 BSC 1026 **Syllabus**

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|  | **Instructor Information** | | | | |
|  | Name: | | Dr. Daniel Rubin | |  |
|  | E-mail: | | |  | | --- | |  | | drubin1@valenciacollege.edu | | | |  |
|  | Office location: | | Live online via GoToMeeting® or By Appointment arranged by e-mail | |  |
|  | Office hours: | | GoToMeeting® schedule shown online or at **Chat** on the course tools menu | |  |
|  | Phone: | | only in an emergency and requested by e-mail | |  |
|  |  | | A native Floridian, with two children (my best friends) and four wonderful granddaughters. Dr. Rubin has a Ph.D. in Immunology and a passion for teaching. A coach/facilitator of learning rather than a traditional 'teacher', who uses a variety of multimedia methods both in class and online. "I encourage active participation by students. In my courses students benefit most by: listening and learning; asking questions; participating fully in their learning experience; having fun learning easily and a commitment to excellence in their studies and their lives." | |  |
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|  | **Course Information** | | | | |
|  | Course title: | | Biology of Human Sexuality | |  |
|  | Course number: | | BSC 1026   Valencia  College | |  |
|  | Course discipline: | | Biology | |  |
|  | Course description: | | General non-laboratory course designed to introduce students to various biological aspects of human sexuality, including sexual genetics and sex determination, sexual anatomy, physiology and development, processes of fertilization, pregnancy, birth control, sexually transmitted diseases, menstruation, menopause and aging. Other appropriate areas may be discussed when time permits. | |  |
|  | Location: | | Canvas Online | |  |
|  | Meeting day(s): | | This is a self-directed online course in Canvas Learning Management System. | |  |
|  | Meeting time(s): | |  | |  |
|  | Withdrawal Deadline | | Deadline for withdrawal with a "W" grade is posted in [**College** **Calendars**](http://valenciacc.edu/calendar/)on the Valencia Community College Homepage.(See withdrawal deadlines). | |  |
|  | Prerequisite(s):  **Browser requirement:** | | None Firefox or Chrome are the recommended browsers for Canvas. See the browser checkup on the course login page for the latest supported version.DO NOT automatically upgrade your browser. | |  |
|  | **Course Goals** | | | | |
|  | To acquire a basic awareness and understanding of various aspects of human sexuality. To develop and express a personal view or perspective on a variety of issues in human sexuality, including gender identity and sexual orientation, contraception and conception, sexual relationships, response, and communication. To be more aware of the nature and dangers and methods to prevent sexually transmitted diseases. To have a foundation of knowledge and understanding of human sexuality that fosters the development of healthy relationships. To be better prepared for parenthood and sex education of children. | | | |  |
|  | **Course Content and Evaluation** | | | | |
|  | **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND CREDIT HOURS**: This is a 3 credit course; there are no prerequisites. This is an introductory course on various aspects of human sexuality. Topics to be covered include:  - Perspectives in Human Sexuality and Research Methods - Female and Male Anatomy and Physiology - Gender Issues - Communication in Intimate Relationships - Conception and Contraception - Sexual Orientation - Sexual Function Difficulties and Sex Therapy - Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV/AIDS  **LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Students will be able to: - understand and describe both male and female sexual anatomy and physiology - describe and explain the anatomical and physiological aspects of human reproduction, menopause and menses, conception and contraception, sexual arousal and responses, and related topics - express a reasoned view or perspective on a variety of contemporary issues in human sexuality - describe methods of transmission and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases - understand and describe the nature of various sexual difficulties and current methods of therapy  **METHODS OF INSTRUCTION**: This is an online self-study course on Human Sexuality using the CanvasLearning Management System. Orientation to the course is provided online in the course and via GoToMeeting® live online just prior to the beginning of the term. An e-mail invitation is sent to this optional orientation meeting. In addition, there may be an **optional** orientation on campus as well, and students registered for the course will be notified in advance. The Canvas login for the course (requires your Atlas ID and password) may be accessed via the Quicklinks on the [Valencia College homepage](http://valenciacollege.edu/) until a bookmark is established. In addition, there are tutorials for orientation to[getting started](http://valenciacollege.edu/oit/ltad/StudentResources/) in online courses at Valencia Community College and[Canvas Basics](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10745-canvas-basics-table-of-contents) and [Student Guide](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701)  specifically.  **ASSIGNMENTS:**: In addition to weekly online multiple choice and short answer quizzes, students have two online discussion assignments. The due dates are shown on the Course Schedule.  **EVALUATIVE CRITERIA:** The final course grade will be determined from a combination of assessments online in the Canvas Course as follows:  - Weekly Multiple Choice Quiz (15%)  - Weekly Short Answer Quizzes: (15%)  - 2 Weekly Discussion Assignments (15% each)  - Mid Term and Final Exam (20% each)   Group Discussion Assignment I: the class is divided into groups for this assignment, a threaded discussion with weekly topics; worth 10 points each week: See the Discussion assignment on the Course Tools Menu for details. - Minimum required posts (3): one post to your Group Topic; one reply to other messages in each of the Other Group Topics: 8 points - Initial original post must be made early in the week (usually by noon on Thursdays) - 1-2 additional original posts or replies in any group topic: 1 point each; e.g., to get an A for the week, post at least 5 substantive messages. - 3 or more additional posts or replies in any group topic: 1 extra credit point for each up to a maximum of 4 points; i.e., **a maximum of 12 points may be earned each week** for the Discussion Assignment.   Discussion Assignment II: the discussion is in the format of a blog, worth 10 points each week; each week there are two discussion topics:  - Topic I: The most interesting thing I learned this week in the chapter reading is¦  - Topic II: One question that I have about the chapter reading is¦  - Minimum required posts (4): one post to each topic and one comment to other posts in each topic: 8 points. Extra credit earned for additional posts. See the Discussion assignment on the Course Tools Menu for details.  **There are no dropped tests, no re-tests.** There will be some opportunities to earn extra credit but not to make-up for missed assignments.  **The grading scale for the course is as follows: A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F < 60%**   |  | | --- | | **Policies** |   **STUDENT HELP:** The instructor is available for help online by e-mail in the course and live online via GoToMeeting® once a week at a designated time or by telephone by appointment. Students are encouraged to seek assistance from the instructor. Help is also available for students through various school resources shown on the Atlas web site and at the CSSC on the Winter Park Campus as noted above.  **ATTENDANCE**: This is an online course with assignments due each week. It is up to the student to establish their own study routine and plan to meet the course requirements. **No Show reporting**: according to new Federal Guidelines from the U.S. Dept. of Education, students must complete an online course assignment during the first week of the term. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the student being reported as a ‘no show’ and entered as a Withdrawal ((W) on the Atlas Final Grades Report during the ‘No Show’ Reporting period. In order to meet this requirement, students in this course must complete and submit the “ First Assignment – Top Priority” that is found in the course Start Here folder (see the Course Menu). If you have any questions about this, send me an e-mail within the course.  **WITHDRAWAL:** Students may officially withdraw from a course during any given term provided the appropriate policy and procedure is followed. Following the conclusion of the Drop/Add period, a student may officially withdraw from any credit course online through the student's Atlas account. Withdrawal from the course is the student's responsibility. A student who withdraws from class before the withdrawal deadlinewill receive a grade of W.*The professor will not withdraw any student for any reason. it is the responsibility of the student to withdraw themselves before the withdrawal deadline and to be aware of the date of the withdrawal deadline.* A student is not permitted to withdraw from this class after the withdrawal deadline; if you remain in the class after the withdrawal deadline, you can only receive a grade of A, B, C, D, F or I . An I grade will only be assigned under extraordinary circumstances that occur near the end of the semester.  If you receive an I, the work missed must be made up during the following semester, at which time you will get an A, B, C, D or F.  Failure to make up the work during the following semester will result in you getting a grade of F in the course.  Any student who withdraws from this class during a third or subsequent attempt in this course will be assigned a grade of F.   Students on financial aid should consult an advisor or counselor before withdrawing from a course; there may be financial implications to the student which he or she must know about to make an informed decision before withdrawing from a course.  Students with some scholarships who withdraw or are withdrawn from a class must pay the college for the cost of the class.  Other scholarship sponsors may also require repayment.  In order to maintain financial aid academically, students must meet all of the following requirements:   * Complete 67% of all classes attempted, and * Maintain a Valencia GPA of 2.0 or higher, and * Maintain an overall GPA of 2.0 or higher, and * Complete degree within the 150% timefram   **WORK MISSED:** Students must complete course assignments and activities according to their weekly due dates (Weekly Assignments are due no later than midnight on each Sunday, except for the Discussions which have earlier, Noon deadlines for full or extra credit). As a general rule, **there are no make-ups for missed assignments and there are no dropped exam scores or retests**. With advance notice of extenuating or mitigating circumstance, the instructor may approve an extension of an assignment deadline, and usually there will be a 10% or 1 grade penalty under these circumstances. The **only exceptions** are: death of a family member; immediate family medical emergency, or military duty, each of which must be documented.  **VALENCIA STUDENT COMPETENCIES:** The Valencia Student Core Competencies **(Think**, **Value**, **Act,** and **Communicate)** are an established component of the College's curriculum development and review process. A detailed overview can be found in the current Valencia Catalogue or on the [Valencia Web site](http://www.valenciacc.edu/competencies/default.asp): Developing these core competencies will be enhanced in this course through critical thinking exercises, discussions and making reasoned choices in acquiring, analyzing, synthesizing and evaluating knowledge. Students will also need to read, listen, write, and speak effectively.  **ACADEMIC HONESTY:** This program is designed to provide you with the greatest opportunities to learn and apply your new knowledge and skills to your selected discipline. Plagiarism will not be tolerated in any form. Credit to the author must be given in any papers or projects that you might complete. This includes citations and/or attribution for Internet sources. Also, sharing other student's work is not acceptable. Your work should reflect your knowledge and skills.  All forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited at Valencia Community College. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, furnishing false information, forgery, alteration or misuse of documents, misconduct during a testing situation, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive. Any student determined by the professor to have been guilty of engaging in an act of academic dishonesty shall be subject to a range of academic penalties as determined by the professor. These penalties may include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following: loss of credit for an assignment, examination, or project; reduction in the course grade; or expulsion from the course with a grade of "F". For further detail, refer to the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook.  **STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT:** Valencia Community College is dedicated not only to the advancement of knowledge and learning but is concerned with the development of responsible personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia Community College, a student assumes the responsibility for becoming familiar with and abiding by the general rules of conduct. The primary responsibility for managing the online classroom environment rests with the faculty and student. Online, students will observe common standards of 'netiquette': no obscene or otherwise foul language or flaming is allowed in chat rooms or Discussion Topics. Students who engage in any prohibited or unlawful acts that result in disruption of a class may be directed by the faculty member to leave the class. Violation of any online classroom or Valencia Community College rules may lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from Valencia. Disciplinary action could include being withdrawn from class, disciplinary warning, probation, suspension, expulsion, or other appropriate and authorized actions. You will find the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook.  **STUDENTS WITH PHYSICAL OR LEARNING DISABILITIES** Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a letter from the Office of Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the professor, preferably during the first two weeks of class. **If you have special needs please contact me via e-mail at the beginning of the course and provide notice from the OSD.** The Office for Students with Disabilities determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities. The needs of students with appropriate documentation will always be supported in class.  **DISCLAIMER STATEMENT**: Changes in this syllabus and/or course schedule may be made at any time during the term by announcement of the professor. A revised syllabus may be issued at the discretion of the professor.   |  | | --- | | **A Note from your guide and facilitator/ instructor:** | | I hope you enjoy this course and contribute to everyone's learning. Here is a suggestion: rather than approach this course wondering how much you have to memorize to pass tests, think about what you will learn, know and use, have an opinion about and discuss, that will benefit you in your life after the course is over.  Remember, your online participation, especially in the Discussion assignments, is important to your classmates as well as contributing to your grade. I am here to support your success. Let me know if you have questions, issues, or concerns. I take **requests**, not complaints and excuses, and want you to be successful and have fun in this course. I look forward to your participation. I hope to see you in the chat room. Enjoy the course, and Be well. | | | | |  |
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|  | **Textbooks:** | | | | |
| Required reading: | | *Human Sexuality, Yarber et al., Ninth edition, McGraw Hill, 2015***ISBN (loose-leaf version) : 9780077861940**  *Also acceptable: Human Sexuality*, Yarber et al., 7th-8th editions, McGraw Hill, 2010; 8th e-book: available from VitalSource.com. | |  |  |
| Recommended reading: | | *Human Sexuality: A Psychosocial Perspective*, Second Edition, Ruth Westheimer and Sanford Lopater, Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, 2004. | |  |  |
| Study Guides and Online Resources | | Study Guides and Online Resources for both practical and study purposes are found in corresponding folders in the **Course Menu Home Page.** | |  |  |
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