

The Psychology of Sex and Gender: PSYC-2420
Section 001 Tu/Th 10:00-11:15 am Room 4L28
Section 002 Tu/Th 1:00- 2:15 pm Room 3M62

Winter 2018 Course Outline

Instructor: Dr. Lisa Sinclair
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REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

Text Book: Bosson, J.K., Vandello, J.A., & Buckner, C.E. (2018). *The Psychology of Sex and Gender* (1st Ed.)
Please note this text will not be published until February so in the meantime I will be providing PDFs of the chapter on the course website or giving you free access to an online version of the text.
Supplemental readings may be assigned in class.

COURSE WEBSITE: <https://nexus.uwinnipeg.ca/d2l/login>

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course examines whether and to what extent behaviours and attributes are gender-and/or sex related. The psychological literature is examined for findings pertinent to the question of female-male differences and similarities, and for indications of socio-cultural and biological factors that may explain these findings. Current social beliefs and norms concerning sex and gender are examined in the light of existing data. Prerequisite: 44.1000/6

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Welcome to The Psychology of Sex and Gender. The purpose of this course is, quite simply, to provide an overview of the research and theory on sex and gender in psychology. Specific goals of the course are:

- An awareness of the hidden and obvious gender biases in the study of human behaviour and an appreciation of the complexity of the research on gender issues.
- Clarification of the nature and development of gender differences and gender roles.
- Development of critical thinking and skill in evaluating gender research as well as depictions of gender in the media and entertainment industry.
- Development of an intellectual tolerance and respect for others' viewpoints.
- Development of self-understanding and empowerment, appreciating that we need not be constrained by traditional gender roles and stereotypes.
- Consideration of and appreciation for the complexity and controversial nature of gender-related “hot” topics.

COURSE MECHANICS: Classes will be primarily lecture format with some class discussions, activities, videos and demonstrations where possible. Students are encouraged to attend class, critically examine information presented in class, participate in discussions, demonstrations and exercises associated with the course, and read assigned course material. Class meetings will be used (a) to clarify, illustrate, and/or apply information presented in the text, (b) to delve more intensively into topics covered by the text, and (c) to examine material not discussed in the text. **Class meetings will not serve as mere duplications or repetitions of text material.** Your success in this course depends on attending class regularly, actively participating in class, and taking thorough notes. If you simply cannot avoid missing a class, borrow notes from a classmate.

GRADE COMPONENTS

1. TESTS (85%): Tests are non-cumulative and equally weighted. Questions will be based on the textbook, lectures, films, supplementary readings, etc.

<i>Tests</i>	<i>Tentative Chapters</i>	<i>Tentative Dates</i>
Test 1	1 - 4	January 30
Test 2	5 - 9	March 6
Test 3	10-14	April 20 9a.m.

Some adjustments may be made in the text material to be covered for each test. For example, not all chapters may be covered and/or chapters may be reordered and possibly tested on a different date than listed above. Announcement of changes will be made in class.

Please Note:

- Bring Photo-ID to all tests as well as two sharpened pencils.
- Electronic devices (e.g. calculators, cell phones, etc.) are banned for all tests.
- All tests are property of the Psychology Department. They must be returned to the instructor or teaching assistant following review, upon penalty of course failure.
- We do not have a lot of extra lecture time so I will normally not hand back or go over tests during class time. To see your test, please arrange an appointment with me or a teaching assistant.

Missed Tests: A grade of 0 will be given for any test that a student fails to write. Students are entitled to a rescheduling of tests for legitimate medical or compassionate reasons (documented illness, physical injury or disability, or challenging personal circumstances beyond a student's control). To minimize the intrusion of this process into your privacy, **please note** that I do not need to know your diagnosis or other details of the illness, disability, or personal circumstances. I will also support a deferral if you must be absent due to illness, injury, or challenging personal circumstances affecting your child or others dependent on you for care or support, but this must also be documented. If you are not certain what kind of documentation to get in a particular situation, please contact me for advice. It is *your responsibility* to a) Notify me before the scheduled time for the writing of the test, or if that is not possible within 24 hours of missing the test. Please email me or if that is not possible telephone me at the University, and leave a message AND b) Provide appropriate documentation (a medical certificate from your physician; documentation from a counsellor, lawyer, advising clergy, etc.). **Please note:** Documentation must state that the student was unable to write the test on the test date.

2. Critical Reflection Papers (15%). For each chapter, you will write a short paper that will allow you to reflect on and apply critical thinking skills to material covered in that chapter plus one "wrap-up" paper at the end of term. For Chapter 1 and the "wrap-up" paper, questions will be assigned. For all other papers (Ch 2-14), you may write on any topic as long as it is related to the chapter. More details and examples of paper topics will be given in class. These papers may be marked by a teaching assistant (with the exception of chapter 1 and wrap-up) so if there is a particular paper that you prefer only be read by me please include a note on Nexus. There are no right or wrong answers for these papers. Papers will be checked for completeness and understanding and graded pass/fail. Papers must be typed using 12-point font, be double-spaced, have 1" margins, be a minimum of 1 page, and submitted on Nexus (if you don't know how to use Nexus please book an appointment with me). Papers not meeting these requirements will be given an automatic fail. References are not needed unless you go outside the text or quote directly from the text. Due dates will be posted on Nexus. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Students sometimes groan when they hear there will be a written component to the course and so here are some of the reasons why I have included these assignments

- 1) Research has shown linking course material to your personal experiences helps you learn and better retain the material.
- 2) It allows you to practice your writing and critical thinking skills in a non-evaluative context (pass/fail).
- 3) It allows me to give you “participation” marks so your grade is not completely dependent on tests. These are not meant to be “long” assignments or “research” papers.
- 4) It will help you keep up with the readings.
- 5) There is not a lot of time for class discussion so these papers give me insight into your thoughts and opinions and also allow you to express opinions that you may not want to share in a group context. I specifically termed these papers critical because I want students to feel it is ok to agree or to disagree and challenge material presented in lecture or the text.

Please note: There are no alternative assignments, extra credit work, etc. The critical reflection papers are meant as a way for students to demonstrate their knowledge outside of tests.

GRADES: Letter grades will be assigned based on the following table.

A+	95-100%	B+	75-79%	C+	65-69%	D	50-59%	Fractions will be rounded up to the next
A	85-94%	B	70-74%	C	60-64%	F	0-49%	letter grade.
A-	80-85%							

These cutoffs are *tentative* and may be changed in either direction by (i) the instructor, (ii) the Departmental Review Committee, or (iii) the Senate, when circumstances warrant.

VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL: The final date to withdraw from this course without penalty is **March 14, 2018**. Please refer to the General Calendar for VW procedures. **Note:** You must formally withdraw from a course. If you simply stop going to classes, you may receive an “F” on your transcript and withdrawing before the VW date does not necessarily result in a fee refund. *If you are considering withdrawing from this course, I encourage you to talk to me in case I can help in anyway.*

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism, cheating and other academic offenses. Students are encouraged to read the section on Academic Misconduct in the General Calendar.

OTHER UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found online at www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect.

Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 786-9771 or accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student’s disability or medical condition remains confidential. <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>.

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make-up work and/or examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found at:

<http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf>

When it is necessary to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, instructors will make every effort to inform you via uwinnipeg email, as well as the departmental assistant and Chair/Dean so that class cancellation forms can be posted outside classrooms.

Your uwinnipeg email address will normally be used for course related correspondence.

There are no classes from February 18 to 24 (Winter reading week) or on Friday, March 30 (Good Friday).

Classes end April 4. April 5 is the class make-up date for courses that conflict with Good Friday, March 30.

Avoiding Academic Misconduct. Uploading essays and other assignments to essay vendor or essay trader sites (filesharing sites that are known providers of essays for use by others who submit them to instructors as their own work) involves “aiding and abetting” plagiarism. Students who do this can be charged with Academic Misconduct.

Avoiding Copyright Violation. Course materials are owned by the instructor who developed them. Examples of such materials are course outlines, assignment descriptions, lecture notes, test questions, and presentation slides. Students who upload these materials to filesharing sites, or in any other way share these materials with others outside the same class without prior permission of the instructor/presenter, are in violation of copyright law and University policy. Students must also obtain instructor/presenter permission before photographing or recording slides, presentations, lectures, and notes on the board.

ENJOY THE COURSE

Lisa Sinclair