

**THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
PCP 624 FAMILY STUDIES: HUMAN SEXUALITY  
COURSE SYLLABUS**

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Summer II, 2005

Office, room 222

Pager 873-2556

**Course description**

This course is an overview, assessment and treatment course for helping professionals. This course also contains a Christian investigation of sexuality within the larger context of human experience and individual development. Emphasis is placed on physical and psychosexual development; health related issues; and the application of scientific information to sexual issues and problems. Issues to be addressed are deviation, inadequacy and treatment of sexual problems.

**Course objectives**

The student will:

1. examine significant biblical texts that aid in the construction of a systematic theology of human sexuality
2. develop a personal theology of human sexuality and compare and contrast it to our assumptions about a theology of sexuality that may exist in our church
3. gain a thorough understanding of how the human reproductive system functions; including normal functioning, dysfunction and anomaly. Normal and abnormal development will also be investigated.
4. be introduced to treatment techniques used in sex therapy
5. understand the part played by family relationships in the development of sex role identity.
6. be exposed to aspects of sexual deviance and social problems caused by human sexual expression; including teen pregnancy, homosexuality and lesbianism, sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, rape and incest.
7. be introduced to assessment and treatment of sexual abuse, incest and crime.
8. be introduced to special research challenges posed by investigating human sexuality and notable studies will be highlighted.
9. refine a technical sex vocabulary.

10. examine special difficulties that confront the marital and family therapist, professional counselor, psychologist and pastoral counselor in regard to sexuality.
11. the student will be exposed to the literature addressing pornography and sexual addiction and how the Christian community might be effective in ministry to such persons.

### **Required textbooks**

Carnes, P. (1991). *Don't call it love*. New York: Bantam Books

Hyde, J. & DeLamater, J. (2000). *Understanding human sexuality*. 9<sup>th</sup> Ed. Boston: McGraw Hill.

Smedes, L (1994). *Sex for Christians: The limits and liberties of sexual living*. New York: Wm. B. Eerdmans.

At times throughout the semester journal articles may be assigned as well.

### **Methodology**

The class will be conducted as an upper level graduate seminar with students sharing responsibility for the learning environment. State-of-the-art educational technology will serve to enhance in the process of learning along with the latest methods of pedagogy and analogy. A cohort group strategy will be employed to develop a relational learning community. Class meetings will be made up of lectures, PowerPoint, video and audio presentations, plus discussion, and research.

### **Course requirements**

1. Students will attend each class meeting.
2. Each student will read all assigned materials in the textbooks and periodic journal assignments.
3. Write a 5-page essay evaluating Smedes, L (1994). *Sex for Christians: The limits and liberties of sexual living*. New York: Wm. B. Eerdmans. **Due June 10** during class
4. Develop a 5-page *essay* on your own personal theology of sexuality. **Due June 17** during class
5. Become involved in 8 hours of community service hours at the Pregnancy Care Center (PCC)—documented by designated director or representative—a form will be provided. **Due June 23** during class

6. Two multiple choice, objective examinations will be given over specific chapters from Hyde. A study guide will be provided for examination preparation.

**Grading system**

Two essays	20% each
A community service statement	20%
Two objective examinations	20% each
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Total	100%

The final semester grade will reflect attitude, tardiness, absences and class participation.

Late papers are reduced 1 full grade per day.

No rewrites are permitted.

Papers are to be written according to APA 5<sup>th</sup> edition style manual

**Class schedule and selected bibliography**

These documents will be distributed on the first class day.