

## Psychological Thinking in 21st Century Sexuality and Relationships

Dr. Ilan Tabak Aviram

**Course Number:**702.2231

**Class Time:** TBA

**Class Location:** TBA

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### **Course Description:**

Sexuality has been a fundamental core subject in Psychology since the onset of Sigmund Freud's theories of the Instinct and the Oedipus complex, which emphasized the pivotal importance of sexuality in the understanding of human development and behavior. The few last decades have generated dramatic changes in sexual behavior, sexual conceptualizations and social acceptance of sexual differences. These major changes include phenomena such as LGBT rights, new definitions of gender identity, artificial reproduction techniques, new family structures, virtual romantic relationships, and online dating. All these developments require an updated and refined rephrasing of past concepts and historical psychological theories.

Throughout the semester we will review thoroughly each major development of sexuality in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, how it evolved and changed both social and intrapsychic dynamics. We will examine the alterations each transition has imposed on psychological theories and therapy and discuss the possible implications of these changes on the field's future. Our observation of the various topics will involve both guided reading of important academic articles, excerpts from popular culture (such as movies and TV shows) and class discussions and presentations.

### **Course Requirements:**

#### **Attendance, preparation and classroom participation** (15%)

Students are expected to actively participate in all classes. It is important to complete the reading assignments prior to the weekly sessions. A list of readings can be found in the syllabus. Students may not miss more than three meetings in order to receive a grade for the course irrespective of the reasons for the absence.

### **Class presentation (25%)**

Starting from week 6, in groups of two, students will prepare a 15-minute presentation of one of the readings from the syllabus (or beyond syllabus, in coordination with the lecturer). The presentation will include a brief overview of the main arguments raised in the text as well as a critical review, in which the students are expected to connect the text to concepts and ideas discussed in the course. Each student has the responsibility to email the lecturer the specific topic she or he wants to present until the 4th session of the course.

### **Response papers (20%)**

Students are responsible for writing 6 response papers during the semester. Each response papers should be between 250 to 400 words. Response papers should reflect the students' opinions, thoughts, feelings and experiences related to the weekly reading. The response papers should not give a summary of the readings, but rather use the readings to explore and reflect on interesting ideas or debates related to the topic. The deadline for handing the papers (via the Moodle system) is midnight before class.

### **Take Home Exam (40%)**

The exam will be available on the Moodle starting \_\_\_\_\_. The deadline for handing is \_\_\_\_\_ 12:00 pm. Papers should be submitted electronically in the Moodle system and also sent to the International School (uhisfinalpapers@gmail.com).

### **Disability Accommodations**

Students requiring special assistance due to a disability are asked to contact the instructor on the first day of class, so that accommodation for the disability can be determined and arranged.

Meeting 1	Introduction to Sexuality in Psychology: Review of the core concepts regarding sexuality  <u>Reading:</u> Freud, S. (1905). Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality (1905). The Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud, Volume VII (1901-1905): A Case of Hysteria, Three Essays on Sexuality and Other Works, 123-246.
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Meeting 2	<p>Evolutionary Psychology of mating and sex</p> <p><u>Reading:</u></p> <p>Barkow, J. H., Cosmides, L., &amp; Tooby, J. (Eds.). (1992). The psychology of mating and sex, Chapters 5-7, p. 249-327. The adapted mind: Evolutionary psychology and the generation of culture. New York, NY, US: Oxford University Press.</p>
Meeting 3-4	<p>The Psychology of Sexual Orientation – changes in psychological diagnosis and thinking since the LGBT rights movement</p> <p><u>Reading:</u></p> <p>Jack Drescher (2008). A History of Homosexuality and Organized Psychoanalysis. The Journal of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry: Vol. 36, No. 3, pp. 443-460.</p> <p>Sand, S. (2017) Chapter 4: How Contemporary Psychoanalysis Contributes to LGBT Psychology, From LGBT Psychology and mental health: Emerging Research and Advances, edited by Richard Ruth Ph.D., Erik Santacruz Ed.D., Santa Barbara, California, Praeger</p>
Meeting 5	<p>Contemporary Understanding of Gender Identity development</p> <p><u>Reading:</u></p> <p>Ehrensaft D. (2011). Gender born, gender made: Raising healthy gender nonconforming children. New York, NY: The Experiment.</p> <p>Corbett, K. (2011), Boyhoods, rethinking masculinity, Yale University Press.</p>
Meeting 6	<p>Masculinity and Femininity revised – between Psychoanalysis, Feminism and the new psychology</p>

	<p>of men</p> <p><u>Reading:</u></p> <p>Benjamin, J. (1980) The Bonds of Love: Rational Violence and Erotic Domination, <i>Feminist Studies</i>, Vol. 6(1), p. 144-174.</p> <p>Levant, R.F. (1996), The new Psychology of Men. Professional Psychology : Research and Practice, vol. 27(3), 259-265.</p>
Meeting 7	<p>The Relations between the Genders – an updated outlook on relationships and monogamy.</p> <p><u>Reading:</u></p> <p>Dow, M. M., &amp; Eff, E. A. (2013). When one wife is enough: A cross-cultural study of the determinants of monogamy. <i>Journal of Social, Evolutionary, and Cultural Psychology</i>, 7(3), 211-238.</p> <p>Barker, M. (2005). This is my partner, and this is my... partner's partner: Constructing a polyamorous identity in a monogamous world. <i>Journal of Constructivist Psychology</i>, 18, 75–88.</p> <p>[Taylor &amp; Francis Online], [Web of Science ®]</p>
Meeting 8	<p>The Internet, Technology and its Influence on Sexuality and Relationships</p> <p><u>Reading:</u></p> <p>Turkle, S. (1997) . Life on the sc reen – Identity in the age of Internet. Simon and Schuster.</p> <p>Timmermans, E. &amp; De Caluwe, E., (2017), To Tinder or not to Tinder, that's the question: An individual differences perspective to Tinder use and</p>

	<p>motives, Personality and Individual Differences (110), 74-79.</p> <p>Ben-Ze'ev, A. (2004) Love Online: emotions and the internet, Cambridge University Press.</p>
Meeting 9	<p>Artificial Reproduction - sexless reproduction – implications on sex, romance and parenting</p> <p><u>Reading:</u></p> <p>Benagiano, G., Carrara, S., Filippi, V. (2010) Sex and reproduction: an evolving relationship. <i>Human Reproduction Update</i>. 16 (1): 96– 107.</p> <p>Ehrensaft, D. (2007). The Stork Didn't Bring Me, I Came from a Dish: Psychological Experiences of Children Conceived through Assisted Reproductive Technology, <i>Journal of Infant, Child, and Adolescent Psychotherapy</i>, 6(2): 124–140.</p>
Meeting 10	<p>The New Families in the Eyes of Psychoanalytic Thinking</p> <p><u>Reading:</u></p> <p>Heinman, T.V. (2004). <i>Psychoanalytic Psychology</i>, 21(1), 999-115.</p>
Meeting 11	<p>Psychotherapy without Phobia – contemporary clinical therapeutic approach towards the sexual spectrum</p> <p><u>Reading:</u></p> <p>Russell, G. M., &amp; Bohan, J. S. (2007). Liberating psychotherapy: Liberation psychology and psychotherapy with LGBT clients. <i>Journal of Gay &amp; Lesbian Psychotherapy</i>, 11(3-4), 59-75.</p>
Meeting 12	<p>The Future of Sex – where is human sexuality headed next?</p>

Reading:

Greely, H. T. (2016). The End of Sex and the Future of Human reproduction, Harvard University Press, CT.