Instructor: Kimberly C. Mounsey, M.A.
Office: BGS 314      Email: kmounsey@saddleback.edu
Office hours: By appointment only   Voicemail: 949-582-4900 x3713

Course Description:
This course is an introduction to the psychology of women. The areas/topics that this course will focus on include: gender similarities and differences and gender roles; psychological, biological and social origins. We will also cover contemporary social issues related to gender. Throughout the course there will be emphasis on how psychology has studied women and the ways scientific and cultural assumptions about the sexes are reflected in psychological research.

Course Goals and Objectives: By the end of this course, students should be able to:
1) Analyze the process by which psychologists conduct research and identify where gender bias may enter the research process.
2) Identify the biological determinants of contributions to gender identity in comparison to the role of psycho-social factors.
3) Discuss recent research on mood changes over the menstrual cycle and during the post-partum period, and assess the relative roles of hormones and culture in relation to those changes.
4) Compare and contrast major theories of female (heterosexual and lesbian) psychological development.
5) Identify the treatment of the genders by the media, in advertisements and in language.
6) Compare and contrast the similarities among the following types of victimization: rape, battering, sexual harassment and incest; and propose some solutions to these problems.

Required Texts:


Additional Required Readings: Additional research articles may be made available to students to read in order to complete the course Group Project and Reflection Papers described below.
Course Requirements and Policies

Attendance and Participation: It is very important to attend lecture in this course, as lectures will involve demonstrations, classroom activities, films, and discussion of material not covered in the textbook. Students are expected to attend class regularly, as regular attendance will contribute to a better overall understanding of course material. Attendance will be taken at every class meeting. A total of four absences will be excused without penalty, leaving at the break may count as an absence. Every absence thereafter will result in a penalty of 5 points per absence, and students who miss four classes without consulting with the instructor may be dropped from the course. Students are responsible for obtaining any and all information, handouts, etc. as they are provided in class or posted on the course Blackboard website if absent (see below). Should you wish to drop the course, it is your responsibility to do so through MySite or at the Registrar’s office.

Classroom Discussions and Activities: To promote critical thinking and enrich the learning experience, Psych 21 will include structured classroom discussions and activities. Participation points will be assigned and included in the final course grade. Students are required to participate in class group discussions and activities.

Classroom Policies:
1. Students are welcomed and encouraged to share their questions, ideas, and insights during class discussions and lecture. You are also expected to respect the values, beliefs, and rights of others in the classroom and to pay attention to whomever is speaking in class. Any students involved in side-conversations unrelated to class discussion or in any other behavior that is potentially disruptive to other students’ learning will be asked leave the classroom and will be marked as absent for that day.
2. Arriving to class late is disruptive to the entire class, so please arrive on time. Should you be late, please enter the classroom quickly and quietly.
3. Please silence all cellular phones and pagers before entering the classroom.
4. The classroom is meant to be a positive environment that promotes student learning. Students are expected to conduct themselves with respect for the right of all members of the college community to teach and learn in a safe and academically stimulating environment. Discourteous, inappropriate, or disruptive behavior of any type will not be tolerated and may result in the student being asked to leave the classroom for the day and the subsequent class meeting. Such behavior will result in the filing of an official Behavioral Conduct Report at Saddleback College. It may also constitute cause for the imposition of further disciplinary action as provided in the rules and regulations of the California Education Code (Section 66300).
Blackboard Website Usage: Students are required to use Blackboard in this course in order to gain participation points and to assist in their learning of course material. This internet-based system will be used to further enhance student learning, increase interaction between students and faculty, and facilitate prompt feedback. The system includes such features as class email lists, discussion boards, announcements, exam grade posting, etc. Your username is your Saddleback College email address given to you at registration and your password is your email password.

Note: Blackboard will be my only source of reaching you outside of class, therefore you will need to check your Saddleback college email (http://socccd.blackboard.com) or make sure that you forward your email through MySite. Please speak with the instructor immediately if you are having technical issues logging into Blackboard.

Exams: There will be a total of two exams in this course, consisting of one midterm and one final exam. Each exam is worth 100 points. Each exam will cover the chapters and course lecture material described on the Course Schedule and will not be cumulative. Exams will include both multiple choice and essay questions. The exams will include information covered in class lectures, in-class assignments and videos as well as material covered solely by the textbook. Therefore it will be important to maintain consistent attendance as well as keep up with the readings scheduled on the course schedule in order to best prepare for the exams.

Reflection Papers: There will be 2 reflection papers required in this course, worth 50 points each. Each student will choose from a list of gender related experiences or media (e.g. books, videos, going on a “reverse date”) and write a synopsis of this experience as well as their own personal reactions and thoughts regarding this activity. The students will be required to process and write about how their interpretation of this experience has been altered (or not) due to their learning from this class. The reflection papers will be written using course relevant vocabulary. Additional information on this project will be given in class.

Group Project: There will be 1 group project required for this class. Each group will conduct a semester-long project concerning a current issue affecting women. Each group will select a topic (e.g., day care, battered women, teenage pregnancy) and do significant research on it. Each project will consist of a group paper and presentation given at the end of the semester. Additional information on this project will be given in class.

Missed Assignment/Exam Policy: Students are expected to complete all assignments on time and to be present for all scheduled exams. Late assignments will not be accepted unless the instructor is contacted beforehand. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the Instructor within one week of missing an exam or assignment and provide written proof of their excuse (e.g., doctor’s note). All excuses are subject to verification by the Instructor and a written make-up exam may be administered for missed exams. Please speak with the instructor if you have schedule conflicts.
**Grading Policy:**
There are a total of 500 points available to be earned in this class.

- **Exams** = 200 points (about 40% of total grade)
- **Group Project** = 125 points (about 25% of total grade)
- **Reflection Papers** = 100 points (about 20% of total grade)
- **In Class Participation** = 75 points (about 15% of total grade)

Final letter grades will be based on the percentage of total points earned in the class. The following scale will be used in assigning final letter grades:

- 90% - 100% = A
- 80% - 89% = B
- 70% - 79% = C
- 60% - 69% = D
- ≤ 59% = F

**Academic Dishonesty Policy:**
Academic dishonesty in the form of cheating on an exam or plagiarizing the written work of others is considered a very serious offense & will not be tolerated in this course. If a student is suspected of or caught cheating on any test or assignment, he/she will receive a grade of zero on that test or assignment and an Academic Dishonesty Report will be filed with the Dean’s office to be retained on record. It is very important to avoid putting yourself in the position of even being suspected of cheating or plagiarism, as very serious consequences may result and remain on your student record.

**Extra Credit**
There is currently no extra credit scheduled for this course. Should an extra credit opportunity become available, it will be posted on Blackboard. However, it is important to note that one cannot change a failing to a passing grade through extra credit.

**Student Support Services Available:**
There are several student support services available to all students through Saddleback College. You are encouraged to take advantage of such resources. If you have any questions about what resources are available to you please ask your instructor.
PSYC 21 COURSE SCHEDULE

NOTE: The following schedule contains the required readings, scheduled exams, assignments, and due dates. It is your responsibility to retain this syllabus for reference, and to check the class Blackboard website for announcements regarding any changes to the order of topics or exam dates if you are absent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings and Assignment Due Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to Class Structure/Syllabus</td>
<td>Syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology of Women</td>
<td>Chapter 1 (Matlin)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>NO CLASS – HAPPY LABOR DAY!!</td>
<td>Chapter 2 (Matlin)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gender Stereotypes and Biases</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Infancy and Childhood</td>
<td>Chapter 3 (Matlin)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gender Socialization, Or How Long a Way Has Baby Come?</td>
<td>Chapter 6 (Lectures)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Adolescence</td>
<td>Chapter 4 (Matlin)</td>
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<td>Asian American Women and Adolescent Girls: Sexuality and Sexual Expression</td>
<td>Chapter 14 (Lectures)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Gender Comparisons in Cognitive Abilities and Attitudes about Success</td>
<td>Chapter 5 (Matlin)</td>
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<td>Poor Women in a Wealthy Nation</td>
<td>Chapter 3 (Lectures)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Gender Comparisons in Social and Personality Characteristics</td>
<td>Chapter 6 (Matlin)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>VIDEO – Gender and Communication</td>
<td>REACTION PAPER #1 DUE</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Women and Work</td>
<td>Chapter 7 (Matlin)</td>
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<td>Sex Discrimination at Work</td>
<td>Chapter 4 (Lectures)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Midterm Review</td>
<td>STUDY!!</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Midterm Exam in Class</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Love Relationships</td>
<td>Chapter 8 (Matlin)</td>
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<td>VIDEO – In the Name of Love</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Sexuality</td>
<td>Chapter 9 (Matlin)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Life as a Lesbian: What Does Gender Have to Do With It?</td>
<td>Chapter 15 (Lectures)</td>
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</tbody>
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| 11 | Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Motherhood  
Feminist Perspectives on the Personal and Political Aspects of Mothering | Chapter 10 (Matlin)  
Chapter 5 (Lectures) |
| 12 | Women and Physical Health  
PMS as a Culture-Bound Syndrome | Chapter 11 (Matlin)  
Chapter 10 (Lectures) |
| 13 | Women and Psychological Disorders  
VIDEO – Slim Hopes | Chapter 12 (Matlin)  
REACTION PAPER #2 DUE |
| 14 | Women and Older Adulthood | Chapter 14 (Matlin) |
| 15 | Violence Against Women  
Battered Women: Why Don’t They Just Leave? | Chapter 13 (Matlin)  
Chapter 22 (Lectures) |
| 16 | Presentations  
Presentations | GROUP PROJECTS DUE!! |
| 17 | Presentations/  
Final Exam Review  
FINAL EXAM IN CLASS | GROUP PROJECTS DUE!!  
STUDY!! |