

FemSex Syllabus Fall 2017

	<h1 style="text-align: center;">FemSex Syllabus Fall 2017</h1>
<p>Section A</p> <p>W 8/30 Th 8/31</p>	<p>Introduction</p> <p>We will review the course procedures and requirements, lay groundwork for a safer space, draw up a class contract, and create a forum for discussion regarding what students hope to obtain by taking this course.</p>
<p>Section B</p> <p>W 9/6 Th 9/7</p>	<p>Communication</p> <p>We will discuss the importance of honesty and communication in relationships and group dynamics. Topics will include communication inhibitors, methods of effective communication, and asserting/respecting boundaries.</p>
<p>Section C</p> <p>MW 9/11, 9/13 TuTh 9/12, 9/14</p>	<p>Anatomy, Sex, and Gender</p> <p>This section includes a discussion of topics ranging from commonly perceived views of anatomy to an analysis of the social construction of gender and anatomical sex. We will also explore the spectrum of gender expression and identity as it relates to our own lives.</p>
<p>Section D</p> <p><u>MW 9/18, 9/20</u> <u>TuTh 9/19, 9/21</u></p>	<p>Power & Privilege</p> <p>We will look at how systems of oppression shape the way individuals engage in the world and how power and privilege influence the way we live our lives. This includes an analysis of the “-isms” and how power and privilege play a role in providing choices, opportunities, and access. We will continue this exploration throughout the duration of the course.</p>
<p>Section E</p> <p>M 9/25 6-8 Tu 9/26 6-8 (Presentation)</p>	<p>Health and Menstruation</p> <p>We will discuss the structures of western medicine and non-western approaches to health, as well as the following: breast self-exam, pelvic exam, yeast infections, urinary tract infections (UTI), toxic shock syndrome (TSS), menopause, mental health, the possible carcinogenic and negative effects of commonly used hygiene products (tampons, douches, etc.), and the concept of genitalia as “dirty.” We discuss the cultural stigmatization of menstrual cycles and share health resources. <u>If students cannot make presentation dates, they will have to do a make up assignment.</u></p>
<p>Section F</p> <p>M 9/25 6-8 Tu 9/26 6-8 (Presentation)</p>	<p>Contraception, Safer Sex, and Sexually Transmitted Infections</p> <p>Topics covered include different methods of safer sex and contraception. This includes the pill, barrier methods, communication, etc. We will also explore the social and medical aspects of STI's .</p>

<p>Section G WM 9/27, 10/2 ThTu 9/28, 10/3</p>	<p>Parenthood, Motherhood, and Reproductive Choices</p> <p>We will take an in-depth look at the variety of reproductive choices. We will discuss cultural, ethnic, societal, religious, and political factors that affect parenthood. Topics covered will include pregnancy, abortion, miscarriage, birth, parenthood, and motherhood.</p>
<p>Section H</p> <p><u>MWM 10/4, 10/9, 10/11</u> <u>TuThTu 10/5, 10/10, 10/12</u></p>	<p>Body Image & Gender Representations in the Media</p> <p>In this section we will look at how people have internalized views of beauty and attractiveness, leading to competition, acrimony, and unhealthy relationships with their bodies. We will explore how lived experiences, such as eating disorders, body dysmorphia, and/or body-positive practices affect self--image. This includes reflection on the cultural variables that influence body image. We will also begin to explore how sexuality is portrayed in different forms of popular media and analyze how age, race, class, etc. influence these portrayals. We then examine how these portrayals affect our personal lives. This section includes mid term presentations.</p>
<p>Section I M 10/16 T 10/17</p>	<p>Consent</p> <p>We will examine the ways consent is expressed in a variety of relationships including romantic, platonic, sexual, etc. We will discuss what “consent” means and differences in various legal and personal definitions, how consent is portrayed in the media and societal expectations around consent for folks of different identities.</p>
<p>Section J W 10/18 Th 10/19</p>	<p>Sexuality & Sexual Identity</p> <p>We will look at how society views sexuality, and factors that shape our sexuality including heterosexism, religion, culture, and ethnicity. During this section we will also dive into the meaning sexuality and all of its aspects which includes but is not limited to: sensuality, intimacy, sexual identity, sexual health & reproduction, and sexualization.</p>
<p>Section K MW 10/23, 10/25 TuTh 10/24, 10/26</p>	<p>Self-Pleasure & Sexual Practices</p> <p>We will look at different models of the sexual response cycle as well as discuss the physiological and psychological factors of orgasms, including childhood sexuality, cultural variables, and medical factors involved in the inhibition to orgasm. We will also discuss self-love, erogenous zones, vaginal ejaculation, and negative and positive views of masturbation. This section also covers a variety of sexual practices.</p>
<p>Section L WM 11/1, 11/6</p>	<p>Pornography, Erotica, and Sex Work</p> <p>We will discuss pornography and erotica in a variety of mediums. We will discuss various</p>

<p>ThTu 11/2, 11/7</p>	<p>forms of sex work with an emphasis on political, social, and economic circumstances. We will also discuss the taboos that surround pornography and sex work.</p>
<p>Section M</p> <p>W 11/8</p> <p>Th 11/9</p>	<p>Relationships</p> <p>We will discuss the importance of honesty and communication in sexual and non-sexual relationships. Topics will include monogamy/polyamory and useful communication techniques.</p>
<p>Section N</p> <p>MW 11/13, 11/15</p> <p>TuTh 11/14, 11/16</p>	<p>Gender-Based Violence</p> <p>We will take an in-depth look at gender-based violence in the many forms it takes institutionally and individually. We consider issues concerning rape myths, the victim vs. survivor paradigm, and the hierarchy of violence. Students may share their own experiences with violence. We will read, analyze, discuss and share resources throughout the section.</p>
<p>Section O</p> <p>MW 11/27, 11/29</p> <p>TuTh 11/28, 11/30</p>	<p>Empowerment</p> <p>We will explore the process of empowerment and how power influences this journey. We talk about the importance of challenging systems of oppression, community building, and individual empowerment.</p>