

SOP3742: Psychology of Women
Fall 2020 Section RVC
Dr. Dionne Stephens

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Office: Via Zoom

Office Hours: Tuesdays 4:00-5:30 PM and by appointment

Course Time Zone | Eastern Time (ET).

Course due dates are according to this time zone.



GENERAL INFORMATION SECTION

Course Description and Purpose

When we study the psychology of women, we explore perspectives that are frequently excluded from standard psychology courses. Thus, studying women's psychology will lead us to discover and discuss bias in "standard" psychological research and theory, as well as facilitate meaningful consideration of issues that have relevance for you as an individual. In this course, we will examine psychological issues affecting diverse women in a variety of contexts including health, work, family, sexuality and reproduction, and close relationships. Though I will emphasize the scientific and theoretical perspectives, and I will also attempt to show the relevance of the topics covered to "real life" issues (such as self-esteem, parenting, relationships, and personal development). It is hoped that you will leave this class not simply with a list of the "whats" and "whens" of women's psychology, but increased ability to critique gender norms in your life and culture. Completing this course will help students learn to do the following with greater depth:

- Understand basic terms, concepts, and domains of social and behavioral sciences
- Comprehend diverse theories and methods of the social and behavioral sciences
- Identify human behavioral patterns across space and time and discuss their interrelatedness and distinctiveness
- Enhance understanding of the social world through the application of conceptual frameworks from the social and behavioral sciences to first-hand engagement with contemporary issues

Student Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, the successful student should be able to:

- Articulate an understanding of the impact of history, culture, race, class and other factors on women's multiple realities
- Evaluate the social construction of issues relating to gender
- Integrate personal perspectives with theories and current research findings, and reflect on their significance
- Deconstruct factors that impact perceptions about women
- Produce an original and cumulative journal project including a written component and other products that synthesize course objectives
- Articulate an understanding of the relevance of the Psychology of Women to an underlying theme of social justice

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Textbook and Course Materials

Psychology of Women & Gender

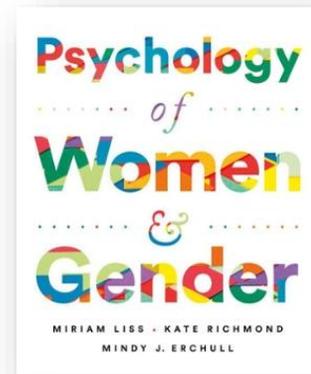
Authors: Miriam Liss, Kate Richmond & Mindy J Erchull

Publisher: Norton

Paperback ISBN: 978-0-393-66713-4

E-Book ISBN: 978-0-393-66716-5

All additional required readings are available within the course modules.



Expectations of this Course

This is an online course, which means most (if not all) of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same for a traditional course. In fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills, which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

ASSIGNMENTS

For assignment availability, detailed instructions, grading criteria and feedback response time, please review the important information in Canvas. Assignments in this course are always due by 11 pm on Saturdays. Failure to submit assignments by their due date means an automatic zero unless appropriate medical or judicial documentation is provided.

Weekly Discussion Posts (20 Points). 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. Students are required to read articles in the Weekly Discussion folders located in Canvas and respond to messages posted by the instructor on the Canvas Discussion Board. This is a detailed response that integrates your opinions with the course readings and research. Remember, your Weekly Discussion Response allows you to connect with other students. Further, often it is the deciding factor between receiving a higher or lower grade at the end of the term; graded Weekly Discussion opportunities will only be available Week 2 through 11. Only the first four completed Weekly Discussions will count toward the final grade. Weekly Discussions are always due by 11 pm on Saturdays the week they become available, unless noted otherwise in COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS. Please see the Weekly Discussion Instructions section of Canvas for specific information.

Exams (60 Points). Exams are intended to assess your understanding, retention, and knowledge of material covered in lectures and in the textbook. There will be three exams that are completed online; each exam is worth 20 points for a total of 60 points. Exams are not cumulative; they will only include material from the preceding unit of the course. They will be comprised of multiple-choice questions. EXAMS are always available from 12 am Thursday through 11 pm Saturdays the week they become available unless noted otherwise in COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS. Please see the Exam Instructions section of Canvas for specific information.

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. For quiz duration, grading criteria and feedback response time, please review the important information about quizzes page. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum hardware requirements. "Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you need further assistance please contact FIU Online Support Services."

Research Paper (20 Points). Students must complete one of the Research Paper options listed in Canvas; this assignment is worth 20 points. This assignment is intended to assess your ability to understand and apply course materials to “real life” experiences. Research Papers require students to answer three (3) sets of questions about a film, television episode or article that relates to the noted textbook chapters. Research Papers are always due by 11 pm on the Saturday they are due. This assignment be submitted by the posted due date and time; if you are unsure of the due date check the Course Calendar, and Announcements sections of this course shell. Please see the Research Paper Instructions section under MODULES- ASSIGNMENT INFO for specific expectations.

EXTRA CREDIT: Oral Presentation (10 Points). Students have the option of completing a recorded Oral Presentation; this bonus assignment is worth up to 10 points. This assignment is intended to assess your ability to critically examine course content and apply course materials to “real life” experiences. Oral Presentations require students to identify five course concepts that are applicable to a recent New York Times article. Students’ ability to critically examine this content will be illustrated through their oral discussion; these will be recorded via Zoom and posted in Canvas. Oral Presentations are due by 11 pm on the Saturday of the posted due date. This assignment be submitted by the posted due date and time; if you are unsure of the due date check the Course Calendar, and Announcements sections of this course shell. Please see the Oral Presentation

GRADING

Course Requirements Table

| Course Requirements | Number of Items | Points for Each | Total Points Available | Weight |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Research Paper | 1 | 20 | 20 | 20% |
| Exams | 3 | 20 | 60 | 60% |
| Discussion Posts | 4 | 5 | 20 | 20% |
| <i>Optional</i> Oral Presentation | 1 | 10 | 10 | 10% |
| Total | 9 | N/A | 110 | 110% |

Grade Schema Table

| Letter | Range% | Letter | Range% | Letter | Range% |
|--------|-------------|--------|---------|--------|------------|
| A | 95 or above | B | 80 - 84 | C | 65 - 69 |
| A- | 90 - 94 | B- | 75 - 79 | D | 60 - 64 |
| B+ | 85 - 89 | C+ | 70 - 74 | F | 59 or less |

Please note the total points a student can possibly earn in this course is 110; the Oral Presentation is an optional bonus assignment. For this reason, there will be NO ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXTRA CREDIT given for any reason.

Unit 1: Understanding Gender

| DATE | TOPICS | CHAPT |
|---|--|-------|
| WEEK 1 Aug. 24-29 | Course Orientation WEEK 1: A Feminist Psychology of Women | 1 |
| WEEK 2 Aug. 31- Sept. 5 | WEEK 2: Power & Privilege | 2 |
| WEEK 3 Sept. 8- 12 | WEEK 3: Similarities & Differences | 3 |
| WEEK 4 Sept. 14- 19 | WEEK 4: Beyond the Sex/ Gender Binary | 4 |
| WEEK 5 Sept. 21- 26 | WEEK 5: Gender Socialization | 5 |
| Thurs. Sept. 24 to Sat. Sept. 26 | Unit 1 Exam opens: Covers Weeks 1 through 5 lectures/ readings See EXAM INSTRUCTIONS for information Closes Saturday at 11 pm; you must be finished by 11 pm | |

Unit 2: Individual & Interpersonal Gender Development

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| WEEK 6 Sept. 28- Oct. 3 | WEEK 6: Women's Bodies | 6 |
| WEEK 7 Oct. 5 -10 | WEEK 7: Sexuality & Sexualization | 7 |
| WEEK 8 Oct. 12 -17 | WEEK 8: Relationships | 8 |
| Saturday Oct. 17 | Last day to submit RESEARCH PAPER. Due by 11pm See RESEARCH PAPER for more information | |
| WEEK 9 Oct. 19 -24 | WEEK 9: Reproduction & Mothering | 9 |
| WEEK 10 Oct. 26 -31 | WEEK 10: Work | 10 |
| WEEK 6 Sept. 28- Oct. 3 | WEEK 6: Women's Bodies | 6 |
| Thurs. Oct. 29 to Sat. Oct. 31 | Unit 2 Exam; Covers Weeks 6 through 10 lectures/ readings See EXAM INSTRUCTIONS for information Closes Saturday at 11 pm; you must be finished by 11 pm | |

Unit 3: Key Issues in Gender Research

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| WEEK 11 Nov. 2- 7 | WEEK 11: Older Women | 11 |
| WEEK 12 Nov. 9- 14 | WEEK 12: Gender Based Violence | 12 |
| Saturday Nov. 21 | Last day to submit SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS. Due by 11 pm See SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS for more information | |
| WEEK 13 Nov. 16- 21 | WEEK 13: Mental Health | 13 |
| Saturday Nov. 21 | Last day to submit OPTIONAL Oral Presentation. Due by 11pm See ORAL PRESENTATION for more information | |
| WEEK 14 Nov. 23 - Dec. 5 | WEEK 14: Tensions, Action & Hope for the Future | 14 |
| Thurs. Dec. 3 to Sat. Dec. 5 | Unit 3 Exam; Covers Weeks 11 through 14 lectures/ readings See EXAM INSTRUCTIONS for information Closes Saturday at 11 pm; you must be finished by 11 pm | |