

Las Positas College
Psychology of Women (PSYC 13)
Syllabus for section V01 – Tuesday/Thursday 12:30-1:45 PM, CRN 22747
Fall 2019

Instructor Information

Instructor: Robin Roy, Ph.D.
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Office hours: Monday 2:00-4:00 PM
Tuesday 2:00-4:00 PM
Wednesday 11:00 AM-12:00 PM
I am also available outside of these times by appointment

About Me

I fell in love with the field of psychology when I took my first psychology course as a junior in high school. I completed a bachelor's degree in psychology from Connecticut College, a master's degree in psychology from Old Dominion University, and a doctoral degree (PhD) in experimental psychology with a concentration in social psychology from the University of Vermont. I started teaching psychology at LPC in 2008. I teach General Psychology, Social Psychology, Research Methods, and Psychology of Women.

I teach psychology so that I can share my love of the field with you, and so that you can discover how you can use psychology to better your life and the lives of others. More specifically, I am teaching Psychology of Women because I believe it is important to examine how factors such as gender, gender stereotypes, and sexism affect us.

My Teaching Philosophy

- I believe that students learn best when they feel comfortable in their environment.
- I believe that students learn best when they are excited about the course material and can understand why it is important and useful.
- I believe that students learn best when they are challenged to think critically about the information being presented to them in a course.

Contacting Me/Communicating With Each Other

I am available for office hours in room 2159 as listed above. Please feel free to stop by my office during any of those times. If you would like to meet with me but are not able to attend office hours, please let me know and we will schedule a time to meet. Also, please feel free to stop by anytime you see me in my office, even if it's not during the times listed above.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about this course. **The best way to contact me outside of class is through the Canvas Inbox** (more details on this later in the syllabus). I check the Canvas Inbox, my LPC email, and my voicemail frequently and will do my best to respond to students' messages and voicemails within 48 hours of receiving them.

We will be using Canvas in this course (see details on page 4 of this syllabus). I strongly encourage you to check Canvas announcements and Inbox messages frequently. I may email the class through Canvas if I have to cancel a class due to illness or if I have to make any major changes to the course schedule.

Catalog Description and Instructor's Course Description

This course examines the diverse experiences of women from a psychological perspective. Students will explore psychological theory and research on gender and issues that affect women, and will gain insight into how psychologists investigate gender-related issues. 3 hours.

Classes will consist of lectures, discussion, class activities, and video clips. Student participation is an essential component of this class. You are expected to actively participate in discussions and class activities on a regular basis. You should leave this course with a strong sense of the research methodology psychologists use to investigate gender-related issues. Additionally, you should gain insight into how the course information can be applied in everyday life.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, research methods, and empirical findings in the field of the psychology of women.
2. Explain ways in which gender stereotypes, sexism, and various cultural influences affect gender-related human behavior.
3. Analyze the ways in which the course material could be applied to real world problems and issues.
4. Apply theories, concepts and findings in the field of psychology of women for self-understanding, self-improvement, and lifelong learning.
5. Demonstrate critical thinking skills and information competence as applied to topics in the field of psychology of women.

Important Dates

August 30	Last day to add/drop with No Grade of Record in person
September 2	Last day to add/drop with No Grade of Record online via CLASS-Web
September 2	Labor Day holiday—no classes/campus closed
September 20	Last day to apply for pass/no pass
October 22	Fall Flex Day (professional development day for faculty and staff; no classes before 4 PM)
October 25	Deadline to apply for degree/certificate
November 8	Last day to withdraw with a W in person
November 11	Last day to withdraw with a W online via CLASS-Web
November 11	Veterans' Day holiday—no classes/campus closed
November 27-30	Thanksgiving break—no classes/campus closed
December 16-20	Final exam period (see course schedule for our specific exam period)

Required Textbook

Liss, M., Richmond, K., & M. J. Erchull (2019). *Psychology of women and gender*. W. W. Norton & Company: New York, NY.

General Course Information and Policies

Campus resources: Please see our Canvas section for information about various types of resources available here at LPC. We will also discuss these resources during class.

Students with disabilities: It is my goal to make this course accessible to all students. If you have a disability that may require course adaptations or accommodations, please contact both me and the Disability Resource Center (925-424-1510) as soon as possible. I will be happy to help.

Student behavior in the classroom: I expect that you will treat your classmates with respect. Our class will be a safe environment in which we can share ideas and express opinions. You should show your respect for your classmates by listening to them with an open mind. It is hard to listen to someone else if you are talking! Please show respect for your classmates and your instructor by not talking while someone else is already talking. Also, please remember to silence your cell phones before class begins. Please do not make phone calls, accept phone calls, or send or receive text messages while in class. You may use laptops to take notes during class provided that your computer use is not distracting to other students. You may be asked to discontinue using your computer during class if it becomes distracting to your classmates.

I understand that you may occasionally arrive to class late or leave class early due to outside circumstances, and I understand that you may occasionally need to leave the classroom momentarily during class. However, students who are consistently late or who frequently leave the classroom will be asked to meet with the instructor and may lose class participation and attendance points. Students who repeatedly disrupt class and/or do not show respect for others will be asked to leave the classroom and must meet with the instructor before returning to class. Please see the appendix at the end of this syllabus for more details about LPC's policy for disruptive student behavior.

Academic honesty: As a member of the LPC community, it is important that you uphold the college's academic integrity. The college is strongly against any form of academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism. In class, we will be discussing plagiarism and how to avoid it when completing assignments. Students who engage in cheating or plagiarism will receive a zero on their exam or assignment (without the opportunity to make up the work), and may also be referred to the dean.

For more information about academic honesty, please see the current college catalog and the following web page:

<http://www.laspositascollege.edu/facultystaff/honesty.php>

Dropping the course: It is your responsibility to drop or withdraw from this course if you wish to do so. The only time I will drop you from this course without contacting you first is if you have missed the first two class meetings. In other words, if you attend the first and/or second class meeting, **I will not** automatically drop you from the course if you stop attending. Therefore, if you wish to drop this course with No Grade of Record, please remember to do so by the deadlines listed in the Important Dates section. If you remain in the course but have not been attending class regularly, I will send you an email approximately a week before the withdraw deadline asking if you wish to withdraw from the course. If you do not respond to the email, I will withdraw you from the course. You can also choose to withdraw yourself from the course (and receive a W on your transcript) by the deadline listed in the Important Dates section.

Assigning a grade of incomplete: If you experience a last minute disastrous event (e.g. serious illness, a death in the family) that prevents you from completing the course, a grade of Incomplete may be assigned. Assigning a grade of incomplete requires that we complete and hand in paperwork to the office of Admissions and Records. We will work together to create a formal contract that we both must sign that outlines the plan for your completion of the course work. In order to be eligible for a grade of Incomplete, you have to be passing the course before the disastrous event occurred. Incompletes will be considered on a case by case basis.

Extra credit: You will have various opportunities to earn extra credit in this course. More information about earning extra credit will be given in class and posted in Canvas.

Use of Canvas in the Course

Canvas is a software program that is used to teach online classes. In this course, we will make use of some of the features of Canvas. This syllabus, the course schedule, and the details of your assignments will be posted in Canvas. You will also take quizzes in Canvas. I strongly encourage you to check Canvas frequently for announcements about the course, and for reminders about quiz and assignment due dates (all announcements will also be made in class). Please be sure to contact me if you are unable to access Canvas for any reason and I can provide you with a hard copy of the course materials.

To access our course on Canvas, please follow the instructions at http://www.laspositascollege.edu/onlinelearning/canvas_login_instructions.php. We will go over how to use Canvas during class, and we will also discuss in more detail how Canvas will be used in this course. Please call 925-424-1142 (during the day) or 1-844-600-4956 (at night or on weekends) if you need technical support with Canvas.

An Important Note about Canvas Inbox Messages and Email Notifications

Canvas has an internal messaging system. To access this messaging system, click on Inbox on the left side of your Canvas page. **It is best to contact me using the Canvas Inbox system instead of using my regular LPC email address.** Occasionally I do not receive emails sent to my LPC email address because of the school's spam email filter. For this reason, it is best to use the Canvas Inbox system instead.

You can set things up so that you receive email notifications when you receive Canvas Inbox messages (Canvas calls these messages "conversations"). To change your notifications, click on **Account** on the left side of the page, and then click on **Notifications**. Please see the following link for more details about notifications:

<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10624-4212710344>

It is important to know that your default email address that is connected to Canvas will be your Zonemail address that the school assigned to you, which not all students actively use. This is important to be aware of because if you do want to receive notifications to your email of when you receive Canvas Inbox messages, you want to make sure that you are receiving those notifications.

You can change the email address that is associated with Canvas in CLASS-Web (not within Canvas) if you would prefer using an email account other than your Zonemail account. You can also log into Zonemail and set up forwarding to your private account.

Please see the following web page to learn how to change your default email address or how to forward Zonemail to your private account:

http://www.laspositascollege.edu/onlinelearning/email_info.php

Instead of worrying about changing your email that is associated with Canvas, you may also just want to get into the habit of checking your Canvas Inbox frequently instead of relying on the email notifications.

Again, please note that messaging me through the Canvas Inbox is the best way to contact me outside of class.

Course Requirements and Grading

You can earn a total of 1,000 points in this course. Below is a description of how your final letter grade will be assigned:

- A 900-1,000 points
- B 800-899 points
- C 700-799 points
- D 600-699 points
- F 599 points and below

Following is a list of course requirements and how much each requirement is worth toward your final grade:

Course requirements	Percent of final grade	Points toward final grade
Class participation and attendance	5%	50
Online quizzes	20%	200
Homework assignments	30%	300
Journal article assignment	15%	150
Content analysis project paper	20%	200
Content analysis project presentation	10%	100

Here is a detailed description of all course requirements listed above:

Class participation and attendance: Attendance and participation are important parts of this class. Please plan to attend every class on time and prepared. You are expected to participate with an open mind and respect for each other in all class discussions and activities. Depending on the particular class period, you will earn class participation and attendance points by signing an attendance sheet and/or by participating in class activities. If you are absent, you are responsible for finding out about what you missed by contacting me or a classmate, and you will not have the opportunity to earn class participation and attendance points for that day unless I consider your absence to be excused. Requests for an excused absence will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Examples of excused absences are those that are due to illness, emergencies, or religious holidays. Please contact me through the Canvas Inbox to request an excused absence. As a reminder, I will not automatically drop you from the course if you have missed several classes; instead, I will contact you to discuss if you would like to be withdrawn from the course. (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Online quizzes: There will be several quizzes over the course of the semester. The purpose of these quizzes is to help you learn and understand the course material. You will take all of these quizzes online using Canvas outside of class. You are allowed to use your textbook and work with your classmates when taking the quizzes. The quizzes will consist of multiple choice questions which will test your knowledge of the information from the readings and lectures. Quizzes may cover material from the

textbook that was not discussed in class. Once you open a quiz, you can take as long as you need to complete it as long as you submit it by the due date and time. Specific quiz due dates and times will be announced in class and posted in Canvas at least one week before they are due. Please be sure to contact me if you have any problems accessing Canvas to take the quizzes. (SLOs 1, 2, 5)

Homework assignments: There will be several homework assignments over the course of the semester. The purpose of the homework assignments is for you to reflect on the course material in more depth. Your homework assignments will be an important component of class discussions. Details of all homework assignments will be discussed in class and posted in Canvas. Specific homework due dates will be announced in class and posted in Canvas at least one week before they are due. (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Journal article assignment: This assignment will give you the opportunity to explore in more detail a specific topic within the field of psychology of women that is of interest to you. The purpose of this assignment is for you to learn about how psychologists conduct research and report on their findings. For this assignment, you will be asked to find an empirical study (research article) in a psychology journal using the databases available through the Las Positas College library. Next, you will write a paper that summarizes and evaluates your article. Details of the journal article assignment will be discussed in class and posted in Canvas. You will learn how to search for a psychology journal article in class as well. Please see the course schedule for the journal article assignment due date. (SLOs 3, 5)

Content analysis project paper and presentation: The content analysis project will give you the opportunity to explore in more detail a specific topic within the area of psychology of women that is of interest to you. Conducting a content analysis involves picking a specific form of media and analyzing that form of media for some type of gender-related theme. In other words, you will be analyzing how the form of media you choose portrays a gender related-topic. For example, you might conduct your content analysis on how children's books portray gender roles. We will discuss several other examples of content analyses in class. After conducting your content analysis, you will write an APA style paper and also give a brief presentation about your content analysis. The purpose of this assignment is to develop media literacy and to bring awareness to how the media portray gender-related topics. Details of the content analysis project and presentation will be discussed in class and posted in Canvas. Please see the course schedule for the content analysis project paper due date and the presentation dates. Presentation dates will be assigned in class.

Late Policies for Course Requirements

Late policy for quizzes: Specific quiz due dates and times will be announced in class and posted in Canvas at least one week before they are due. You must take quizzes online using Canvas and submit them before the date and time they are due. I will allow each student **one opportunity** to have a quiz reopened; otherwise, late quizzes will not be accepted. As previously stated, please be sure to contact me if you have any problems accessing Canvas to take the quizzes.

Late policy for written assignments (homework assignments, journal article assignment, and content analysis project paper): I will accept late assignments, but they will be penalized as described here. There will be a 1 week grace period after the assignment due date and time during which submissions will be accepted, but a 20% penalty will be applied to submissions received after the due date and time and during this grace period. After the 1 week grace period is over, I will still accept late assignments until the end of the semester (specific date to be announced), but a 50% penalty will be applied.

Late policy for presentations: Students are expected to give their presentation on the date on which they are assigned. Presentation dates will be assigned in class. Make-up presentations will be

considered on a case-by-case basis. I will consider allowing you to give a make-up presentation if you have extenuating circumstances that do not allow you to present on your scheduled date (e.g., emergency, serious illness, religious holiday).

Final Grade Calculation

Below is a description of how your final letter grade will be assigned:

A	90-100 %
B	80-89.9 %
C	70-79.9 %
D	60-69.9 %
F	0-59.9 %

Please see the Course Requirements and Grading section above for a list of point values that correspond with each letter grade.

How to Succeed in the Course

Below are some tips for how to succeed in the course (we will discuss these in more detail during class):

1. Come to class on time, stay for the whole class period, and do your best to pay attention and avoid distractions during class
2. When learning about the course material, think of ways you can apply the information to your own life in some way
3. Try your best to be an active participant in class discussions
4. Don't skip assignments—I am always willing to help you with all of our assignments
5. Give yourself plenty of time to complete the online quizzes
6. Give yourself plenty of time to work on your journal article assignment and your content analysis project
7. Get to know your classmates and work with them on our assignments when appropriate
8. Ask for help!

Important Notes

Please see the course schedule in Canvas for topics, reading assignments, the journal article assignment due date, the content analysis project due date, and the content analysis project presentation dates. Remember that quiz and homework assignment due dates will be announced in class and posted in Canvas at least one week before they are due. Quiz and homework assignment due dates **are not** listed in the course schedule. Please let me know if you would like a hard copy of the syllabus or course schedule.

This syllabus and the course schedule are subject to change. Any changes to the syllabus and/or course schedule will be announced in class and posted in Canvas.

Appendix: Policy for disruptive student behavior

The following information outlines the policy for disruptive student behavior. The policy is based on the Las Positas College Guidelines for Addressing Disruptive Student Behavior.

Disruptive student behavior in the classroom refers to any behaviors that interfere with instruction. Examples of disruptive student behavior in the classroom include (but are not limited to): private conversations during class, repeated tardiness, repeatedly leaving early from class, continually leaving one's seat, and use of electronic devices during class such as cell phones or music players.

The following steps describe how disruptive behavior will be addressed:

1. **First incident of disruptive behavior:** The instructor will verbally ask the student to stop the disruptive behavior.
2. **Second incident of disruptive behavior:** The instructor will give a verbal and written warning to the student (using the Violation of Standards of Student Conduct form). The written warning will be forwarded to the dean. If necessary, the instructor may ask the student to leave the classroom at this time. If the student is asked to leave, he or she must meet with the instructor individually prior to returning to the next class meeting.
3. **Third incident of disruptive behavior:** The instructor will ask the student to leave the classroom for the remainder of the class session and the following class session. This will count as two absences from the class. If the student is asked to leave, he or she must meet with the dean and the instructor prior to returning to class. The instructor will provide the dean with a written description documenting the reason for the removal (using the Notice of Student Removal from Class/Lab/Library form).