COURSE OVERVIEW
FCS 3245, section 001
Human Sexuality: In a Dynamic and Diverse Society

Time: Wednesdays 7:15 to 10:00 pm, Location: AEB 320, Spring 2015
Instructor: M. Andrew Montgomery, M.B.A., M.S.W.
Phone 801.581.6521, Cell: 801.430.5458
Email: andrew.montgomery@utah.edu, mandrewmx@gmail.com
Office Hours: By appointment only

HYBRID COURSE:
We will meet most weeks this semester but some weeks we will hold class online.

COURSE OVERVIEW:
This may be the most important course you take as its subject -- human sexuality -- has such a large impact on your life. In almost every decision we make, sex influences our choices. Sex can be many things -- fun, loving, vital for our survival -- but it can also be dangerous, and lack of knowledge about it can hurt us. Because sexuality is a core component in people’s lives, this course mostly focuses on healthy sexual choices in relation to one’s body, sexual interactions with others, and how we relate, understand, and experience sexuality in a dynamic and diverse society. The course will also look at the dark side of sexuality. This is a university-level course, thus we will sometimes delve into what society views as taboo. We cannot truly know about something if we don’t look at all sides and pieces of it; therefore, students are expected to be respectful, mature, and tolerant of other people’s points of view as we address controversial topics such as abortion, religion, or abuse. Also, we will evaluate developmental, familial, societal and other environmental factors that influence our sexual identity and our sexual behaviors. Finally, we will discuss how we choose to use our bodies, minds, and emotions sexually and evaluate the repercussions of those choices.

GOALS:
The entire course will endeavor to create a safe and trusting learning space in which students will be able to explore a variety of themes and issues regarding human sexuality at the personal as well as at the academic level. Emphasis will be on enhancing your ability to self-reflect about your own sexuality as well as analyze society’s impact on sexuality. Students will examine how different cultures, ethnic groups, and belief systems interpret and view sexuality. The basic assumption of this class is that most of our difficulties regarding our sexual experiences come from not
knowing, discussing, or understanding the implications of our decisions. Sexuality can have profound effects in one’s life course trajectory, examples like pregnancy both expected and unexpected, rape, abuse, and sexually transmitted diseases can all have impacts on the direction one’s life takes. Understanding how to not only act but also communicate in a sexually healthy manner will increase the chances that your sexual experiences will be positive and rewarding.

COURSE READINGS:
by Robert L. Crooks (Author), Karla Baur (Author)

COURSE GRADING REQUIREMENTS:
Attendance 20%
Mid-term Exam 20%
Term Paper 20%
Group Project & Presentation 20%
Final Exam 20%

Grading Scale:
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LEARNING OUTCOMES:
1. Describe and explain the multicultural history of sexuality
2. Understand the significant theoretical perspectives that inform the study of human sexuality
3. Explain the significant research methodologies within the discipline
4. Understand gender, its definition, and its role
5. Recognize anatomical and physiological details relating to both sexes
6. Differentiate between major theories of love
7. Understand processes of sexual arousal and response
8. Understand processes of conception and childbirth
9. Explain methods of contraception
10. Understand and differentiate between different types of sexually transmitted diseases, the behaviors leading to them and prevention methods
11. Understand the uses and abuses of sexuality in the media and society
12. Recognize Paraphilias and the changing nature of social acceptance for abnormal behaviors