

**The Psychology of Sex and Gender**  
**Summer 2012**  
**Mon-Wed 6:00 – 10:20, Tillett 204**

**Instructor:** Janell C. Fetterolf  
 Tillett Hall, Room 629  
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 Office hours: 1-2 on Wednesdays or by appointment

**Course Overview**

This course examines biological, psychological, and cultural determinants of sex differences in human behavior, with an emphasis on social psychological theories and research. Topics covered include: evolutionary theory and cultural accounts for observed, or perceived, gender differences; ambivalent attitudes toward women and men; how stereotypes and gender roles are disseminated and enforced through social interactions and popular culture; gender differences (and similarities) in sexual behavior, aggression, personality, and social roles; and the future of gender equality.

**Goals:** (1) To provide a broad overview of gender-related psychological theory and research and (2) to think critically about the gender beliefs and attitudes we encounter on a daily basis.

**Readings:** The readings include a primary text and outside readings, such as empirical journal articles, review articles, and newspaper articles, provided on the Sakai site. Some readings are listed as *optional*. Obviously, you are not required to read the optional articles, but you are welcome to if you would like to know more about the topic.

**Required Text:**

Rudman, L. A., & Glick, P. (2008). *The social psychology of gender: How power and romance shape gender relations*. New York: Guilford Press. ISBN: 978-1-59385-825-4

**Course Evaluation**

There are *no exams*. The course grade will be based on:

- participation 20%
- written assignments 30%
- online assessments 30%
- final paper 20%

**Participation:** You will receive participation points for showing up to class on time and being prepared to discuss the readings/assignments/class topics.

**Written assignments:** Bring your written assignments to class on the day they are due and *be prepared to discuss*. Late assignments will not be credited. If you have to miss class, e-mail me your assignment by class time. For all written assignments, please double space and use only the APA-approved font (12-point Times New Roman).

**Online assessments:** Three short quizzes/assignments will be posted on the Sakai site throughout the course. These are all open note tasks and will be made available to you one week before they are due.

**Final paper:** The final paper is due on Monday, July 2. This assignment requires you to write a content analysis of how media portrays gender. You will need to clear the focus of your analysis by me no later than **June 13**. The paper should be 5-7 double-spaced pages.

**Grading policies:** There are a total of *100 possible points*. There will be three written assignments and three online assessments worth 10 points each, as well as a final paper worth 20 points. Class participation is worth 20 points total.

Grades will be based on a percentage system (not a curve). The points needed for your final grade are as follows: **90 = A, 85 = B+, 80 = B, 75 = C+, 70 = C, 55 = D.**

### Schedule of Readings and Assignments

Date	Topics	Readings and Assignments
Wed 5/30	Gender Stereotypes	No readings
Mon 6/4	Nature vs. Nurture Gender Similarities	Rudman & Glick: Ch. 1 Hyde (2005) Optional: Buss (1995)
Wed 6/6	Ambivalent Sexism Gender in Childhood	Rudman & Glick: Ch. 2 Orenstein (2006) Princess Culture <b>Gender Segregation Exercise DUE</b>
Mon 6/11	Implicit Associations Self-Sustaining Stereotypes	Rudman & Glick: Ch. 5 & 6
Wed 6/13	Gender Conformity Backlash Effects	Rudman & Glick: Ch. 7 Optional: Prentice & Miller (2006) <b>Gender Transgression Exercise DUE</b>
Mon 6/18	Work-Family Conflict Love & Romance	Rudman & Glick: Ch. 9 Optional: Lisa Belkin, 2008 (Equal Parenting) Optional: Park, Smith, & Correll (2010)
Wed 6/20	Sexual Harassment Feminism	Rudman & Borgida (1995) Rudman & Fairchild (2007) <b>Defining Feminism Exercise DUE</b>

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings and Assignments</b>
Mon 6/25	Sex & Gender	Rudman & Glick: Ch. 10 Conley et al. (2011) Optional: Baumeister & Twenge (2002)
Wed 6/27	Beauty Standards Aggression	Rudman & Glick: Ch. 11 Optional: Vandello et al. (2008)
Mon-7/2	The Future of Equality	Rudman & Glick: Ch. 12 <b>Final Projects DUE</b>
Wed 7/4	<b>NO CLASS</b>	INDEPENDENCE DAY