

Bergen Community College
Division of Business, Social Sciences & Public Services
Department of Social Sciences

Departmental Policy Syllabus

PSY-207 Psychology of Women

Date of Most Recent Syllabus Revision: March 5, 2009

Course Typically Offered: Fall ___ Spring ___ Summer ___ Every Semester ___x___ Other _____

Syllabus last reviewed by: BCC General Education Committee _____ Date: _____
(Most courses need review Ad Hoc Committee on Learning Assessment _____ Date: _____
by only one of the following) Curriculum Committee: _____ Date: _____

An individual classroom syllabus for this course must include as much of the following information as is applicable:

Basic Information about Course and Instructor

Semester and Year:
Course and Section Number: [e.g., PSY-207-099]
Meeting Times and Locations:

Instructor:
Office Location:
Phone:
Departmental Secretary: [optional]
Office Hours:
Email Address:

Course Description

PSY 207 Psychology of Women is an in-depth examination of the psychology of women. The course analyzes the interplay of biological and cultural factors as they affect gender roles. "Typical" female behaviors are examined and assessed in terms of these factors in an attempt to understand the bases of social similarities as well as differences.

3 lectures, 3 credits
Prerequisites: PSY 101
Co-requisites: None
General Education Course: No
Diversity Course: Yes

Student Learning Objectives/Means of Assessment

Objectives: Upon successful completion, the student will be able to:	Means of Assessment: This outcome will be measured by one or more of the following:
1. describe the complexity of women's lives.	Objective tests, essay questions, oral reports, class discussions, and writing assignments
2. develop an awareness about inequalities women experience in various areas.	Objective tests, essay questions, oral reports, class discussions, and writing assignments
3. explore their own ideas and attitudes about gender.	Objective tests, essay questions, oral reports, class discussions, and writing assignments
4. express how they can think critically about the women's issues.	Objective tests, essay questions, oral reports, class discussions, and writing assignments

Course Content

The purpose of this course is to examine the lives of women. This course surveys the major theories, principles, and methodologies to understand how gender operates in our society. Thus, the course should include the following components:

1. A review of the theories, perspectives, and methodologies of the study of psychology of women.
2. A discussion of historical and current issues of women. More specifically, this course should address (if not all, at least most of the) following topics:
 - Cultural representation of gender
 - Gender comparisons: Cognitive abilities, social and personality characteristics
 - Life span development of women: Infancy to old age
 - Love relationships, sexuality, and motherhood of women
 - Psychological and physical disorders of women and violence against women
 - Work related issues of women
 - Women's lives in the past and future

Special Features of the Course (if any) [to be designated by the instructor]

E.g., the use of learning technologies in the course (Internet, PowerPoint, etc.); the inclusion of technological literacy and/or information literacy learning in the course; etc.

Course Texts and/or Other Study Materials

Suggested textbooks:

Etaugh, C. & Bridges J. (2006) Women's Lives: A topical Approach. Pearson Education, Inc.
Maitlin, M. R. (2008). The Psychology of Women, 6th ed. Thomson Learning

Bibliography/Supporting Materials:

Simone de Beauvoir. The Second Sex

Eve Ensler. The Vagina Monologue

Betty Friedan. The Feminine Mystique

Becky Thompson. A Hunger so Wide and Deep: American Women Speak out on Eating Problems

Naomi Wolf. The Beauty Myth

Virginia Woolf. A Room of One's Own.

For additional materials, consult BCC Library and Learning Resources Center for Psychology of Women topics and related materials.

Research, Thinking, Writing, and/or Examination Requirement(s)

Psychology 207 requires students to complete a variety of critical thinking and writing assignments. Students will be encouraged through classroom discussions to think about, analyze and use basic psychological concepts, major theories, and various issues regarding women. Memorization of key concepts and theories should be thought of as the first, not the final, stage of learning the course material. Students will be expected to engage in various in-class as well as out-of-class writing assignments. These may include journals, research papers, personal essays, book reviews, examinations containing essay components, and so forth.

Grading Policy

A student's final grade should be based primarily on his/her performance on the assignments and the mastery of the material covered in the course. In determining a student's final grade, a minimum of three assignments are to be employed. They may include multiple choices, definitions and essay type questions examinations, a written term project, and an oral presentation to the class. Class participation may also be part of the final grade. Instructors may have his/her own policy of whether the make up exams can be administered.

Attendance Policy

BCC Attendance Policy:

All students are expected to attend punctually every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance and lateness policies and sanctions are to be determined by the instructor for each section of each course. These will be established in writing on the individual course outline. Attendance will be kept by the instructor for administrative and counseling purposes.

Attendance Policy in this Course:

To be determined by the instructor

Other College, Divisional, and/or Departmental Policy Statements [optional but recommended]

<u>Examples:</u>
Code of Student Conduct.
Statement on plagiarism and/or academic dishonesty.
ADA statement.
Sexual Harassment statement.
Statement on acceptable use of BCC technology.
Statement on the purpose and value of faculty office hours.

Student and Faculty Support Services [optional but recommended]

List support services, e.g., the Writing Center, the Math Lab, the Tutorial Center, Online Writing Lab (OWL), Office of Specialized Services, etc.
Include a statement on the BCC Library.

Example:

Student and Faculty Support Services

The distance Learning Office-for any problems you may have accessing your online courses	Room C-334	210-612-5581 psimms@bergen.edu
Smartthinking Tutorial Service	On Line at:	www.bergen.edu/library/learning/tutor/smart/index.asp
The Tutoring Center	Room L-125	201-447-7908
The Writing Center	Room L-125	201-447-7908
The Online Writing Lab (OWL)	On Line at:	www.bergen.edu/owl
The Office of Specialized Services (for Students with Disabilities)	Room S-131	201-612-5270 www.bergen.edu/oss
The Sidney Silverman Library	Room L-226	201-447-7436

Include a Course Outline and Calendar

The Course Outline and Calendar must include all of the following elements;

- A daily or (at least) weekly schedule of topics to be covered.

- Dates for exams, quizzes, or other means of assessment.
- Due dates for major assignments-e.g., due dates for the paper(s), due dates for the project(s) etc.
- Any required special events-e.g., a lecture by a visiting speaker, a dramatic performance etc.
- A note to students stating that the course outline and calendar is tentative and subject to change, depending upon the progress of the class.

Sample Format for Course Outline and Calendar

Week(s)	Date(s)	Topic	Reading/Activity/Assignments/Events
1-2	September 4, 8	Introduction to Psychology of Women	Read Chapter 1
2	Sep 10	Introduction to Psychology of Women	Self-introduction Essay Due
3	Sep 15	Cultural Representation of Gender	Read Chapter 2
3	Sep 17	Cultural Representation of Gender	Quiz #1
4	Sep 22	Cultural Representation of Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion for Culture and Gender • Watch Music Videos
4	Sep 24	Cultural Representation of Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay for Culture and Gender Due • Presentation Due (Group 1)
5	Sep 29	Gender Comparisons: Cognitive Abilities, Social and Personality Characteristics	Read Chapters 5 & 6
5	Cot 1	Gender Comparisons: Cognitive Abilities, Social and Personality Characteristics	Quiz #2
6	Oct 6	Gender Comparisons: Cognitive Abilities, Social and Personality Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion for Gender Comparison • Read Articles on Gender Comparisons
6	Cot 8	Gender Comparisons: Cognitive Abilities, Social and Personality Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay for Gender Comparison Due • Presentation Due (Group 2)
7	Oct 13	Life Span Development of Women: Infancy to Old Age	Read Chapters 3, 4, & 14
7	Oct 15	Life Span Development of Women: Infancy to Old Age	Quiz #3
8	Oct 20	Life Span Development of Women: Infancy to Old Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion for Life Span Development • Watch a Movie on Life Span Development
8	Oct 22	Life Span Development of Women: Infancy to Old Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay for Life Span Development Due • Presentation Due (Group 3)
9	Oct 27	From Love to Motherhood: Love Relationship, Sexuality, and Motherhood	Read Chapters 8, 9, & 10

9	Cot 29	From Love to Motherhood: Love Relationship, Sexuality, and Motherhood	Quiz #4
10	Nov 3	From Love to Motherhood: Love Relationship, Sexuality, and Motherhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions for Love to Motherhood • Watch a documentary on Love to Motherhood
10	Nov 5	From Love to Motherhood: Love Relationship, Sexuality, and Motherhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay for Love to Motherhood Due • Presentation Due (Group 4)
11	Nov 10	Critical Issues of Women: Psychological Disorders of Women and Violence against Women	Read Chapters 11, 12, & 13
11	Nov 12	Critical Issues of Women: Psychological Disorders of Women and Violence against Women	Quiz #5
	Nov 17, 19	Thanksgiving	
12	Nov 24	Critical Issues of Women: Psychological Disorders of Women and Violence against Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions for Critical Issues • Watch a Documentary on Critical Issues of Women
12	Nov 26	Critical Issues of Women: Psychological Disorders of Women and Violence against Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay for Critical Issues Due • Presentation Due (Group 5)
13	Dec 1	Women and Work	Read Chapter 7
13	Dec 3	Women and Work	Quiz #6
14	Dec 8	Women and Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion for Women and Work • Guest Speaker
14	Dec 10	Women and Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay for Women and Work Due • Presentation Due (Group 6)
15	Dec 15	Moving Onward: Women's Lives in the future Review	Read Chapter 15
15	Dec 17	Moving Onward: Women's Lives in the future Review	Essay for Women's Future Due

Note to Students: This Course Outline and Calendar is tentative and subject to change, depending upon the progress of the class.