

SOCIOLOGY OF MEN ❖ Sociology 145 ❖ Fall 2014
Mon. and Wed. 5 – 6:45 p.m. ❖ Cowell 134

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Office Hours: Wednesdays, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., and by appointment

This course focuses on a central feature of social life -- gender -- but with particular emphasis on the lives of men. It explores the multiplicity of social forces that influence conceptions of masculinity (or masculinities). While our approach is essentially sociological, we will include psychological, historical, cross-cultural, and literary perspectives on this broad and crucial question: What does it mean to be a man in contemporary U.S. society? In the middle of the last century, Simone de Beauvoir undertook an extensive exploration of the female experience, in her influential work, *The Second Sex*. She wrote then, “A man would never get the notion of writing a book on the . . . situation of the human male.” That is no longer the case. That is precisely what courses like this one explore: the situation of the human male. **COURSE**

READINGS These two books are available at **The Literary Guillotine** (located downtown, one block over from Pacific Ave., between Cedar and Center – 204 Locust St., 457-1195). Used copies are available; new copies can be sold back year-round for a high percentage of purchase price.

- Michael S. Kimmel and Michael A. Messner. *Men's Lives (9th Ed.)* Pearson, 2013.
- C.J. Pascoe. *Dude, You're a Fag: Masculinity and Sexuality in High School*. University of California Press, 2007.

These three books are available at **Bookshop Santa Cruz**, located downtown, at 1520 Pacific Ave., 423-0900. These are on a table by the Information Desk in back. Be sure to note titles, as another set of books is required for a different course of mine (Soc. 111).

- Nora Raleigh Baskin. *Anything But Typical*. Simon & Schuster, 2009.
- Sherman Alexie. *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*.

Little, Brown & Co., 2007.

- Jacqueline Woodson. *Miracle's Boys*. Puffin/Penguin, 2000.

Note that additional readings and resources (some required, some recommended) will be placed on eCommons from time to time; you will be notified in class when additions have been posted.

COURSE GUIDELINES Course lectures are grounded in the assumption that you have done the reading assigned for that day, for they will build upon, rather than rebuild, the foundation laid by that reading. Be sure to be in class. Lectures, videos, and guest speakers, as well as in-class discussion and exercises, constitute an essential part of the course, and one cannot expect to do well in this course only by completing the readings. Class participation is welcome; your comments and questions are important. Come prepared to discuss the reading: what you found most compelling, perplexing, troubling, or inspiring.

Those using laptops must sit in the back or side rows of the classroom and are expected to use laptops solely for the taking of notes. All screen use that is unrelated to class is distracting (not only to you, but to those nearby), so please step outside if you need to take an emergency text or call, and leave other messages for later. Food is not allowed in the classroom, but drinks are, as long as you guard against spillage. Spills are bad.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Essays and Final Project - Three essays, of three pages each, will be assigned; topics will be distributed at least one week before essays are due. A final project (of four to five pages) will involve your sociological analysis of one or more interviews you conduct with individual men in relation to course themes of your choosing. Detailed guidelines for this paper will be distributed in class. A one-page prospectus will be due mid-quarter, so that you may receive feedback before conducting your interviews. (You are welcome to submit that prospectus before its due date so as to receive earlier feedback.)

Midterm and Final Exam - There will be two in-class exams (consisting of short answer, multiple choice, and true/false questions). These are closed book exams, designed to assess your understanding of course readings and lectures. You will receive a study guide and will be able to bring one page of notes to the exam (you may write on both sides of the page). While you are welcome to study together, your notes must be prepared individually. The Final exam is not cumulative.

Grading - The Midterm is 30% of your grade, the Final (non-cumulative) is 30%, the three essays combined are 30%, and the final project is 10%.

DRC ACCOMMODATION (Information from the Disability Resource Center) - If you qualify for classroom accommodations because of a disability, please get an Accommodation Authorization from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and submit it to instructor in person within the first two weeks of the quarter. Contact DRC at 459-2089 (voice), 459-4806 (TTY), or <http://drc.ucsc.edu> for more information on the requirements and/or process.

PLAGIARISM and ACADEMIC DISHONESTY - All students are responsible for maintaining accepted standards of academic integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty are contrary to the ideals and purposes of a university, and carry serious consequences (among the possibilities: receiving a lower grade, failing a class, being placed on suspension or expelled). Please make sure you have read the full text of UCSC's policy on academic dishonesty – it is available online at www.ucsc.edu/academics/academic_integrity. You should also consult UCSC Library guides on Citing Sources and Plagiarism:

- <http://library.ucsc.edu/help/howto/citations-and-style-guides>
- NetTrail: <http://nettrail.ucsc.edu/> (Section 6, Info Ethics)

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS Assignments are due at the start of class (thus, there is nothing to be gained by skipping class to finish working on a paper,

as missing lecture puts you farther behind). Late papers are accepted with reduced credit given. Be sure to allow enough time to have completed the readings before class, as lectures will assume that you have done the reading assigned for that day (Note: if you were not able to do the day's reading, it is better to come to class unprepared than not coming at all). In the reading list below, *Text* refers to *Men's Lives* (9th ed.).

Note: Assigned readings from online sources on eCommons will be added to the list below, and announced and posted at least a week in advance.

Mon. Oct. 6	Introduction to the course
Wed. Oct. 8	<i>Text</i> : Preface, Intro., Part One – Perspectives on Masculinities

Mon. Oct. 13	<i>Text</i> : Part Two - Boyhood
Wed. Oct. 15	Nora Raleigh Baskin - <i>Anything But Typical</i>

Mon. Oct. 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No Class – Instructor will be out of town; online film assignment will be given <i>Sherman Alexie - The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i>
Wed. Oct. 22	<i>Text</i> : Part Three – Collegiate Masculinities: Privilege and Peril <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essay #1 due

Mon. Oct. 27	<i>Text</i> : Part Ten – Masculinities in the Media and Popular Culture
Wed. Oct. 29	<i>Text</i> : Part Eleven – Violence and Masculinities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distribute Study Guide for Midterm Exam

Mon. Nov. 3	<i>Text</i> : Part Five – Men and Health
Wed. Nov. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Midterm Exam

Mon. Nov. 10 C.J. Pascoe - *Dude, You're a Fag: Masculinity and Sexuality in High School*: Preface, Acknowledgments, Ch. 1, 2

Wed. Nov. 12 C.J. Pascoe - Ch. 3, 4

Mon. Nov. 17 C.J. Pascoe - 5, 6, Appendix

Wed. Nov. 19 *Text*: Part Six – Men in Relationships

- Essay #2 due

Mon. Nov. 24 *Text*: Part Seven – Male Sexualities

Wed. Nov. 26 *Text*: Part Four – Men and Work

- One-page prospectus for Final Project due

Mon. Dec. 1 *Text*: Part Eight – Men in Families

Wed. Dec. 3 Jacqueline Woodson - *Miracle's Boys*

- Essay #3 due

Mon. Dec. 8 *Text*: Part Nine – Masculinities in Religion

- Distribute Study Guide for Final Exam

Wed. Dec. 10 *Text*: Part Twelve – Men, Movements, and the Future

Finals Week:

Mon. Dec. 15 • Final Exam: 7:30 – 10:30 p.m. (note time carefully)

- Final project due