



EFFECTIVE: MAY 2004
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A:	Division:	INSTRUCTIONAL	Effective Date:	MAY 2004
B:	Department / Program Area:	PSYCHOLOGY HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES	Revision	New Course
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			If Revision, Section(s) Revised:	Q, R
			Date of Previous Revision:	June 2001
			Date of Current Revision:	November 2003

C: PSYC 120 D: SPECIAL TOPIC: GENDER RELATIONS E: 3

	Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits
F:	Calendar Description: The focus of this course will be examination of the biol		

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Discuss how gender shapes our lives; individually, interpersonally, and culturally.
2. Discuss the socialization process of males and females.
3. Discuss culturally diverse views of gender.
4. Describe the role of verbal and non-verbal cues in gender-related differences.
5. Describe how language and social institutions frame the way people speak and think.
6. Describe biological and social influences on gender.
7. Describe the social context of aging.
8. Discuss what is meant by and the process of “becoming a gender specific person”.
9. Discuss the differentiated meaning, between males and females, of sex, love, and romance.
10. Critically assess the politics of the workplace and the role of the media in relation to gender issues.
11. Challenge the “old” ways of thinking and looking at gender differences.

N: Course Content

1. How Gender Shapes Our Lives
 - individually, interpersonally, and culturally
 - socialization of males and females
2. Social Constructionist Perspective
 - differences in the lives of males and females
 - personality differences
 - social interactions between the sexes
 - gender as social construction rather than biological fact
3. Cultural Perspective
 - ethnocentrism
 - cultural universals
 - changing gender roles
4. Verbal and Non-Verbal Language
 - language as a source of power
 - how language and social institutions frame the way people think and speak
5. The Diversity of Men’s and Women’s Lives
 - sex, gender, and cognition
 - the diverse opinions and realities of males and females with regard to sex, gender, and cognition.
 - male and female personality differences
 - male and female responses to psychological stresses
6. Becoming a Woman - Becoming a Man
 - becoming a gender specific person: childhood
 - becoming a woman: puberty and adolescence
 - becoming a man: puberty and adolescence

Course Content Cont'd.

- 7. Friendship and Romance
 - relationships: men and women
 - relationships: women and women
 - relationships: men and men
 - differentiated meanings of sex, love, and romance

- 8. Commitments
 - long-term relationships
 - family
 - parenting

- 9. Knowledge as a Source of Social Change
 - importance of integrating diversity
 - workplace politics
 - need for social change

- 10. Issues Involving Change
 - gender in childhood
 - impact of violence in men's and women's lives

O: Methods of Instruction

The course will employ a number of instructional methods to accomplish its objectives and will include some of the following:

- lectures
- seminar presentations
- audio visual materials
- small group discussions
- research projects

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students

A selection of reading materials such as the following:

Lips, H. M. (2001). *Sex and Gender: An Introduction* (4th Ed.)
Mountain View, CA, Mayfield.

Minas, A. (2001). *Gender Basics: Feminist Perspectives on Women and Men* (2nd Ed.)
Toronto, Wadsworth.

Reading materials will be updated periodically.

Q: Means of Assessment

Evaluation will be carried out in accordance with Douglas College policy. Evaluation will be based on course objectives and will include some of the following: quizzes, multiple choice exams, essay type exams, term paper or research project, class participation, seminar discussion, and oral presentation. Specific evaluation criteria will be provided by the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

Continued.....

