



Psychology 439 -01

Psychology of Gender

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Lecture Location: SH 284
Lecture Days/Time: TR/12:30-13:45

Office: Admin 255B
Office Hours:

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 (e.g., stereotypes, 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, however, 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 University of Calgary Bookstore.]

Evaluation

Final course grades will be based on three course components:

1. Exams (50%)
2. Class participation (5%)
3. Class project (45%)

1. **Exams** (50% of final grade): There will be **three** non-cumulative exams with written answers (a few sentences to a paragraph in length). Exam questions will be generated from the textbook and lectures.

Exam	Date	Material Covered	Weighting
Exam #1	T Jan 31	Ch 1-4	10%
Exam #2	T Mar 6	Ch 5-7, 9	20%
Exam #3	T Mar 27	Ch 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. **Class project** (45% of final grade): As a class, we will produce a gender guide for undergraduate students (title to be determined later). We will identify 10 topic areas to be researched over the course of the term. Groups will make two oral presentations to the class (using power point): (a) a 5-minute proposal and (b) a 30-minute presentation based on the completed chapter. The method for assigning students to groups, project requirements, and evaluation criteria are posted on Blackboard. Groups will also hand in two written assignments: (a) the proposal on which their presentation was based and (b) the final draft of the chapter (see the Project Instructions posted on Blackboard for details).

Deadlines	Project Component	Weighting
T Jan 10	Choose 10 topics	0%
R Jan 12	Topics posted on Blackboard	0%
M Jan 23	Deadline for emailing rank ordered topics to Dr. Radtke	0%
T Jan 24	Groups posted on Blackboard	0%
R Mar 1	(1) 5 min ppt presentation of proposal and written proposal (2) Workshop participation (3) Peer evaluation forms for each group member	5% 1%
Mar 29 – Apr 12	30 min ppt project presentation of chapter content	12%
Apr 5 – Apr 26 (See the table on the next	Individual section of chapter Overall chapter Peer evaluation forms for each group member	15% 10% 1%

page for details)	Self-review	1%
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- Students who do not email their rankings of the topic areas by the deadline will be randomly assigned to a group.
- Power point presentations will be emailed to Dr. Radtke **one day before** the scheduled presentation.
- A student who misses their group's presentation of the proposal will receive 0% for the Workshop participation grade unless they provide documentation for a medical excuse. Without documentation, a student who misses their group's presentation of the chapter content will receive 0% for the Project Presentation grade.
- Submit a hard copy of the chapter and email a copy to Dr. Radtke.
- Late chapters will be accepted, but will be penalized one letter grade per day (e.g., an A paper handed in one day late will have the grade reduced to A-, etc.).

Groups	Presentation Date	Deadline for Chapter	Where to hand it in
1 and 2	R Mar 29	R Apr 5	In class
3 and 4	T Apr 3	T Apr 17	Green box (Admin 275)
5 and 6	R Apr 5	R Apr 19	Green box (Admin 275)
7 and 8	T Apr 10	T Apr 24	Green box (Admin 275)
9 and 10	R Apr 12	R Apr 26	Green box (Admin 275)

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
T Jan 10	Introduction to the course Identify preliminary list of topics for the group project	
R Jan 12	The Study of Gender Finalize list of topics for the group project	Ch 1
T Jan 17	Researching sex and gender	Ch 2
R Jan 19	Gender stereotypes: Masculinity and femininity	Ch 3
F Jan 20	Last day to drop a course with tuition refund.	
M Jan 23	Last day for registration/change of registration.	Deadline for choosing group project topic
T Jan 24	Gender stereotypes cont. Meet your group members	
R Jan 26	Hormones and chromosomes	Ch 4
T Jan 31	Exam #1	
R Feb 2	Theories of gender development	Ch 5
T Feb 7	Developing gender identity	Ch 6
R Feb 9	Developing gender identity cont.	
T Feb 14	Intelligence and cognitive abilities	Ch 7
R Feb 16	Relationships	Ch 9
T Feb 21	Reading days. No lecture.	
R Feb 23	Reading days. No lecture.	
T Feb 28	Relationships cont	
R Mar 1	Gender guide workshop	5 min group proposals
T Mar 6	Exam #2	
R Mar 8	Sexuality	Ch 10
T Mar 13	Sexuality	
R Mar 15	Gender, health and fitness	Ch 13
T Mar 20	Stress, coping and psychopathology	Ch 14
R Mar 22	How different?	Ch 16
T Mar 27	Exam #3	
R Mar 29	Presentations #1 and #2	
T Apr 3	Presentations #3 and #4	
R Apr 5	Presentations #5 and #6	
T Apr 10	Presentations #7 and #8	
R Apr 12	Presentations #9 and #10	
F Apr 13	Lecture ends. Last day to withdraw	

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.

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **Apr 13th, 2012**

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>. Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

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 suypaca@ucalgary.ca

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

Important Dates <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **January 20, 2012**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 23, 2012**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Apr 13, 2012**.