



SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

SEMESTER:

COURSE: PSY 3150 COURTSHIP AND MARRIAGE

LECTURER :

TIME/DAYS:

VENUE:

CREDIT: 3 UNITS

OFFICE HOURS:

1. DESCRIPTION (AS IN THE CATALOGUE)

Welcome to the courtship and marriage class. This course looks at the role of interpersonal relationships in dating, courtship and marriage. Factors related to mate selection, the transition to marriage and the stability of marital relationships is addressed.

1.1 Prerequisite: None

2. LINK TO UNIVERSITY MISSION OUTCOMES & TO PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

The mission of the school of Humanities and Social Sciences is to provide an enabling learning environment through quality programs where undergraduate and graduate students acquire knowledge, skills, positive attitudes, values and desirable behavior. Further the SHSS is committed to promoting the generation and dissemination of knowledge in order to create a better world.

1. PLO 3 – Apply critical and creative thinking, inquiry, and scientific approach to problems related to behavior and mental processes
2. PLO 4 – Employ psychological principles in personal, social, and organizational settings
3. PLO 6- Demonstrate effective communication and interpersonal skills in a variety of settings
4. PLO 8 – Recognize, understand and respect the complexity of socio -cultural and global diversity.
5. PLO 9 – Apply effective strategies for self-management and self-improvement

3. EXPECTED COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (Not more than 6)

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:-

- Apply basic psychological principles to solve real-life everyday problems.
- Recognize and respect cultural diversity in human relationships

- Illustrate the diverse array of theoretical perspectives in courtship and marriage including their strengths and weaknesses
- Describe the characteristics that make one suitable for sex and a mate
- Explain the factors that influence whether a marriage or other romantic relationships endure or dissolve.
- Demonstrate knowledge in the implications and outcomes of mating relationships
- Articulate the role of love, sexuality, individual differences, personality traits and gender differences in relationships
- Explain the various interventions used to resolve conflicts and difficulties in relationships.

4. **CONTENT & CLASS SCHEDULE:**

Week One and Two

a. learning outcome

b. Topic INTRODUCTION

- Why mating relationships
- Dynamics of mating relationships
- Theoretical frameworks
- Factors in mate preferences

c. Readings: chapter 1

d. Assignment

Week Three

a. Learning Outcome: To be able to initiate and communicate effectively in romantic relationships.

b. Topic ATTRACTION AND COURTSHIP

- Initiating and communicating a romantic relationship
- Dating
- Pathways to commitment

c. *Readings: chapter 2*

d. *Assignment.*

a.

Week Four

RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- Theories of relationship development

- Process of relationship development

Readings: chapter 3

Week Five MARRIAGE

- Types of marriages
- Nature of marriages
- Alternatives to marriages
- Marital satisfaction
- Changes over time

Readings: chapter 4

**Week Six
CONFLICTS IN RELATIONSHIPS**

- Conflict and conflict resolution

Readings: chapter 5

Week Seven – (One class teaching and Mid Term Examination: Administer the mid-semester evaluation)

EXAM WEEK AND REVISION

There will be group presentations each week

**Week Eight
DISSOLUTION**

- Why and how relationships end
- Disengagement strategies
- Reactions to the end of relationships
- Giving an account/ accountability

Readings: chapter 6

Week Nine and Ten

THERAPY/INTERVENTIONS

- Role of therapy
- Identification/diagnosis of distressed relationships
- Treatments

Guest speaker /Relationship Therapist

Readings: chapter 7

Week Eleven

LOVE

- Theories
- Types
- Outcomes
- challenges

Readings: chapter 8 & 9

Week Twelve

(Course evaluation administered)

RELATIONAL SEXUALITY

- Meaning
- Purpose
- Consequences

Readings: chapter 10, 11, 12 & 13

Week Thirteen

INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES IN MATING RELATIONSHIPS

- Maleness and femaleness
- Personality
- Interpersonal belief systems
- Conclusions

Readings: chapter 14, 15, & 16

Week Fourteen – Final Examination

TEACHING APPROACHES

Lectures with discussions
Role plays
Group and individual discussions
Audio visuals

KEY INSTITUTIONAL ACADEMIC POLICIES

Plagiarism and Cheating.

Plagiarism and cheating are considered to be acts of misconduct as per the university's code of conduct and ethics. (See student handbook 2.9.4 and catalogue). Any student who commits plagiarism or cheats in the examination will be subject to sanctions up to and including dismissal from university.

Absenteeism

Students are expected to attend all classes. Upon being absent from SEVEN classes in a course, the instructor may give an 'F' grade for the course. If you have to be absent, please contact the instructor and present a valid document.

COURSE TEXT & OTHER READINGS (Not more than 5 years old)

Regan.p.c, (2008): *The mating game*. 2nd Ed. California, USA: .Sage Publications,

EXTENDED READINGS

Hock,R.H.(2002). *Fourty studies that changed Psychology: Explorations into the history of psychological research*. London: Prentice Hall.

Mitchell,M.L., Jolley,J.M.,O'Shea, R.P. (2007). *Writing for Psychology*.Belmont,CA : Thomson Wadsworth.

(More to be given)(Topics for the group presentations)

COURSE EVALUATION (this is a sample; the nature of the course determines the number and type of assessment tasks. Course work should constitute at least three tasks, and the final examination should carry higher marks than the mid-semester)

Attendance and participation	5 %	
Assignments & Quizzes	10%	} 45%
Term paper/practical project	15%	
Group presentation & Report	20%	
Mid-Semester Exam	20 %	
Final Exam	30%	
Total	100%	

USIU GRADING SYSTEM

A	90 – 100	C	70 – 73
A-	87 - 89	C-	67 – 69
B+	84 - 86	D+	64 - 66
B	80 - 83	D	62 - 63
B-	77 - 79	D-	60 - 61
C+	74 - 76	F	0 – 59