

Brescia School of Food and Nutritional Sciences

**FSHD 3352A – Human Sexuality Across the Lifespan
Fall 2026**

Campus Support

Western University is committed to a **thriving campus**. For help with:

- Both physical and mental health, go to [Wellness & Wellbeing](#)
- Studying with disabilities, go to [Accessible Education](#)
- Writing skills, go to the [Writing Support Centre](#)
- Learning skills and strategies, go to [Learning Development & Success](#)
- Contacting the ombudsperson, go to the [Office of the Ombudsperson](#)



Your course coordinator can also **guide you** to available campus resources and/or services.

Technical Requirements

 Stable internet connection  Laptop computer

Important Dates

Classes Begin	Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 9	October 10-18	December 9	December 10	December 11–22

September 30, 2026, is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and is a non-instructional day

November 30, 2026: Last day to withdraw from a first-term half course without academic penalty

Contact Information

Course Coordinator/instructor	Contact Information	Office Hours
Dr. Roula Hawa, PhD, MSc, MPH, BEd, OCT, PHEc	roula.hawa@uwo.ca	By appointment

Teaching Assistant(s)	Contact Information	Office Hours
None		

NOTE: All course information including grades, assignment outlines, deadlines, etc. are available via [OWL Brightspace](#). Download the Brightspace Pulse App to stay up-to-date on course communication and enable your notification settings within “Communications” in the top toolbar. Check the website regularly for course announcements. If you need assistance, visit [OWL Brightspace Help](#) or contact the [Western Technology Services Helpdesk](#). They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

Calendar Course Description (including prerequisites/anti-requisites):

This course includes an in-depth analysis of traditional and contemporary sexuality using a multidisciplinary perspective. A main focus of this course will be on sexuality throughout the lifespan with an emphasis on diversity of human sexuality along many dimensions including age, gender identity, sexual orientation and identity, and ethnicity within Canada and in cultures around the world.

Antirequisite(s): [Psychology 2075](#), [Psychology 2076 A/B](#).

Prerequisite(s): 1.0 Family Studies and Human Development Courses at the 2000 level, or 1.0 former Family Studies courses at the 2000 level, or permission of instructor.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

NOTE: If you wish to enroll in this course without the stated pre-requisite(s), you must obtain written approval from an academic advisor in your Home Unit first before contacting the course instructor.

Delivery Mode: Online, Asynchronous.

Component	Date(s)	Time
Lecture 650	Modules will be posted on Tuesdays	Asynchronous

Weekly modules including assigned readings, a video lecture recording and other supporting resources will be posted weekly on **Tuesdays**.

My Course Description

Students will be able to identify and explain the influences of social class, gender, ethnicity, and geographic region in the sexual behaviour of Canadians. Areas that will be covered include: attraction and love; relationships, intimacy and communication; sexual orientation; sexual variety; coercive sexuality and exploitation; sexual health; HIV and Sexually Transmitted and Blood Borne Infections (STBBI); and ethics, religion and sexuality. As part of your critical thinking discussions in this course, a case study involving an issue impacting sexuality across the lifespan will be administered and analyzed as a group.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify some of the issues surrounding sex and gender.

2. Apply and critically analyze major social science theories that explain the diversity of human sexuality.
3. Explain and critically analyze the influences of social class, gender, ethnicity, and geographic region in the sexual behaviour of Canadians.
4. Actively engage through a case study approach in examining issues that affect human sexuality across the life span, in childhood, adolescence and in later adulthood.
5. Demonstrate your ability to effectively communicate and generate strategies to address issues such as coercive sexuality and exploitation, while emphasizing the importance of sexual health.

Course Content and Schedule

Check Brightspace forum on a weekly basis on **Tuesdays** for my posts with detailed instructions, video recordings and/or PPTs, activities, and assessments. If you have quick questions about the course, feel free to send me an email. For individual and detailed questions, please book a meeting via Zoom. Make sure to use your UWO credentials when attending a Zoom meeting.

Week	Class Date	Topic	Study Material	Assessment/ Activity Due
1	Sept 8	Welcome back! Semester 1 classes start on Wednesday, Sept 9. Read the course syllabus posted in Brightspace in the introduction section. Purchase your textbook and get ready for the course.		
2	Sept 15	Course introduction	Watch my elevator pitch to create your own. Post an “elevator” pitch (2-3-minute video to introduce yourself to the class). Browse through your classmates’ videos and post a minimum of two (2) responses in our discussion forum.	Elevator pitch due September 21 at 23:59 EST
		Sexuality in Perspective	Read Chapter 1: Sexuality in Perspective. Sex and gender; influences on sexuality; cross-cultural perspectives on sexuality; sexually diverse world; sexual health perspective. Watch my video lecture recording and take notes.	
3	Sept 22	Theoretical Perspectives on Sexuality	Read Chapter 2: Theoretical Perspectives on Sexuality. Applying theories.	

Week	Class Date	Topic	Study Material	Assessment/ Activity Due
4	Sept 29	Sexuality and the life cycle: childhood and adolescence	Read Chapter 10: Sexuality and the Life Cycle: Childhood and Adolescence	
5	Oct 6	Sexuality and the life cycle: Adulthood	Read Chapter 11: Sexuality and the Life Cycle: Adulthood Case Study	Case Study: (25%) Due on Tuesday, Oct 20 at 23:59 EST
6	Oct 13	No CLASS – Oct 12-16 Reading Week		
7	Oct 20	Attraction, love & communication Gender and Sexuality	Read Chapter 12: Attraction, Love and Communication Read Chapter 13: Gender and Sexuality	Test Review will be posted.
8	Oct 27	Mid Term Exam	Mid Term Exam (chapters 1, 2, 10, 11, 12, 13) + all class notes, video clips, and readings (2-hour timed test). All exams are administered through Brightspace via Proctortrack.	Midterm Exam: (35%). Will open from 9:00 am, Tuesday October 27 to 11:59pm, Wednesday, Oct. 28.
9	Nov 3	Sexual Orientation and Identity	Read Chapter 14: Sexual Orientation and Identity	
10	Nov 10	Variations in sexual behaviour	Read Chapter 15: Variations in Sexual Behaviour	
11	Nov 17	Sexual coercion Sex for sale	Read Chapter 16: Sexual Coercion Read Chapter 17: Sex for Sale	

Week	Class Date	Topic	Study Material	Assessment/ Activity Due
12	Nov 24	Sexuality education Sexual health: HIV and STBBI Prevention	Read Chapter 19: Sexuality Education Watch: Special module on HIV and Sexually Transmitted and Blood-borne Infections prevention Read: Kteily-Hawa, R. (2024). HIV Prevention and Community Engagement. In: The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Sexuality Education (pp.1-13). Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-95352-2_48-1 .	
13	Dec 1	Ethics, religion and sexuality	Reading: check Brightspace for an uploaded chapter on ethics, religion and sexuality. Check Lecture notes and video recording.	
14	Dec 8	Exam Review Putting all the pieces together	Exam review (ALL chapters. Focus on chapters 14, 15, 16, 17, 19 + last chapter) + all class notes, video clips, and readings (2-hour timed exam). Final Exam is Cumulative. All exams will be administered via Proctortrack in Brightspace. Next steps... Congratulations on finishing FSHD 3352A! Good luck on your final exam. Have a well-deserved winter break!	Final Exam: (40%) Date TBD

Required Course Materials

Shibley Hyde, J., Delamater, J., Byers, S., O'Sullivan, L (2026). Understanding Human Sexuality (8th Canadian Edition). Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson Ltd. Textbook Price: \$69

Additional Course Materials

Additional materials may be assigned- check course platform

Optional Course Materials

The course requires all assignments to be in the APA style 7th edition. Please use:
American Psychological Association (2020). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.). Author.

Teaching Methodology and Expectations of Students

To be successful in this course, it is expected that you read the text and the additional required readings, watch the recommended videos, and engage in critical discussions with your classmates. The course is delivered asynchronously via Brightspace learning management system. **Weekly lessons will be posted on Tuesday of every week**, where I will communicate introductory information about the week, provide links to recommended videos, and/or supplement the lesson with PowerPoints or video recordings, as needed.

When sending an email to me, please use your UWO account and put something in the subject line like "FSHD 3352A." Please sign your name to your email with your student ID. Because of the online interactions with your classmates particularly around group work, it is important to consider the following around "netiquette":

- Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
- Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
- Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment. "Flaming" is never appropriate.
- Be professional and scholarly in all online postings. Cite the ideas of others appropriately.

Assessments and Evaluation

Assessment	Format	Weight	Due Date	Flexibility	Learning Outcome
Case study	Written and presentation	25%	October 20	72-hour no late penalty	1,3,4
Midterm Exam	Multiple Choice	35%	October 27	Not applicable – Designated assessment. Documentation required. Midterm exam: Two (2)-hour test- proctored by Proctortrack. Open from 9:00 am, Tuesday October 27 to 11:59pm, Wednesday, Oct. 28. Make-up test: Two (2)-hour test- proctored by Proctortrack. Open from 9:00am, Tuesday, November 3rd to 11:59pm, Wednesday, November 4th. If you miss the make-up test, a mark of zero will be applied.	1,2,3,4

Assessment	Format	Weight	Due Date	Flexibility	Learning Outcome
Final Exam	Multiple Choice	40%	TBA	Not applicable – Documentation required.	1,3,4,5

Brightspace will be used for posting marks and turning in assignments. There is a **mid-term exam**, a **case study (group work)** and a **final exam**. Because this class is online, all exams are administered online. The expectation is that you will be working on the exam individually. **Exams** may cover all material in the text, PPTs, any notes I present in Brightspace forum, videos, weblinks, and online class activities. They may include multiple choice or short answer questions. Exams are timed and you will have 2 hours to complete the mid-term exam once you start it. Final Exam is scheduled for 2 hours and is administered synchronously on an assigned date and time that will be scheduled by Exam Central. **The final exam for this course is cumulative.**

The case study involves group work and encourages engagement in course materials among classmates.

Evaluation Breakdown:

Notes:

1. Designated Assessment: The midterm exam has been designated as being central to the evaluation of learning outcomes in this course. Accordingly, students must provide documentation for any absence from this evaluation. If you miss this evaluation, you must complete the makeup assessment as agreed online. The makeup assessment is an extension of the Midterm Test, and so you will need to present documentation for this assessment, should you need to miss it. Please note that there is only one makeup assessment for this Midterm. Students approved to miss the makeup will have the weight of this assessment transferred to the final exam. Students must not provide medical or compassionate documentation to the instructor.
2. Students are expected to submit all assignments by the deadline listed. Should extenuating circumstances arise, students are permitted to submit their assignment up to 72 hours past the deadline without a late penalty. No Academic Consideration is required for this extension. Students submitting their assessment beyond the extended deadline will receive a penalty of 1% per hour that it is late. Academic Consideration requests may be granted only for extenuating circumstances that began before the deadline and lasted longer than the extension. Students must not provide medical or compassionate documentation to the instructor.
3. You cannot use undocumented absences for final exams.

General information about assessments

- ☒ All assignments are due at 23:59 EST unless otherwise specified.
- ☒ Students are responsible for ensuring that the correct file version is uploaded; incorrect submissions including corrupt files could be subject to late penalties (see below) or a 0.

- ☒ Written assignments will be submitted to Turnitin (statement in policies below).
- ☒ Students will have access to Turnitin reports before their submission is graded. Students may have 2 submissions to Turnitin.
- ☒ A student might not receive the same grade as their group members if it is determined that the distribution of work or effort was not equal.
- ☒ After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 5 days.
- ☒ Prior to the filing of a written request for relief, students must attempt to resolve the concern regarding a mark or grade through informal consultation with the instructor. Your instructor receives a lot of emails and as such, lack of response does not constitute an informal consultation. An informal consultation involves reaching out to your instructor, making contact and requesting a meeting to resolve the issue. If the student is dissatisfied with the decision of the instructor, a written request for relief must be submitted to the Undergraduate Chair of the School offering this course, within three (3) weeks from the date that the mark was issued.

The table below outlines University-wide grade descriptors.

Letter grade	Number grade	Description
A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Rounding of Grades (for example, bumping a 79 to 80%)

This is a practice some students request. The final grade documented is the grade that you have achieved. There is no rounding to the next grade level, or 'giving away' of marks. Please don't ask me to do this for you; the response will be "please review the course outline where this is presented".

Information about late or missed assessments:

- ☒ Late assessments without academic consideration will be subject to a late penalty of 10% per day to a maximum of five days.
- ☒ Missed tests or makeup tests will be accommodated online based on approved academic consideration.

Course-specific conditions:

- ☒ All components of the course must be successfully completed to pass the course.

INC (Incomplete Standing): If a student has been approved by the Academic Advising Office (in consultation with the instructor/department) to complete term work at a later date, an INC will be assigned. Students with INC will have their course load in subsequent terms reduced to allow them to complete outstanding course work. Students may request permission from Academic Advising to carry a full course load for the term the incomplete course work is scheduled.

SPC (Special examination): If a student has been approved by the Academic Advising Office to write a Special Examination and the final exam is the only outstanding course component, an SPC will be

assigned. If the class has a makeup exam, the student is expected to write the makeup exam. If the class doesn't have a makeup exam or the student misses the makeup exam for reasons approved by the Academic Advising Office, the student will write the exam the next time the course is offered. Outstanding SPCs will reduce the course load for the term the exam is deferred as outlined in [Types of Examinations](#) policy.

Academic Policies and Statements

Support Services

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

1. Academic Support and Engagement - <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca>
2. Wellness and Well-being - <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>
3. Registrar's Office - <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>
4. Ombuds Office - <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>

The websites for Registrarial Services (<http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>), and the same for affiliated university colleges when appropriate, and any appropriate Student Support Services (including the services provided by the USC listed here: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>) and the Student Development Services, should be provided for easy access.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Statement on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at: https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html.

Statement on Harassment and Discrimination

Western is committed to providing a learning and working environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. All students, staff, and faculty have a role in this commitment and have a responsibility to ensure and promote a safe and respectful learning and working environment. Relevant policies include Western's [Non-Discrimination/Harassment Policy](#) (M.A.P.P. 1.35) and [Non-Discrimination/Harassment Policy – Administrative Procedures](#) (M.A.P.P. 1.35). Any student, staff, or faculty member who experiences or witnesses' behaviour that may be harassment or discrimination must report the behaviour to the Western's [Human Rights Office](#). Harassment and discrimination can be human rights-based, which is also known as EDI-based, (sexism, racism, transphobia, homophobia, islamophobia, xenophobia, antisemitism, and ableism) or non-human rights-based (personal harassment or workplace harassment).

Student Code of Conduct

The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at Western University, provide examples of behaviour that constitutes a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of sanctions that may be imposed and set out the disciplinary procedures that the University will follow. For more information, visit <https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf>

Absence from Course Commitments

Students must familiarize themselves with the Policy on [Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

Students missing course work for medical, compassionate, or extenuating circumstances can request academic consideration by completing a request at the [central academic consideration portal](#). Students are permitted one academic consideration request per course per term **without** supporting documentation. Note that supporting documentation is **always** required for academic consideration requests for examinations scheduled by the office of the registrar (e.g., December and April exams) and for practical laboratory and performance tests (typically scheduled during the last week of the term).

Students should also note that the instructor may **designate** one assessment per course per term that requires supporting documentation. This designated assessment is described elsewhere in this document. Academic consideration requests may be denied when flexibility in assessment has already been included. Examples of flexibility in assessment include when there are assessments not required for calculation of the final grade (e.g. 8 out of 10 quizzes), when there is flexibility in the submission timeframe (e.g. 72 hour no late penalty period), or when timed assessments (e.g., quizzes) are available over an extended period of time (e.g., when you are given a 72 hour time period to start – and finish – the assessment).

Please note that academic considerations in this course are granted by the academic advisors in your home unit and implemented by the instructor of this course in accordance with information presented in this course syllabus. Supporting documentation for academic considerations for absences due to illness should use the [Student Medical Certificate](#) or, where that is not possible, equivalent documentation by a health care practitioner. If your absence relates to accommodations that are already supported by [Accessible Education](#), please work with your accessible education counsellor regarding your missed course work.

Accommodation for Religious Holidays

Students should review the policy for [Accommodation for Religious Holidays](#). Where a student will be unable to write examinations and term tests due to a conflicting religious holiday, they should inform their instructors as soon as possible but not later than two weeks prior to writing the examination/term test. In the case of conflict with a midterm test, students should inform their instructor as soon as possible but not later than one week prior to the midterm.

Special Examinations

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examination dates. The Faculty of Health Sciences has set School-specific dates for these Special Examinations. Please speak with your instructor about the date on which the Special Examination for this course will be held.

Scholastic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the policy on [Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students](#).

Plagiarism

Student work is expected to be original. Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and could lead to a zero on the assignment in question, a zero in this course, or your expulsion from the university. You are plagiarizing if you insert a phrase, sentence or paragraph taken directly from another author without acknowledging that the work belongs to him/her. Similarly, you are plagiarizing if you paraphrase or summarize another author's ideas without acknowledging that the ideas belong to someone else. All papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western University and Turnitin.com (www.turnitin.com).

For group assignments, all members share responsibility for academic integrity. Plan your work so the group has time to review the full submission and ensure all sources are appropriately used and cited. In the absence of a scholastic offence, everyone gets the same mark, so work with the rest of your group in a proactive fashion.

Use of Artificial Intelligence for the Completion of Course Work

Within this course, you may only use artificial intelligence tools (e.g., "ChatGPT") in ways that are specifically authorized by the course instructor. All submitted work must reflect your own thoughts and independent written work.

Re-submission of Previously Graded Material

Without the explicit written permission of the instructor, you may not submit any academic work for which credit has been obtained previously, or for which credit is being sought, in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.

Use of Statistical Pattern Recognition on Multiple Choice Exams

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Accessibility Statement

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation or review [The policy on Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). If you think you may qualify for ongoing accommodation (e.g. separate room to write exams, flexibility with deadlines, etc.) that will be recognized in all your courses, we encourage you to visit [Accessible Education](#) for more information.

Correspondence Statement

The centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at their official university address is attended to in a timely manner. Students are further expected to attend to announcements presented through Brightspace, and to read emails generated in this way.

Use of Electronic Devices

During Exams

Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, or explicit permission from the instructor of the course, you may not use any electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, tablets, cameras, smart glass, smart watches, or iPods) during ANY tests, quizzes, midterms, examinations, or other in-class evaluations. **These devices MUST either be left at home or with your belongings at the front of the room. They MUST NOT be at your test/exam desk or in your pocket. Any student found with a prohibited device will be referred for investigation of a Scholastic Offence, per the policy listed above. The typical first-offence penalty for possession of a prohibited device is zero on the test or exam.**

During Lectures and Tutorials

Although you are welcome to use a computer during lecture and tutorial periods, you are expected to use the computer for scholastic purposes only, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may distract other students from learning. From time to time, your professor may ask the class to turn off all computers, to facilitate learning or discussion of the material presented in a particular class.

Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement

Course material produced by faculty is **copyrighted** and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. Unless explicitly noted otherwise, you may not make audio or video recordings of lectures – nor may you edit, re-use, distribute, or re-broadcast any of the material posted to the course website.

Contingency Plan for an In-Person Class Pivoting to 100% Online Learning

In the event of a situation that requires this course to pivot to online content delivery, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on Brightspace for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of Zoom-bombing a class or of other serious online offenses may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

Online Proctoring

Tests and examinations in this course may be conducted using a remote proctoring service. By taking this course, you are consenting to the use of this software and acknowledge that you will be required to provide **personal information** (including some biometric data) and the session will be **recorded**. Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the technical requirements for this service. More information about this remote proctoring service, including technical requirements, is available on Western's Remote Proctoring website at: <https://remoteproctoring.uwo.ca>.

Academic Appeals and Scholastic Offences

Students can file a **request for relief from academic decisions** if the request is based on one or more grounds listed in the policy. Students can read more about the policy [here](#) and a link to the procedures is listed in the Support Services sections of this document.

Students may **appeal** some academic and scholastic disciplinary decisions by a Dean or their designate, to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA). Students can read more about the policy [here](#) and a link to the procedures is listed in the Support Services section of this document.