Class Time: Anytime you have a web connection.
Location: Anywhere you have a web connection.
Instructor: Klaree Boose
Email: boose@uoregon.edu
Office: 374 Condon Hall
Office Hours: Online anytime and by appointment

Course Overview: Human sexuality represents a unique and complex interplay between culture and biology. While human sexuality can be explored from a variety of different angles, this course examines human sexual behavior, as well as anatomy and physiology, as traits that have evolved from our primate and mammalian ancestors. My hope is that this course will give you a solid foundation in evolutionary theory, some exposure to reproductive anatomy and physiology, and an understanding of sexual behavior and preferences as evolved characteristics. We will spend time focusing on theoretical issues in evolution and the implications of these theoretical models on human behavior, and then discussing human evolution and the sexual systems of our closest primate relatives. We will analyze sexual selection, human mate choice, and human mating strategies. Finally, we will discuss non-reproductive aspects of human sexuality and the physiological and behavioral processes that drive our sexual behavior.

Course Objectives:
1. To more fully appreciate the evolutionary processes that have shaped human behavior.
2. A more complete understanding of how the behavioral and morphological adaptations acquired via natural selection have shaped human sexuality
3. A clear perspective on the use of our primate and mammal relatives as models for human behavior.
4. A better understanding of the differences between males and females and the biological and evolutionary factors that have created those differences.
5. The ability to think “evolutionarily.”
Warning: EXPLICIT CONTENT

Since this is a class about sex, lectures and videos may include content that might be considered explicit or offensive. We will be discussing subjects such as infidelity, menstruation, rape, orgasm, and masturbation. Videos and lecture slides may include images of nude males and females, including their genitals, the process of arousal (including erection), and a sequence showing ejaculation and orgasm. If you are offended by these topics, transcripts are available for some of the videos, so that you can be excused from watching. Please let me know if you would like to take this option. If requested, I will also be happy to provide a warning about explicit content in the lecture slides.

Grading: There will be no make-up exams without a documented reason.

CONTENT:
Discussion Worksheets (10) = 20 pts each
Midterm = 100 pts
Final (cumulative) = 200 pts
Total = 500 pts

GRADE SCALE:
A+ = 486    A = 470    A- = 450
B+ = 435    B = 420    B- = 400
C+ = 385    C = 370    C- = 350
D+ = 335    D = 320    D- = 300
F = < 300

*Grades will be posted on Canvas. It is your responsibility to check your grades regularly and to report any problems (e.g. if you are missing credit).

GENERAL INFORMATION

ADA Statement: Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations, who have any emergency medical information the instructor should know of, or who need special arrangements in the event of evacuation, should make an appointment with the instructor as early as possible, no later than the first week of the term. Students may also wish to contact UO Disability Services Office at 541-346-1155. NOTE: As per FERPA regulations Faculty are no longer automatically informed as to the ADA status of students. If you have special requirements, you must bring your information to me as soon as possible.

Equal Opportunity Compliance Statement: It is the policy of the University of Oregon Board of Directors that there will be no discrimination or harassment on the basis of age, disability, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in any educational programs, activities or employment. Persons having questions about equal opportunity and non-discrimination should contact the Office of Affirmative Action at 541-346-3123.
THE EVOLUTION OF HUMAN SEXUALITY

CLASS SCHEDULE

LESSON ONE: Class objective, the scientific method, and some basic evolutionary principles

LESSON TWO: Genes, DNA, inheritance, and sexual reproduction

LESSON THREE: Primates - types, their social systems, and why they are important to study

DUE BY FRIDAY, JUNE 29TH, 5:00 PM: – Discussion Worksheets 1, 2, and 3

LESSON FOUR: Archaeological record of human evolution

LESSON FIVE: Sexual selection

DUE BY FRIDAY, JULY 6TH, 5:00 PM: – Discussion Worksheets 4 and 5; MIDTERM EXAM

LESSON SIX: Parental investment

LESSON SEVEN: Monogamy and concealed ovulation

LESSON EIGHT: Life history theories

DUE BY FRIDAY, JULY 13TH, 5:00 PM: – Discussion Worksheets 6, 7, and 8

LESSON NINE: Physical attractiveness

LESSON TEN: Homosexuality

DUE BY FRIDAY, JULY 20TH, 5:00 PM: – Discussion Worksheets 9 and 10; FINAL EXAM

* Syllabus is subject to change.