6. Course Outline

Lab Meeting Date	Topic	Reading
Week 2: <u>Meeting 1</u> Thursday, May 19 th	Gender and entrepreneurship	Carter, Gartner, Shaver, & Gatewood (2003)
Week 4: <u>Meeting 2</u> Thursday, June 2nd	Dating scripts of Hispanic College Students	Eaton & Rose (under review)
Week 6: <u>Meeting 3</u> Thursday, June 16th	Verbal sexual coercion and heteronormativity	Hird & Jackson (2001)
Week 8: <u>Meeting 4</u> Thursday, June 30th	TBA	TBA
Week 10: <u>Meeting 5</u> Thursday, July 14th	Gender and Persuasion	Eaton (under review)

Lab Meeting Date	Topic	Reading
Week 12: <u>Meeting 6</u> Thursday, July 28th	Lesbian Sexuality	Rose & Eaton (under review)
Week 14: <u>Meeting 7</u> Tuesday, August 11th	Presentations by Lab members!	Readings selected by research assistants