

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PHIL-104-Philosophy of Sex and Love

CLASS SECTION: 001A & 001B

TERM: 2024F

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face-to-Face

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Dr. Dustin Zielke

EMAIL: zielked@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Young 312

HOURS: Friday 11:30–12:30

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to philosophy through an exploration of love and sex, by examining the history of concepts and ideals of love; evaluating ethics around issues such as abortion, adultery, pedophilia, and birth control; exploring biological versus environmental causes of sexual orientation; and investigating the value of monogamy.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

C+ in English 12

C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S): not applicable

EQUIVALENCIES: not applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Differentiate and contrast historical ideals and concepts of love.
2. Assess claims about the biological and/or environmental basis of transsexuality and sexual orientation.
3. Evaluate long-term monogamy.
4. Analyze the abstinence versus birth control debate.
5. Give evidence for an opinion on abortion.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

(a) Required Text: Foster, Gary (ed.). *Desire, Love, & Identity: Philosophy of Sex and Love*. 2017. Oxford University Press Canada.

(b) Other necessary readings will be posted or linked on the class D2L website.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Note: Required readings for each lecture are also required readings for that week's seminar

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
L: September 4 S: September 6	'Lecture' #1: What are Love and Sex? The Variety of Love and Sex No reading Introduction and Ice-breaker	
L: September 11 S: September 13	Lecture #2: Love versus Attachment • Haidt Selection (D2L) Recommended: Plato, <i>Symposium</i> (p. 175–188), Gibran (D2L)	
L: September 18 S: September 20	Lecture #3: 'Modern' Love (a) • Singer, <i>Appraisal and Bestowal</i> (p. 198–207) • Parsons, <i>Physical Beauty and Romantic Love</i> (p. 207–215)	
L: September 25	Lecture #4: 'Modern' Love (b)	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
S: September 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sobel, Two Views of Love (p. 217–228); • Frankfurt, On Love and its Reasons (p. 228–233) • Recommended: Enns Selection (D2L) 	
L: October 2 S: October 4	<p>Lecture #5: Romantic Love: Identity and Love (a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sartre, First Attitude Towards Others... (p. 236–245) • Solomon, Romantic Love & The Identity Theory of Love (p. 246–252) • Recommended: <i>The Little Prince</i> Selection (D2L) 	<p>Seminar:</p> <p>Test #1</p> <p>(Lectures #1–4)</p>
L: October 9 S: October 11	<p>Lecture #6: Love and Identity in Question</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beauvoir, The Woman in Love (p. 255–264) • Merino, The Problem with ‘We’ (p. 265–274) 	
L: October 16 S: October 18	<p>Lecture #7: Friendship and Loneliness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baier, How to Lose Friends (p. 345–353) • Sharp, The Obstacles Against Reaching the Highest Level of Aristotelian Friendship Online (p. 355–368) 	
L: October 23 S: October 25	<p>Midterm</p> <p>No readings</p>	No Seminar
L: October 30 S: November 1	<p>Lecture #8: Polyamory, Monogamy, and Marriage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kant, Marriage and Monogamy (p. 298–300) • Russin, The Meaning of Marriage (p. 300–310) • Shotwell, Ethical Polyamory (p. 277–286) 	
L: November 6 S: November 8	<p>Lecture #9: What is Sexuality?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cristina, Are we Having Sex Now or What? (p. 79–83) • Russon, Why Sexuality Matters (p. 38–45) • Recommended: Sartre, The Structure of Sexual Desire (p. 7–16) 	<p>Trigger Warning:</p> <p>Rape (p. 82)</p>
L: November 13 S: November 15	<p>Lecture #10: Sexual Objectification and Consent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nussbaum, Objectification (p. 91–98) • Marino, The Ethics of Sexual Objectification: Autonomy and Consent (p. 98–105) 	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended: Kant, Of Duties to the Body in Regard to Sexual Impulse (p. 87–91) 	
L: November 20 S: November 22	Lecture #11: Sex-pertise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foucault, We “Other Victorians” (p. 66–69) Jaarsma, The Speaker’s Benefit and the Case of Dan Savage (p. 70–78) 	Seminar Test #2 (Lectures #8–10)
L: November 27 S: November 29	Lecture #12: Online Dating <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster, Internet Dating: Challenges to Love and Personal Identity (p. 368–375) 	
L: December 4 S: December 6	Wrap Up and Final Exam Review L: Wrap Up and Final Exam Review S: No Seminar	
December 9-17	Final Exam Period	

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams). <https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
(a) Seminar Participation There are 12 seminar sessions in total. Two of them will be taken up by tests (see schedule above and description below). Attendance and participation are required in the remaining 10 seminar sessions to receive full marks. Each time attended will amount to 1% of this grade allotment. They will be graded on a pass or fail basis.	10% Total 10 at 1% each Graded as Pass/Fail
(b) Tests There will be two tests taken during separate seminar sessions. Although tests are evaluative by nature, the true purpose of these tests is to	30% Total Each test is worth 15% of your final grade

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<p>help keep you on track with the material. And they will also provide a good indication about where you stand going into the midterm and final exam. More information will be provided in preceding seminar sessions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test #1: October 4th (during seminar) • Test #2: November 22nd (during seminar) 	
<p>(c) Midterm Further information to be provided during the midterm prep session (Date TBD).</p>	30%
<p>(d) Final Exam Further information to be provided during the final exam prep session (December 4th in lecture class).</p>	30%
<p>If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the Grade Review and Appeals policy for more information.</p> <p>https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf</p>	<p>TOTAL 100%</p>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

(a) Trigger Warning & Appropriate Behaviour

Due to the nature of this course, we will cover topics in lecture that could be distressing or triggering to some students. Students are free to leave the lecture at any time if they feel uncomfortable with the material being discussed, no questions asked.

Further, inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated. While humour is often a way of dealing with uncomfortable or embarrassing situations and topics; jokes, comments, etc., that are offensive, inappropriate, etc., will not be tolerated. It's important that students feel safe and comfortable in this class, and any student that compromises that will be asked to leave.

(b) Missing Classes

If you miss a class due to illness or some other reason, it is not necessary to notify me, unless a test is missed.

If classes are missed, it is the student's responsibility to find out from another student what was covered or check D2L and the course outline.

(c) Missed Tests

Make up tests will be permitted only in cases of illness or personal crisis. A make-up test will not be scheduled until proper medical documentation is provided.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit camosun.ca/services.

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising
Accessible Learning	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning
Counselling	camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre
Career Services	camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services
Financial Aid and Awards	camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services
International Student Support	camosun.ca/international
Learning Skills	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills
Library	camosun.ca/services/library
Office of Student Support	camosun.ca/services/office-student-support
Ombudsperson	camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson
Registration	camosun.ca/registration-records/registration
Technology Support	camosun.ca/services/its
Writing Centre	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines:

<https://camosun.ca/cal>

Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal (see [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence Policy: <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education.

To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

Changes to this Syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.

