

# Course Syllabus

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## SOSC 2103

## Sex, Courtship & Marriage

### Course Description

This course will look at changing values on sexuality, dating and marriage in current culture. Morality, Gender, Sexuality,

Marriage, Dating, Divorce, Parenting and Abortion are areas to be considered. The major thrust of the course will be to challenge students to evaluate their views on these topics, and grow those views with a more well developed rationale and understanding of multiple perspectives. All content will be presented and discussed within a Christian worldview, however students are encouraged to think about and evaluate other worldviews as well.

### Course Prerequisites

ENGL 1013

### Required Materials

We will read significant amounts of content from the following books and students should acquire their own copy for personal use:

- Mere Christianity- C.S. Lewis (ISBN: 0060652926)
- Family- Jack Balswick & Judith Balswick (ISBN: 0801049342)
- A Celebration of Sex for Newlyweds- Douglas Rosenau (ISBN: 0785287736)
- Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work- John Gottman (ISBN: 0553447718)
- The Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert- Rosaria Butterfield ( ISBN: 1884527388)

All other readings will be provided by the instructor and links will be placed in the Canvas course.

# Accreditation

Southern Wesleyan University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate, baccalaureate, and masters degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Southern Wesleyan University.

## Program Learning Outcomes

### Psychology Program Outcomes:

<b>PLO#1</b>	Demonstrate knowledge of significant facts, theories, and issues within the domain of psychology.
<b>PLO#2</b>	Demonstrate critical thinking skills and knowledge of significant facts, theories, and issues in considering and applying the relationship between Christianity and psychology.
<b>PLO#3</b>	Display the critical thinking skills and research skills necessary to interpret and contribute to current psychological research.
<b>PLO#4</b>	Apply spiritual and ethical principles to promoting the welfare of others.
<b>PLO#5</b>	Be prepared for employment or graduate studies in fields that are related to psychology.

### Human Services Program Outcomes:

<b>PLO#1</b>	Demonstrate knowledge of significant facts, theories, and issues within the domain of psychology human services.
<b>PLO#2</b>	Display knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values consistent with an understanding

	and appreciation of multi-cultural issues.
<b>PLO#3</b>	Display the critical thinking skills and research skills necessary to interpret and contribute to current practices in human services.
<b>PLO#4</b>	Understand and apply basic principles of case management in working with clients
<b>PLO#5</b>	Be prepared for employment or graduate studies in human services related fields

## Course Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course you should be able to:

<b>CLO#1</b>	Explain sexual development as influenced by biological and social factors.
<b>CLO#2</b>	Discuss the subjective (and objective) nature of morality and personal choice
<b>CLO#3</b>	Understand current cultural implications of a Christian perspective on sexuality, gender and marriage
<b>CLO#4</b>	Counsel others with greater wisdom about the issues addressed in the course.

## Course Learning Assignments and Assessments

# Grading

Mid Term	150 points
Final Exam	150 points
Module Reflections (7 @15 points)	105 points
Discussion Posts (6 @ 30 points)	180 points
Discussion Leader (1 @ 35 points)	35 points
Theology of Relationships Paper	100 points
Reading Notes (7 @ 40 points)	280 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000 points</b>

## Mid-Term and Final Exam

Tests will be essay format. The test will be open notes/book, however they will be timed. Tests will cover the material from the assigned readings and group discussion.

## Module Reflections

For each module you will submit a 500 word reflection on the readings, supplemental materials and group discussion. This is not simply a summary but demonstrates that you actively engaged in those discussions, considered the viewpoints of your classmates and have worked to evaluate your thinking on these topics. Your reflection should include at least 3 external references not included in the course readings.

## Discussions

Your participation in group discussions is required in order to demonstrate your engagement in class. In order to participate in discussions you must read any assigned material before posting to the discussion. Participation involves contributing meaningful, insightful ideas and questions to the

discussion but also requires that you remain respectful and receptive to the thoughts and ideas of others. A variety of viewpoints may be represented in these discussions, I encourage lively debate, but all discussion must be based on sound, supported assertions not merely emotional opinion. Engaging emotionally without logical rationale or support will result in a reduction in your grade.

Students should post an original 250 word response to the group discussion questions posed by Thursday and should respond to at least 2 of their classmates by Sunday. A rubric with more detailed instructions can be found in the assignment on Canvas.

Each student will be assigned as the discussion leader for one module. Leaders will be responsible for posting thought provoking questions to the discussion, moderating group conversations (encouraging students to respond to their classmates or dig deeper in their post). Basically the leader is the professor for this discussion. Leaders will not be required to have a minimum number of posts but instead will be graded on their engagement with classmates and their ability to stimulate good discussion.

Discussion groups will be assigned by the professor and will be a smaller sub-set of the class. The size of these groups will likely range between 5-7 students depending on class size.

## **Theology of Relationships Paper**

You will write a 2000 word paper on YOUR theology of relationships. This paper will be a combination of reflection and research. You will explain your position on what healthy relationships are, the role of gender roles and sexuality in Christian dating/marriage, acceptable and unacceptable sexual behaviors, etc. All research must be appropriately documented and cited within the paper. Please do not cite websites or the readings in your paper. This IS a position paper so you can use first person, however it is not simply your opinion. You should have solid support and logic for your positions on the key issues in relationships

## **Reading Notes**

For EACH module you will write reading notes on the assigned readings. These will be a combination of summary, insight, and reflection. While length is not the only factor to determine completeness, notes should be approximately 1-2 pages of notes for every 10 pages of reading. Completeness will also be evaluated on how adequately the student covered all significant material, their questions or insight on that material and any immediate reflection/response to the material as they read it.

In order to ensure these are your original ideas all notes will be handwritten. Due dates for notes can be found on Canvas. Since they are handwritten you will need to scan and upload your notes into Canvas. Most copies have a scan feature available which will convert your notes to a PDF. However, if you do not have access to a copier/scanner there are several free scanning apps you can download for a smart phone that will convert the images to a PDF as well (I recommend [CamScanner](https://www.camscanner.com/) (<https://www.camscanner.com/>).

## GRADE EQUIVALENCY TABLE

All grades are reported in a system of eleven letter grades designated as “A” through “F” with appropriate plus and minus additions reflecting the following scheme:

Points	Percentage	Letter Grade
955-1000	96%-100%	A
915-954	92%-95%	A-
875-914	88-91%	B+
835-874	84%-87%	B
795-834	80%-83%	B-
755-794	76%-79%	C+
715-754	72%-75%	C
675-714	68%-71%	C-
635-674	64%-67%	D+
600-634	60%-63%	D
<600	<60%	F

# Course Policies

## Attendance Policy

Regular attendance is a key to success in the course. Please refer to the Attendance Policy outlined in the Catalog for full details of the SWU policy on attendance.

Online attendance is based on completion of at least one designated assignment by the due date/time posted within the course site for each session. Online activities may include lecture, assignments, readings, discussion forums, and assessments (e.g. quizzes, tests).

## Communication

The course site (Canvas) and SWU email are the primary tools for class communication, assignments, handouts, etc. All participants must have access to the course site and SWU e-mail and are expected to access them on a daily basis.

While it is important to maintain good communication with the instructor, Internet connectivity problems and home computer problems are not considered adequate excuses for missing assigned class work.

## Technology Requirements

To be successful in this course, all participants are expected to ensure their technology equipment meets the [recommendations](http://www.swu.edu/about-swu/technology-services/computer-recommendations/) [\(http://www.swu.edu/about-swu/technology-services/computer-recommendations/\)](http://www.swu.edu/about-swu/technology-services/computer-recommendations/) provided by SWU's Technology Services.

Students requiring technical support related to their courses or other SWU-provided technologies should send an e-mail to [helpdesk@swu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@swu.edu) or call 864.644.5050.

## Academic Honesty

Honesty in all matters - including honesty in academic endeavors - is a valued principle at Southern Wesleyan University. It is the expectation of the university that all those joining the academic program will act with integrity in all matters.









No forms of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. Students are encouraged to help each other maintain these high standards. All academic dishonesty should be reported to the faculty directly. Faculty, upon evidence of academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or misuse of another's intellectual property), either by voluntary confession, report of another student, or on the basis of work submitted, must follow the procedure outlined in the Catalog (under *Academic Honesty*). This includes but is not limited to a

zero for the work involved, 10% course grade reduction, or a failing grade for the course. Unresolved cases may be appealed using the Appeal Process outlined in the Catalog (under *Academic Honesty*).

## Accommodations for Students with Disabilities






Southern Wesleyan University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. Accommodations can be made for students with disabilities, as outlined in “Services for Students with Disabilities,” found in mySWU’s Student tab under The Learning Center. Any student desiring accommodations must send the request and all documentation to the Academic Coordinator at the learning site where he/she attends classes. The Academic Coordinator will forward the materials to the Student Success Coordinator for Southern Wesleyan University.

## Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Thu Jan 14, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156300">Morality &amp; Choices Discussion</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156300">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156300</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 17, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156323">Morality &amp; Choices Module Reflection</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156323">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156323</a> )	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156324">Morality &amp; Choices Reading Notes</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156324">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156324</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Thu Jan 21, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156301">Gender Discussion</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156301">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156301</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 24, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156311">Gender Module Reflection</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156311">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156311</a> )	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156312">Gender Reading Notes</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156312">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156312</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Thu Jan 28, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156302">Sexuality Discussion</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156302">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156302</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 31, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156328">Sexuality Module Reflection</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156328">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156328</a> )	due by 11:59pm



Date	Details	Due
	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156329">Sexuality Reading Notes</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156329">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156329</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Thu Feb 4, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156304">Homosexuality Discussion</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156304">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156304</a> )	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156315">Homosexuality Module Reflection</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156315">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156315</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 7, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156316">Homosexuality Reading Notes</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156316">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156316</a> )	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156299">Mid Term Exam</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156299">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156299</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Thu Feb 11, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156305">Love, Dating &amp; Engagement Discussion</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156305">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156305</a> )	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156319">Love, Dating &amp; Engagement Module Reflection</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156319">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156319</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 14, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156318">Love, Dating and Engagement Reading Notes</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156318">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156318</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Thu Feb 18, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156306">Marriage &amp; Divorce Discussion</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156306">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156306</a> )	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156321">Marriage &amp; Divorce Module Reflection</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156321">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156321</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 21, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156322">Marriage &amp; Divorce Reading Notes</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156322">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156322</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Thu Feb 25, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156307">Parenting Discussion</a> ( <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156307">https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156307</a> )	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
Sun Feb 28, 2021	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156310">Final Exam</a> <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156310">(https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156310)</a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156325">Parenting Module Reflection</a> <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156325">(https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156325)</a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156327">Parenting Reading Notes</a> <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156327">(https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156327)</a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156314">Group Discussion Leader</a> <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156314">(https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/30156314)</a>	
	 <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/31109191">Roll Call Attendance</a> <a href="https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/31109191">(https://swu.instructure.com/courses/3012507/assignments/31109191)</a>	