**Wayland Mission Statement**

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

**Contact Information**

**Course**

: PSYC 4319 VC01 – Human Sexuality

**Campus**

: WBUonline

**Term/Session**

**:** Summer 2025 CMP

**Instructor**

**:** Heather Dillard, MA

**WBU Email Address**

**:** heather.dillard@wayland.wbu.edu

**Office Hours, Building, and Location**

**:** WBUonline

**Class Meeting Time and Location**

**:** WBUonline

**Course Information**

**Catalog Description**

**:** Various facets of human sexuality including historical traditions, gender and sexual identity, anatomy and physiology as it affects sexuality, wellness, arousal and responsiveness, love and affection, infertility and pregnancy, sexuality throughout the lifespan, sexual dysfunction and therapy, STDs, and sexual abuse.

**There is no prerequisite for this course.**

**Textbook Information**

**Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Materials**

**:** *Human Sexuality in a Changing World,* by Spencer A. Rathus. (Edition: 10th) ISBN: 9780134525075

*The textbook for this course is part of the* ***Wayland’s Automatic eBook*** *program. You will have access to an eBook and interactive learning material on the first day of class through your Blackboard course site. The cost of this Automatic eBook will be billed directly to your student account when you register for the course. You will be notified via email with access instructions and additional information. If you do not wish to participate in the Automatic eBook program, you will have the first 12 days of class to opt-out of the program (additional details will be outlined in your email instructions). For more information on the Automatic eBook program, visit the Wayland Bookstore* [*Automatic eBook FAQ*](https://bookstore.wbu.edu/site_inclusive.asp) *page.*

**Course Outcome Competencies**

**:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

* Describe the major concepts and theories related to human sexuality, including anatomy and physiology, sexual arousal and expression, relationships and gender
* List major sexual diseases and dysfunctions and evaluate methods of prevention and treatment.
* Explain how sexual attitudes and values have changed over time and across cultures
* Describe the reasons for, and the effects of, commercial sex (prostitution and pornography)
* Identify the causes of sexual assault, how to minimize the probability of such assault, and what to do after an assault has occurred as evidenced by major exam
* Analyze the moral, ethical and religious aspects of sexuality

**Attendance Requirements**

WBUonline

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 2 or more weeks of an 8-week session, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given session is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

**University Policies**

[Link to Statement on Academic Integrity , and reference one of the following in regard to how generative artificial intelligence (GAI) such as ChatGPT may or may not be used in this course:](https://www.wbu.edu/academics/writing-center/Academic%20Integrity%20Statement%20Pol%208.4.1%20Attch%20Oct%2020222.pdf)

1. Generative AI tools permitted in specific context and with proper citations.
   1. Students are allowed to use, reference, or incorporate generative AI tools into specific assignments for this course. When used, students must properly cite the generative AI tool in their submitted work.
   2. While there is no true substitute for direct help and instruction for your instructor, students may be allowed to use generative AI tools to provide further explanations of course content, readings, and other assignments. Any use of generative AI tools to help further explain or translate to content must be properly referenced and cited.
   3. Specific parameters for generative AI usage are provided by the instructor.
   4. Any use of generative AI tools outside of the approved instructor parameters will be considered a form of plagiarism and academic dishonesty.

**Disability Statement**

**:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Disability Services Coordinator and Academic Coach serves as the coordinator of students with disabilities and must be contacted concerning accommodation requests (office (806) 291-1057. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

Accessibility issues with content in WBUonline courses or in Blackboard should be addressed to the WBU accessibility coordinator, Dr. Rick Hammer, [hammerr@wbu.edu](mailto:hammerr@wbu.edu) or call (806) 292-9150.

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria**

**Please complete the Required First Assignment in main menu folder at the top of your Bb course page \*\*FIRST.\*\***. This is so that WBU can get an accurate count of class attendance and participation. Please complete this assignment first. All other assignment deadlines are listed below.

Weekly Assignments will begin each Monday. They will be due by the next Sunday of that week at midnight. **Please note:** **5 points per day will be taken for each late assignment. So don’t be late.** Pay close attention to when assignments are due and plan accordingly.

**Discussion Board posts** – Eight at 10 points each/ 80 points total

Each of your discussion board posts should be at least 250 words. Besides posting your own responses to each discussion board question, I want you to **reply to at least 1 other student**. When you respond to another’s post, the responses need to be at least 100 words long. Put some thought into these. Don’t respond with a generic, “That’s a good point. I agree with you.”

While some discussion board posts might ask you to give a response based on your own experiences, these posts are not the time to air your personal opinions. Use thoughts and ideas from the book to guide your discussion. “The author wrote \_\_\_\_ in chapter 3. This affects the way we approach counseling theories because…” Put some thought and effort into it.

**You may use ChatGPT or other AI tool to help with discussion boards. \*\*However, you MUST read back through and put the discussion in your own words.\*\*** Do not just copy and paste. It is obvious when a post is just a generic copy and paste. In Discussion Board prompts, I usually ask you specific questions about the chapter. MAKE SURE YOU ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS. Do not just create a generic post that vaguely addresses the topic. This is not what I’m looking for. I want these posts to get you to *think* about the topic for yourself, and *discuss* it with your classmates. ***See University Policies section of this syllabus for more details about citing and using AI for coursework.***

**Video Analysis Reports** – 3 at 100 points each/ 300 points total

I want you to be able to apply ideas from the course to understand how human sexuality works in real life. But how can I assess this? Well, in modern society, one way we can share the same experience is by watching the same video. It gives us some common reference points (characters, behaviors, and relationships) that you can write about in light of what you have learned about human sexuality. You will buy, rent, or stream these somewhere and watch them wherever you have access.

**Each report will be 500-600 words** **- double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font.** This is NOT a summary of the plot, a review of the movie, or a record of your emotional reaction to the movie. It is a way for you to show me how you can apply ideas and insights from class to understand human nature in new and deeper ways. Movies include lots of characters, behaviors, and relationships. Do not write about all of them. **Choose just one or two as your focus**. Talk about how a sex researcher might interpret the character’s thoughts, feelings, actions, strategies, interests, and relationships. Use the ideas, terms and theories from the readings and lectures—not just to show that you know what they mean, but show how they can help you understand real human life.

**Exams** – Three at 140 points each/ 420 points total

Exam 1 will be in Week 3 and cover chapters 1-6.

Exam 2 will be in Week 6 and will cover chapters 7-12.

Exam 3 will be in Week 8 and will be comprehensive (covers information from all textbook chapters).

**\*\*Exams are open-book.** However, be advised that you will still need to actually read the textbook chapters. If you are not familiar with where to find certain topics within the textbook, you may run out of time trying to look for it. So you need to at least be familiar with the content of each chapter before you begin the exam.

**Grade Scoring Breakdown**

Discussion Board 80 points 10%

Video Analysis Reports 300 points 37.5%

Exam 1 140 points 17.5%

Exam 2 140 points 17.5%

Exam 3 140 points 17.5%

Totals 800 points 100%

**The University has a standard grade scale:**

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term, within the last week of an 8-week session, or within the last two days of a microterm to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student’s control. A grade of “incomplete” is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long 16-week term or 8-week session, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion.  If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

**Student Grade Appeals**

**:** Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

**Tentative Schedule**

Weekly Assignments will begin each Monday. They will be due by the next Sunday of that week at midnight. **Please note:** **Five (5) points per day will be taken for each late assignment. So don’t be late.** Pay close attention to when assignments are due and plan accordingly.

**Week 1**

* **Please complete the Required First Assignment in main menu folder at the top of your Bb course page \*\*FIRST.\*\***. This is so that WBU can get an accurate count of class attendance and participation. Please complete this assignment by **June 5th**. All other assignment deadlines are listed below.
* **Read** Chapter 1-2.
* **Finish** Discussion Board #1 post by June 8th.

**Week 2**

* **Read** Chapter 3-4.
* **Finish** Discussion Board post #2 by June 15th.
* **Finish Video Analysis Report 1** by June 15th.

**Week 3**

* **Read** Chapter 5-6.
* **Finish** Discussion Board post #3 by June 22nd.
* **Finish Exam 1** by June 22nd. This exam covers chapters 1-6.

**Week 4**

* **Read** Chapters 7-8.
* **Finish** Discussion Board post #4 by June 29th.
* **Finish Video Analysis Report 2** by June 29th.

**Week 5**

* **Read** Chapters 9-10.
* **Finish** Discussion Board post #5 by July 6th.

**Week 6**

* **Read** Chapter 11-12.
* **Finish** Discussion Board post #6 by July 13th.
* **Finish Exam 2** by July 13th. This exam covers chapters 7-12.

**Week 7**

* **Read** Chapters 13-14.
* **Finish** Discussion Board post #7 by July 20th.
* **Finish Video Analysis Report 3** by July 20th.

**Week 8**

* ***Please Note: Assignments are due on Saturday of this week (7/26) due to end of Summer term.***
* **Read** Chapters 15-16.
* **Finish** Discussion Board post #8 by July 26th.
* **Finish Exam 3** by July 26th. This exam will be comprehensive (covering information from all textbook chapters).
* **Submit** Instructor Evaluation by July 26th.
  + **There are 2 available methods for you to take course evaluations:**  
      
    1. Click on the link in your WBU email that has been sent to you from WBU's Research Mgmt department, and it will direct you to the survey. \*Unique link provided to each student\*

2. Log-in to your WBU Blackboard account and select "Surveys" from the pop-up box that will appear upon login into the system.

**Additional Information**

**Because of its focus on human sexuality issues, you may find that the materials in this, and other human development courses, will cause you to reflect on your own family life and other unresolved issues in your personal life. The experience of reflection can be a useful tool in learning the material. However, for some, reflecting on sexuality can bring up unpleasant memories and feelings. If issues arise that you have not dealt with prior to this time, or that seem to be occupying a good deal of your attention, you may want to seek out professional help in sorting through these feelings. If you are unfamiliar with such resources in your community, you could try contacting the local county mental health department or your physician to seek referral to licensed professionals in your area. This course, in particular, may elicit unwelcome memories. It is not the purpose of this course to serve as therapy. If this is the primary reason you are taking the course, you may want to reconsider.**