Psychology of Women
50:830:303
FALL TERM, 2010
T, TH 4:30-5:50 PM
401 PEN

Instructor: Dr. Courtenay Cavanaugh
Phone: (856) 225-6120
Email: cocavana@camden.rutgers.edu
Office Hours: Thursdays 11:00 a.m.-1 p.m. or by appointment
Office Location: Armitage #307

Course Goals:
The objectives of this course are to 1) examine the psychological impact of being female and 2) review research and theory on the development of sex differences in identity and other aspects of personality.

Required Reading:
There is no required textbook for this course. Required reading will consist of articles and chapters. The assigned articles and chapters will be made available to you on Sakai. Readings are to be completed before the class on the same horizontal line in which they are listed. For example, you are expected to have read reference article 1 for the class on September 7, 2010.

Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percent Total Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final grades will be based upon a grading system not more stringent than the one below. Note for pass/no credit you must earn a C to pass the course.

A  179-200 points, 90-100%
B+ 171-178 points, 86%-89%
B  159-170 points, 80%-85%
C+ 151-158 points, 76%-79%
C  139-150 points, 70%-75%
D  119-138 points, 60-69%
F  0-118 points, 0-59%

Exams (100 points):
The midterm and final exams will be based upon the assigned readings, class lectures, and class activities. The midterm and final exams will take place during class. Each exam
will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. Make-up exams will only be given for what I think are truly exceptional circumstances. In these cases, you need to contact me within 24 hours of the exam and explain the situation. You will also need to provide evidence of this exceptional circumstance.

**Paper (40 points):**
You will be required to write a scientific paper proposal aimed to further our understanding of the psychology of women. The paper should have one inch margins, Times New Roman font, and be six pages double spaced. In this paper, you will need to have at least five scientific references that do not include those assigned in your required reading. Use the reference style of the American Psychological Association. A brief paragraph describing your paper topic and hypotheses is due on October 14, 2010. The paper is due at the beginning of the class period on November 23, 2010.

The paper will be graded based upon how well you do on the following:
1. Describe the relevant background literature that sets the stage for your proposed study and the gaps in that literature.
2. Describe the purpose of the proposed project. The purpose of your project should be linked to the gaps in the literature outlined. What is the goal of your study and what hypotheses do you have about what you expect to find?
3. Describe how the study would be carried out including how you would try to protect participants from experiencing any harm from being in your study.
4. Discuss the potential significance of the study in terms of its implications. For example, could this study lead to a breakthrough in understanding a specific phenomenon?
5. The quality of your writing including proper use of grammar and clarity.

**Class Participation (60 points):**
Student grades will also be based upon participation in class. This will include writing briefly about something, discussing something with your classmates in small groups and large discussions, or other classroom activities. You will receive points for your participation in classroom discussions and activities.

**Classroom Conduct:**
In order to promote a positive environment for learning, I expect students to adhere to the following classroom rules:

No electronic devices (cell phones, computers, etc.) will be allowed in this class unless you provide evidence of a disability that warrants the use of such technology. In this case, you need to provide me with a note from the disability coordinator. So make sure you turn off cell phones before class and keep all electronic devices put away.

You are expected to communicate with me and other students in a respectful manner. Some of the material presented in class as well as opinions of other students may not be the same as yours and it is fine to have a different opinion, but it is essential that you express it in a respectful manner.
No cheating, plagiarizing, or other academic misconduct will be tolerated. It is your responsibility to know these rules and their consequences. 
http://cat.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html. If you have questions about this matter, either check http://cat.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html or ask me.

You are expected to arrive to class on time and not leave early.

Finally, I expect you to pay attention and not engage in side conversations with your neighbor. Doing so is distracting to me and other students.

I reserve the right to lower your participation points and possibly your overall grade further if you violate these rules.

Also, please use the restroom before class in order to avoid distractions.

**Other course information:**

I will use Sakai to communicate with you about this class and communicate with you through your Rutgers email addresses so you need to check that email account and use Sakai in order to stay informed.

This syllabus is a working document and may be revised throughout the course.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 1:</td>
<td>Th, 9/2</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Course Overview</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 2:</td>
<td>T, 9/7</td>
<td>History of the Psychology of Women</td>
<td>Reference 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 9/9</td>
<td>Continued Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 3:</td>
<td>T, 9/14</td>
<td>Gender Comparisons Research</td>
<td>References 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 9/16</td>
<td>Continued Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 4:</td>
<td>T, 9/21</td>
<td>Biology Vs. Socialization</td>
<td>Reference 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 9/23</td>
<td>Continued Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 5:</td>
<td>T, 9/28</td>
<td>Girls in Infancy and Childhood</td>
<td>Reference 5-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 9/30</td>
<td>Continued Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 6:</td>
<td>T, 10/5</td>
<td>Adolescent Girls</td>
<td>Reference 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 10/7</td>
<td>Continued Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 7:</td>
<td>T, 10/12</td>
<td>Women’s Bodies</td>
<td>References 8-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 10/14</td>
<td>Continued Discussion/Hypothesis</td>
<td>Topic Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 8:</td>
<td>T, 10/19</td>
<td>Sexuality</td>
<td>Reference 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 10/21</td>
<td>Continued Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 9:</td>
<td>T, 10/26</td>
<td>Women &amp; Work</td>
<td>Reference 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 10/28</td>
<td>Continued Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 10:</td>
<td>T, 11/2</td>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 11/4</td>
<td>Violence Against Women</td>
<td>Reference 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 11:</td>
<td>T, 11/9</td>
<td>Continued Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 11/11</td>
<td>Women and Physical Health</td>
<td>Reference 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 12:</td>
<td>T, 11/16</td>
<td>Women’s Psychological Well-Being</td>
<td>Reference 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 11/18</td>
<td>Motherhood</td>
<td>Reference 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 13:</td>
<td>T, 11/23</td>
<td>Continued Discussion/Paper Due</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 11/25</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Recess-NO Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 14:</td>
<td>T, 11/30</td>
<td>Multicultural Issues Among Women</td>
<td>Reference 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 12/2</td>
<td>Continued Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 15:</td>
<td>T, 12/7</td>
<td>Women in Middle to Late Years</td>
<td>Reference 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Th, 12/9</td>
<td>Final Exam (6 Readings/Lectures)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
References


8 Caplan, P.J. (2008, Summer). Pathologizing your period: Despite a lack of evidence, the psychiatric establishment has made extreme premenstrual distress a recognized disorder—and a boon to Big Pharma. Ms 63-64.


12 Stahly, G.B. (2008). Battered women: Why don’t they just leave? In J.C. Chrisler, C. Golden & P.D. Rozee (Eds), Lectures on the psychology of women (pp. 356-


Other References Available on Sakai

**Patriarchy**

**History of the Psychology of Women**

**Gender Comparisons**

**Biology versus. Socialization**

**Mensturation**


Adolescence

Body Issues


Women & Work


Disabilities

Women of Color