

Department: HDFS

Course No.: 3261 [259]

Credits: 3

Title: Men and Masculinity: A Social Psychological Perspective

Contact: Jane Goldman

Content Area: CA4 Diversity and Multiculturalism

Diversity: CA4 Non-International

Catalog Copy: 259. Men and Masculinity: A Social Psychological Perspective (Formerly offered as HDFS 259.) Either semester. Three credits. Men's gender role socialization over the life span; men's developmental issues, gender role, conflicts, and interpersonal dynamics with women. Theory, research, and personal exploration are integrated.

Course Information: a. Course description, b. Course requirements, c. Majors themes, issues, topics covered

a. Course Description:

As described in the syllabus for the course, the course is designed to meet the following objectives:

1. To know course contexts, norms, expectancies, goals and topics.
2. To define and discuss gender role terminology that explains men's and women's socialization.
3. To define Men's Studies and the new psychology of men as an academic discipline.
4. To assess men's current status in American society from gender role and historical perspectives.
5. To help students assess the following personal issues in their lives: psychological violence, personal pain, gender role conflict, defense mechanisms, emotional intelligence, forgiveness, metaphors for healing.
6. To understand what "journeying with gender roles" means
7. To understand the role of patriarchy in men's and women's socialization.
8. To analyze men as victimizer and respond to the question, "are men victims of sexism?"
9. To review men's lives from sociological and anthropological perspectives.
10. To review men's and women's socialization from a biological perspective.
11. To review what is scientifically known about human sex differences.

12. To review the origins of gender role stereotypes and roles.
13. To define men's fears of femininity and emasculation across the life cycle.
14. To know what the Masculine Mystique means and how it develops in men's lives
15. To know the conceptual issues with men's gender role identities, gender role schemas, and self protective defensive strategies.
16. To review men's gender role transitions over the lifespan.
17. To identify the negative consequences of men's and women's gender role conflicts.
18. To identify men's and women's patterns of gender role conflict across the life cycle.
19. To review men's relationships issues with women, children and other men from a gender role perspective.
20. To review theories of men's gender role socialization.
21. To understand men's socialization in the context of psychological-physical violence and abuses of power toward women and other men.
22. To understand the consequences of sexism for men and women over the lifespan.
23. To analyze the gender role journey's of Frank Sinatra, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Marilyn Monroe, John Lennon, Elton John and Marvin Gay using the video biographies prepared by the instructor.
24. To understand power concepts from a gender role perspective.
25. To know the theory about what causes men's violence against women from a gender role perspective.
26. To review explanations of what causes men's violence against women.
27. To review the gender role issues for gay men, men of color, working class men, and older men.
28. To have each student analyze their own gender role socialization and gender role journey process.
29. To know new definitions of men's gender roles and new directions for men's and women's transformation, renewal, and healing.
30. To facilitate students' understanding of their own gender role socialization from personal, professional, and political perspectives
31. To evaluate the course content and process to assist in course revision and development

b. Course Requirements: Students are required to read a series of papers and a textbook on men and numerous readings about women. A series of audio and video presentations accentuate the readings

and lectures. A midterm and final exam assess students' knowledge over both the content and process of the course. Students write a required gender role journey paper that summarizes their own experiences with their gender role socialization.

c. Major Themes: Students explore men's socialization over the lifespan with a focus on developmental issues, gender role conflicts, and how men relate to women. Students also consider matrices of masculinity and femininity across race, class, ethnicity, age, nationality, and sexual orientation. Theory, research, and personal exploration are emphasized to help students learn the major themes.

Meets Goals of Gen Ed.:

3. Critical Judgment: HDFS 259 promotes critical judgment and thinking by inviting students to critique how gender role stereotypes and socialization experiences can negatively affect human growth and development over the lifespan. Students are asked to critically evaluate stereotypes both at a societal level and in an interpersonal context.

6. Consciousness of Diversity: HDFS 259 promotes deeper awareness of diversity by focusing on the matrices of masculinity and femininity across race, class, ethnicity, age, nationality, and sexual orientation. The diversity of men's and women's experiences are explored in the readings and by evaluating the video biographies of six famous people's journeys with their gender roles.

CA4 Criteria:

1. Variety of Human Experiences: HDFS 259 explores the variety of human experience of men and women by considering how sex, race, class, age, ethnicity, nationality, and sexual orientation affect gender roles over the lifespan. How these diversity variables can promote the appreciation of human differences and how these variables can also be sources of discrimination that negatively affect human growth and development are explored.

5. Dynamics of Social, Political, & Economic Power: HDFS 259 explores how societal sexism and other forms of oppression are tied to the social, political, and economic power structure of any society. How these forms of oppression result in power abuses that negatively affect human development and growth are central concepts in the course.