

Western University

2160B Intimate Relations, Sex, Gender, and Love

Course Outline Winter 2024

How do dominant discourses regarding gender, sexualities, and love impact people's intimate relations?

How do dominant discourses regarding love impact people's expectations for love in their own lives?

How do dominant discourses regarding gender, sexualities, and love impact people's sense of self?

How do discriminatory discourses regarding race, sexualities, disability, and gender impact people's lived experiences and identities?

How have dominant discourses regarding gender, sexualities, and love changed over time?

How can experiences be resistant to dominant perspectives and ways of being?

Course Objectives

1. Students will develop their understanding of intimate relations through an interdisciplinary approach.
2. Students will learn that there are many kinds of intimate relations including sexual, familial, parental, and affectionate.
3. In course assessments, students will demonstrate their ability to make connections between, and critically engage with, interdisciplinary scholarship on intimate relations, gender, sexualities, and love.
4. Students will learn through participating in this course that dominant discourses regarding gender, sex, and love impact people's lived experiences, sexualities, and subjectivities.
5. Students will grow to understand that despite the power of dominant discourses, experiences and subjectivities can be resilient to dominant perspectives and ways of being.
6. Through this course, students will learn that dominant discourses can be harmful to people, communities, and understandings of self.
7. Students are encouraged to connect course content with their personal experiences.
8. Through course work, students will develop their critical thinking abilities making connections between multiple themes, discourses, and experiences.
9. The course will help develop students' written communication skills particularly focusing on organizing essays and arguments, developing a clear writing style, and writing mechanics.

Evaluation Breakdown

Mid-Term Exam	40%
Self-Reflection Response	20%
Final Exam	40%