

Sociology 127: Men, Masculinity and Society

MWF 11-11:50a

AIRC 1009

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Hours: MWF 10-11, or by appointment

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SacCT URL: www.csus.edu/sacct

Course Description:

Introduce students to the field of men and masculinity. Examines the construction of masculinity in sports, family, work and other social relationships, showing how it effects and is affected by people, institutions and society. Explores the diverse experiences based on race, class, occupation, physical ability and sexuality, and the implications for people from such diverse groups.

Learning Objectives (General Education, Area E, Understanding Personal Development):

1. Recognize and critically examine the development of the gendered individual as an integrated physiological, psychological, and social being as a result of masculine expectations and behaviors in society.
2. Identify the internal and external influences that promote masculine dominance and portrayals in society, and ultimately influence the development and display of masculinity and masculine behavior throughout a person's life (both portrayers of masculinity and recipients of other's masculine performances).
3. Critically examine their own individual behavior in reference to issues surrounding masculinity and the social and natural environment, human sexuality, nutrition, health stress, family, aging and death.
4. Develop an understanding of the construction of masculinity and its effects on society.
5. Critically analyze actions and behaviors of people in society in reference to masculinity.

Required Reading:

Men's Lives. 2012, 9th edition. Kimmel & Messner (eds.). Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon, 0205096417.

The book was chosen because the articles in it introduce key concepts about men and masculinity studies that will help students to understand the ideas being discussed in class. Some of the articles address theory issues, but most are chosen to introduce examples of research that relay ideas to students that either directly relate or can be connected to class ideas.

Reader: Articles located on-line.

The articles are chosen to introduce students to contemporary, popular culture issues that are related to men and masculinity, connecting to the concepts, articles and ideas that are being raised in the class. They are used to give students a more applied understanding of the concepts in the class.

Assignments:

Journal: Students will periodically turn in a journal that addresses how the topics discussed in class, and the corresponding readings have influenced and continue to effect their perception of themselves and others in society. They will be expected to address not only how outside forces have impacted them, but also how their own beliefs about issues surrounding masculinity have influenced how they interact with others in relation to the topics and readings. The journals will be no shorter than 3 pages each in length, being turned in as stated in the calendar at the end of the syllabus (3 journal papers turned in). Students will be graded on their understanding of the theoretical discussions being presented in both the readings and the class, as well as to be able to appropriately apply it. They will also be graded on their ability to convey these ideas to the reader. The first topic will be given to them, but all subsequent papers will be left up to the student. (Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

GE Writing Requirement: This assignment addresses the GE upper-division writing component that requires students to write 1500 or more words in written assignments that are turned in periodically over the course of the semester. The 3 journal papers will be graded separately, but will be compiled into a total grade for the class, worth 20% of the total course grade.

Class Reading Reflection: You are required to turn in seven reflections from the class readings (you can not submit an article from the first set of readings). They all are from readings in the textbook, not the online readings. You will be turning in seven reading reflections throughout the semester (that means you can skip two, as there are nine possible due dates). You choose which readings you will be turning in, but you can only turn in one for each set of readings that are due during that class (i.e. only one turned in each day), and the assignments are due on the day of class the reading is due. No make-ups for these are possible, unless you choose to use one of your extensions. These are considered 1 page reflections that you are expected to apply a reading, or a concept from a reading (or readings if they relate) to something in the world around you (you can use these to help expand your journals). See the reading due dates and explanation online to identify which articles you can use and when each is due. Reading assignments will be worth 10% of your total grade. (Learning Objectives 1, 2, 4, 5)

On-line postings and in-class assignments: Throughout the semester a series of short assignments will be given that incorporate the concepts of the class into your own lives. They will be both given out during class and on the web, so you will need to periodically check the web for new assignments or postings. Postings occur over the course of a week, but assignments will be due the class following when the assignment was given, as we will discuss them then. The questions/assignments will address a myriad of topics that will require students to engage contemporary issues, the readings and discuss them in relation to their own lives with other students. No make-ups for these are possible, unless you choose to use one of your extensions, and that is only available to be used on assignments. As well, quizzes about the readings may be given throughout the semester. Assignments and postings will be worth 10% of your total grade. (Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Presentation: You are required to conduct 10 interviews of men from a specific cultural group, or subculture (racial, sexuality, class, age, religion, club, etc) about what they define as masculine. You will analyze their responses and present the patterns of masculinity from that culture. You will also compare your findings to the hegemonic notion of masculinity in Western society. You will submit online the questions and a bibliography the first day of the presentations. It is strongly suggested that you work with someone on this project, but it is not required. Even if you work with someone, you will turn in your bibliography and exam questions separately (you can turn in the same exact items, just need to submit to make sure you both receive points). This project will be worth 10% of your total grade.

Another 5% of your grade will be based on having conducted all 10 of the interviews. A brief synopsis of each interview will be turned in prior to your presentation. You will be required to turn in at least 5 of the interviews prior to the presentation, and the remainder on the first day of the presentations. Each interview synopsis will include demographic information about the person, how you got in contact with him or her and a brief summary of the interview. These will be turned in online. (Learning Objectives 1, 2, 4, 5)

Exams:

Four exams will be given throughout the semester, but only three will be recorded, allowing students to drop one during the course of the semester. Each exam will consist of several short answer questions and a number of multiple-choice questions. Questions for the exams will derive from the class discussions, lectures, videos, readings and on-line discussion postings. The exams will be worth 15% each, for a total of 45% of their total grade. (Learning Objectives 1, 2, 4)

Policies:

The due dates for each of the papers are stated in the syllabus. DO NOT rely on sacct due dates. While they are often correct, just check the syllabus to make sure. No late papers will be accepted. The paper guidelines are on the web, as well as in a handout given at the beginning of class. As well, a brief statement in class about what is expected will be given. The due dates for each assignment are listed in the course calendar at the end of the syllabus. While I will attempt to offer reminders to impending due dates, it is ultimately your responsibility to insure that all papers are ready to be turned in by the expected due date.

You need to regularly check sacct email (the email account on sacct) for contact and information sent to you by your group members and the professor (or TA). It is assumed you are reading those regularly so any information missed is your responsibility. This does not mean all information is disseminated through email.

Throughout the course, each student will be allotted four extensions for the papers/assignments. This means you are turning a paper/assignment in late, but as long as you are using extensions, it will not lose points. One extension allows you to turn it in the following class day. A second extension means it will be two class days late. You do not need permission from the professor. You may use these extensions whenever you want, subject to the rules given below:

- 1) You get four extensions. Don't ask me for more- you will not get them. Hence, you should use extensions wisely when you really need them, such as sickness or an athletic event.*
- 2) You may use a maximum of two extensions on any one paper; by using two on one paper, you can turn the paper in two class periods late.*
- 3) You can use one on any assignment given in the class, meaning the assignment can be turned in the next class period. Any assignment turned in later, or if you have used all of your extensions, will not be accepted.*
- 4) Any paper that is submitted later than the next class after it is due (regardless of your extension situation), or is turned in late after you have used all of your extensions will be penalized two full grades. If it is submitted over two weeks late, further penalties may occur.*
- 5) Any assignments submitted after one class period (regardless of extension situation), or after you have used all of your extensions, the assignment will not be accepted.*
- 6) You can only use 1 extension on reading question assignments, bibliography, exam questions or either set of interviews.*
- 7) You cannot use any extension on the presentation or any other part of the presentation assignment.*
- 8) You are responsible to keep track of your own extensions.*

All papers must be typed and submitted online (if you cannot submit online. Required information on the front of each paper: Title of the paper, your name, and the name of the class (Sociology 127 for those of you not paying attention). Thank you.

NO MAKE UP EXAMS. (This is why the dropped exam policy exists.)

Use of SacCT: The class is located on the SacCT campus server. Accessing this site requires a login and password, which are the following: Login: your saclink id; Password: same as your saclink account password. You will be able to access the outlines for the course, any overheads used in class, any material that was handed out, a glossary of terms (if there is one not listed that you can not locate elsewhere, please let me know so I can include it), all of the assignments, as well as the submission links for all assignments and syllabus. You will also be able to locate your assignment grades online if you desire (the full grade will not be determined until just before finals week).

While there are times when the SacCT site will be down, this is not an excuse for a missed assignment or late paper. The material will be up with sufficient time to copy it before it comes due. Ultimately it is your responsibility to either obtain it, or let me know of any problems you are having with it. Most problems are related to the computer department, so contact the help desk. If they are unable/unwilling to help you let me know, and I will attempt to correct any problems, but on occasion they are not my fault (I know, that is hard to imagine, but it is true).

CSUS complies with the regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and offers accommodations to students with disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability that may necessitate accommodations being made in the classroom, please contact SSD, (916) 278-6955. If you have any questions, feel free to ask me. All information will be held in the strictest confidence.

Turn off all pagers and cell phones before entering class. I accept the right to answer any that ring (and make up any wild stories about you to the person who has called).

Finally, cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. The policy can be accessed here: <http://www.csus.edu/umanual/student/Una00150.htm>. If you are caught engaging in such activities, you will receive an F, and will be reported to the campus Judicial Affairs Officer.

Writing Center:

For free, one-on-one help with reading or writing in any class, visit the University Reading and Writing Center (URWC) in Calaveras 128. The URWC can help you at any stage in your reading and writing processes: coming up with a topic, developing and organizing a draft, understanding difficult texts, or developing strategies to become a better editor. Students can sign up for up to an hour a week with a tutor by visiting the URWC in CLV 128—visit the URWC during week two of the semester to sign up for regular weekly tutoring. Students may drop in at any time, but the best time to drop is during our “drop-in only” hours M-R 2:00-4:00. We also offer tutoring for one unit of academic credit through ENGL121. For URWC hours and more information, visit the website at www.csus.edu/writingcenter.

Submitting your Assignments online:

When you log onto SacCT and connect into the course page. On the Course Menu on the left side of the course page, click on the “Assignment Submission Links” There will be a list of folders for different groupings of class assignments. Choose the folder that represents the class assignment (for example, if you are turning in paper 2, go to the paper assignment folder, then locate paper analysis 2 submission in the list). You can attach the paper here (need to be a word document: .doc, .docx, .rtf, or at least a PDF), as well as other materials needing links (depending on the assignment). If you do not submit using one of these, it will be returned and considered late. If I am unable to open the word document, I will let you know and you will have to resubmit it correctly immediately (ultimately, it is up to you to get that taken care of). REGULARLY CHECK EMAILS. If I am unable to open an attachment, I will ask for you to resubmit it in

a new format. You are responsible for doing so, or the submission will be considered late. Many of the class assignments you can type in the given box, as opposed to attaching documents, so do this when possible. You MUST attach a document for the analysis papers. DO NOT submit those in a text box.

NOTE: Any attachments must NOT include any symbols (e.g. \$#&*, etc) in the title for the document.

NOTE: You can resubmit a paper/assignment if you make a mistake, but the new date will be considered the date submitted. Once the paper/assignment has been graded, you cannot change it.

To review comments on papers submitted back to you:

Most comments will appear in the text box of your sacct assignment. If there is an attached document, open up the document that was submitted back to you online (it is usually listed under your last name). Go to “review” tab. Click on “track changes.” If it does not show up, then sure the option for the viewing is identified as “Final showing markup” and not just “Final” (it is just above “Show markup”) Or you should be able to just click on “Show markup,” and make sure “Comments” is clicked to *show*.

Grading Scale*

A	=	92-100
A-	=	90-91
B+	=	88-89
B	=	82-87
C+	=	78-79
B-	=	80-81
C	=	72-77
C-	=	70-71
D+	=	68-69
D	=	62-67
D-	=	60-61
F	=	59 or below

Grade Breakdown

3 Exams * 15%=	45%
Journals =	20%
Presentation=	10%
Interviews=	5%
Reading Summ=	10%
Postings/Assig =	<u>10%</u>
Total =	100%

* This scale may be lowered but will not be raised

Course Calendar:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings:</u>
August 29- September 2	Introduction	Kimmel & Messner: Steinem (21) ONLINE: Coontz; Cimli; Jewkes, et al
September 5: NO CLASS: Labor Day		
September 7-14	Theory	McCaughey (1); Kivel (2); Kimmel (10), Swidler (38) ONLINE: Deutsch; Wiseman; Wade
September 16-21	Men's Movements	United Nations (51); Katz (53); Casey & Smith (52) ONLINE: Iron John introduction, Promise Keepers 7 Promises; Romano & Dokoupil (Men's Lib)
September 23: Exam 1		
September 26-30	Violence	Kaufman (45); Quinn (17); ONLINE: Wilson, Taylor, Chappell, Miller, Irby
September 30: Journal 1 Due		
October 3-7	Marginalized Masculinities	Woods (4); Espiritu (3); Schilt (18)
October 7: Presentation Topic and Questions due		
October 10-17	Sexualities	Jensen (30); Messner (28); Rochlin (29) ONLINE: Tuaolo sexuality; gay penguins
October 19: Exam 2		
October 21-28	Sports	Bridges (23); Messner & Montez de Oca(44); Pappas, McKenry & Catlett (46); ONLINE: Tuaolo (pain)
October 28: Journal 2 Due		
October 31-November 2-7	Health	Sabo (19); Dworkin (22) ONLINE: Prostrate link, testicular article/info, Cullen(Health); Birth control
November 2: First 5 Interviews Due		
November 9: Exam 3		
November 11: NO CLASS: Veteran's Day.		
November 14-23	Relationships with women	Giordano, Longmore & Manning (26); Beneke (47); Gerson (27) ONLINE: Men are from Mars summary
November 23: Journal 3 Due		
November 24: NO CLASS		
November 24 & 25: Thanksgiving		
November 28- December 2	Presentations	
November 28: Final 5 Interviews Due		
November 28: Exam Questions and Bibliography Both Due		
December 5-9	Friendships	Nardi (25); Korobov (24) ONLINE: Romano (Everything ... Kite)
December 12, Monday 10:15-12:15: Exam 4		