

Sociology/Women's Studies 1006 – Social Construction of Sexuality

Fall Semester 2008

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Office Hours: Thursdays 12-2 and by appt.

Recitation Overview

Recitations are meant to offer a smaller venue more conducive to the discussion of course material. The participation of everyone is critical to the recitation experience for all of us. You are expected to attend recitation prepared to discuss readings and other course material. You will all be expected to participate even if that means simply being an active listener.

In order to create a comfortable and open environment where all members of the class are willing to share their thoughts and ideas, I require all students to behave in a respectful manner toward one another at all times. While enthusiastic debate and discussion are essential and encouraged, insensitive or rude comments based on race, gender, class, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or beliefs will not be tolerated.

Please be mindful of others' right to speak, *particularly if you disagree*. I will make every effort to allow anyone who is interested in speaking a full opportunity to do so.

Evaluation Components

Of the 450 points possible in the course overall 90 points will be determined exclusively in recitation. In addition, I am primarily responsible for the grading of your work in this course.

Course Agreement Form – Necessary to Remain Enrolled

You will need to print, read, sign in ink, and give to me a Course Agreement Form (available on CU Learn) by the end of lecture on Thursday September 4th. Failure to do so means that I will administratively drop you from the course. There are no exceptions to this policy.

Written Assignments

- Handwritten assignments *will not be accepted for any credit* unless specific arrangements have been made with me at least 48 hours prior to the due date and time.
- Assignments submitted electronically *will not be accepted for any credit* unless specific arrangements have been made with me at least 48 hours prior to the due date and time.
- If you have made arrangements to send me emailed assignments the content must appear in the body of the email. Emails with an attachment I delete without reading.
- Assignments that are more than one page must be stapled or I will only accept the first page for credit, if at all. Do *not* use paper clips, binder clips, fancy folds, tape, glue, or any other method of attaching paper together other than a staple.
- Written assignments must be produced by machine with black ink.
- Use a standard, legible 11 or 12 point font; double space the text.
- Margins should be either 1" or 1.25" on all sides.
- Written assignments may always be turned in early by placing them in the envelope with my name on it on my office door.
- Assignment-specific guidelines take precedence over these general guidelines if there is any contradiction.
- Two-sided printing and printing on a clean side of scrap paper is acceptable and encouraged for assignments with length limits longer than one page.

Reading Summaries and Responses (RSaRs) - 30 points

For all but one (1) reading from the second week of class (September 2nd) until the first exam you are required to turn in a Reading Summary and Response (RSaR). This means that for

each individual reading (*not* each day's worth of reading) you will turn in an RSaR. The article by Rubin cannot be the reading for which you do not complete an RSaR.

In order to remain consistent with the demands of Glenda, RSaRs for each reading assigned the week of your recitation are due at the beginning of recitation for that week. For example, if you're recitation is on Tuesday, at the beginning of each recitation you should be prepared to turn in an RSaR for each reading due that week (both Tuesday and Thursday).

Reading summaries and responses must adhere to the following *formatting* guidelines:

- The length limit per RSaR is one page. All content must appear on one side of one sheet of paper.
- Identify the last name of the author and the title of the reading on each RSaR.
- Your name, the date, and the author / title information may be placed outside of the 1 inch or 1.25 inch margins in a header if necessary to conserve space.

Reading summaries and responses must adhere to the following *content* guidelines:

The summary portion of each RSaR should do just that: summarize the main points of the reading. The reading summary shall be no less than three sentences and no more than five sentences long. *You may not use quotes in the summary portion of the RSaR.* No sentence in the summary may contain more than twenty-five words.

The response portion should be a personal response to some aspect of the content of the reading. You may state what you found interesting, what you could relate to and why, what you agreed with, what you disagreed with, what you didn't understand, and any other thoughts inspired by the reading. *You may use quotes in the reading response but you must comment on why you are including the quote.*

Reading Summaries and Responses will be due *at the beginning of class* the day for which the reading is assigned. Therefore the first RSaRs are due the second week of class.

Each of these assignments will be graded on a scale of check-plus (✓+) indicating full credit, an X indicating partial credit, or a zero indicating no credit earned. You are welcome to criticize or disagree with the arguments presented in the readings in your response. The response will be evaluated based on whether or not it is clear that you actually put effort into thinking about the reading and writing your response not on the specific issues you address.

A typical RSaR should take you less than 20 minutes to complete. If you are spending more time than this please see me for advice.

Completing any portion of another student's RSaR I consider academic honesty. Evidence that this has occurred will result in, at minimum, a zero (0) for this portion of the course and may result in a zero (0) for the semester course grade.

Reading Syntheses - 35 points

For the second section of the course, beginning immediately after the first exam (Thursday 9.25.08) and continuing until the second exam (Thursday 11.6.08) you are required to turn in a reading synthesis. These are to be critical, engaged responses to the week's required readings. They should address each and every reading assigned for that week. Reading Syntheses should be organized thematically or conceptually; they should not be organized by reading. In other words, they should not be a number of reading summaries strung together.

Each reading synthesis will be graded on a ten point scale. I will drop the one (1) lowest grade earned on the Reading Syntheses. If you choose not to complete one I will consider that your lowest grade on a Reading Synthesis and drop it. Length limit is two pages.

Attendance – 10 points

Most, but not necessarily all, course meetings I will either pass around an attendance sheet or ask a student to begin an attendance sheet that you should sign. It is your responsibility to make sure you have signed the attendance sheet for days you attend. Signing the form for

another student constitutes academic dishonesty. You may miss two (2) recitations without penalty. I do not require excuses, explanations, or other justifications for missing class. If an extraordinary situation is going to prevent you from coming to a significant number of classes let me know as soon as possible so we can discuss your options.

Participation - 15 points

Participation will be based on my sense of your overall contribution to our recitation.

Class Policies

Returned Student Work

Keep ALL of your returned assignments and graded exams until the end of the semester. Students bear the burden of proof for disputes related to grades. In other words, it is your responsibility to provide the original document(s) I have graded, with my comments, for reconsideration or correction of my records.

Grade Concerns

I want you to do well in this class. Really. I am here to teach you, improve your academic skills, and encourage your interest and understanding of these subjects. I am happy and willing to offer any help I can within reason. **If you become concerned about your grade, please see/contact me immediately, preferably during office hours. Do not wait until the end of the semester when it will be too late to work with you on improving your grade.**

When I return written work to you, take some time to read my comments. I take the time to correct and comment on papers for a reason. If you cannot read my writing or are not familiar with standard proofreading symbols please ask me about them. If you have concerns, make an appointment with me during office hours and come to the meeting having written down your specific questions and/or comments.

General Policies

- Check your email and CU Learn regularly. These are the means by which I will inform you of any significant changes to the course.
- Arriving to class late, leaving early, sleeping, talking, reading, or otherwise being distracted and distracting other students, are not acceptable classroom activities. Doing so will result in you losing credit for attendance for that day. Repeated violations may result in your being asked not to attend recitation.
- *I have no tolerance for cell phones in class. Do NOT set your phone to vibrate; turn them off or completely silence them.* As of the start of class I should neither hear nor see cell phones for any reason. Vibrating phones can still be heard by other students and are therefore still distracting. If I do see or hear a cell phone in class I reserve the right to penalize your grade for each occurrence.
- I am prohibiting the use of laptops in the classroom this semester. If you have a documented disability that is alleviated by the use of a laptop you will need to see me during office hours to arrange for an exception to this rule.
- You may not photograph, or use audio or video recording devices of any kind, including cellular phones, during class, without my express prior written permission.
- Please let me know immediately if you have a health problem or disability that necessitates leaving the room during class time, consistently arriving late, or needing to leave early. If other reasons will prevent you from being unable to regularly get to class on time or needing to regularly leave early you should drop this class. Arriving late and leaving early is distracting to me and other students. I reserve the right to penalize students for ALL of their attendance participation points if a particular student is consistently arriving late or leaving early. In addition, I will also ask that you no longer attend class. Clearly this will significantly impact your grade. If an occasion arises where you need to leave early or arrive late please sit in a seat as near to the door as possible and take special care to enter/leave quietly.

- You may not make up in-class work, either in lecture or recitation. If you miss a class, please get notes from a classmate rather than asking me, the instructor, for notes. **You are responsible for all information communicated in class, whether or not you are in attendance.**
- I take cheating and dishonesty very seriously. Honor code violations will be reported to the Honor Code Council and will result in a zero (0) for the assignment *at a minimum* and may also result in a zero (0) for your course grade.

Other Obligations

Every reasonable effort will be made to deal fairly with students who, because of religious obligations, participation in athletics or other structured activities, have just cause to request assistance coping with conflicts with attendance or assignments. *All students to whom this applies must contact me in writing listing specific obligations and dates within the first two weeks of class.* Forgetting to do so is not a valid excuse.

Changes

Although I do not expect to do so, I reserve the right to change any aspect of recitation as I deem necessary.

University Policies

Honor Code

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid that constitutes academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening or intimidating behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council and those students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member involved and non-academic sanctions given by the Honor Code Council (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Please refer to <http://www.colorado.edu/honorcode> to view the specific guidelines. If you have any questions related to this policy, contact the Honor Code Council at honor@colorado.edu.

Discrimination and Harassment

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>.

Religious Holidays

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, you should notify me at least two weeks ahead of time to request special accommodation if you have a conflict. See full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html.

Students with Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter to me from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities (Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>).