

# PSYCHOLOGY 230 ONLINE – SECTION #76660

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**Instructor:** Rick Howe  
**Phone:** (661) 362-5906  
**FAX:** (661) 362-3043  
**E-Mail:** [rick.howe@canyons.edu](mailto:rick.howe@canyons.edu)  
**Web:** <http://bb8.canyons.edu>

**Scheduled Student Meeting Hours**  
**Mondays & Wednesdays**  
12:30 - 1:00PM - Canyon Country Campus Room 507  
**Tuesdays & Thursdays**  
11:00AM - 12:00PM Valencia Campus, Seco Hall 207  
*Other times by appointment*

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## Welcome to Psychology 230!

I hope this class will be an enjoyable experience for you as well as an educational one. Please read through the following sections to familiarize yourself with the course structure and assignments. You'll find that once you get the hang of things, the class becomes very straightforward.

Read each of the sections carefully and completely. There will be an extra credit quiz. Really.

Onward!

## LET'S BEGIN WITH SOME IMPORTANT DATES IN THE LIFE OF YOU, THE STUDENT

**NOTE (taken from the Schedule of Classes): All deadline dates will be strictly enforced.** Students who petition for extensions to published dates must have documented evidence of extenuating circumstances.

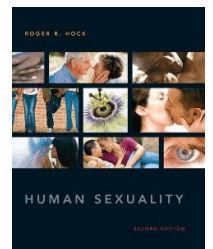
**September 3 ADD DEADLINE - If you still need to add this (or any) class, this is the last day to do it!**

**September 17 DROP WITHOUT A "W" DEADLINE – If you want to drop this class, it's probably best if you do it by this date. That way you won't get a pesky "W" on your transcript. As a reminder, YOU are responsible for completing any paperwork if you decide to drop this class. If you simply stop coming to class without filing for a drop, you will receive an F (as in FAIL) in this class and I will not feel sorry for you.**

**October 15 WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE - If you're planning to drop this (or any other) class, you had better have done it by now! Of course, if you've waited this long, you'll still get a "W" on your transcript, even if you do drop.**

## Required Textbook

We will be using *Human Sexuality, 2e* by Roger Hock (ISBN: 0205660711), available while supplies last in the COC bookstore.



## Technology Requirements

Since you have willingly signed up for an online class, I am assuming that you:

- have a working computer and know how to use it;
- have a reliable internet connection;
- can navigate on the internet using browser software;
- are capable of sending and receiving e-mail; and

- have some technical capacity to solve computer-related problems.

If even one of the above does not apply to you, then you might consider taking a traditional class instead of an online one.

### **Browser Software**

As we examine what technology is required, let's first turn to the internet browser you will use to access the course. We are using Blackboard version 8 for this class, and according to the [Blackboard documentation](#), the following browsers will work properly:

- For those using a PC
  - Internet Explorer 8 (IE8)
  - Mozilla Firefox 3.5
- For those using an Apple Macintosh
  - Mozilla Firefox 3.0 and 3.5
  - Safari 3.x and 4.0

If you have problems with Blackboard, first check the link above to see if your software is compatible. Regardless of which browser software you use, you will need to instruct any pop-up blocking software you may have to allow pop-ups from bb8.canyons.edu and you will need to enable your browser to use Java and Javascript for parts of the Blackboard site to work properly.

### **Now, about that network connection...**

In order to participate in this class you must have access to a working computer with *reliable* internet access and a valid e-mail address that you check regularly, and by regularly I mean daily. Computer or network failures will not be an excuse for missing any assignment in this class, nor is missing important announcements because you didn't check your e-mail for two weeks.

If you do not have a reliable computer and internet connection, you can use the computers on the Valencia campus in the Tutorial Lab in Bonelli Hall 209 or in the Tutorial Lab on the Canyon Country Campus in Room 306. Please do not use the computers in the Valencia campus library or in the Student Center as the browsers have a higher security setting and you may not be able to access portions of the course successfully. If you are not local to the COC campus, you might try a public library for internet access, although computers at such places may not be set up in such a way that they will work properly with Blackboard and often allow users a very limited amount of time.

### **A NOTE ABOUT WIRELESS NETWORK CONNECTIONS:**

Many of you may be using laptop computers with wireless internet connections. In the past, wireless connections have proven unreliable, often resulting in work not being submitted properly. Therefore, I would recommend that you use a wired internet connection if at all possible. If you decide to use a wireless connection, please be sure that it is reliable and will not disconnect while you are completing your work.

### **Navigating Around Blackboard, a.k.a., "Dude, where are my assignments?"**

Once you have logged in to Blackboard and selected the course, you will see a series of buttons on the left-hand side of the screen. This is where all the action is. Although there may be others, the most important are buttons are:

### Announcements

Upon login, Blackboard will default to the Announcements page, and you can always get back to this page by clicking on the Announcements button. Announcements may include information about upcoming deadlines or other information for the class.

You should take care to read the announcements every time you log in to the course.

### Syllabus

The Syllabus section contains links to the course schedule, course policies, and other absolutely fascinating information about the class. But you already know that since you're reading this. You should refer back to its pages whenever you have a question about course policies or the schedule.

### Assignments

The Assignments button will be one of your constant companions in this online course. By clicking on this button you will access the bulk of the work for this class, including discussion boards, quizzes, and exams. Details regarding each type of assignment are contained in the following pages of the orientation.

### Send E-Mail

The Send E-Mail button is used to send an e-mail to the instructor, an individual, selected individuals, or everyone in the course. Please do not use this feature to send junk e-mails to the class. If you do this, you will have your e-mail privileges revoked. Further information about sending e-mail is contained on the course policies page.

### My Grades

As you might expect, this button gets you access to the Blackboard gradebook where you can find out the scores for all of your quizzes and unit writing assignments. There is also a link to the WebGrade site, the only site with your complete and official grade.

### Tools

The Tools button gives you access to various functions, including being able to change your contact information.

## Quizzes

A quiz will be given for each assigned chapter, covering material that you should have read according to the schedule on the course calendar. Each quiz consists of up to 20 multiple choice questions, open book, open notes (like I would be able to stop you!). You access quizzes by clicking on the Assignments button and then clicking on the chapter link and then on the link for the quiz.

Quizzes will appear and must be completed as listed on the course schedule. There will be no time limit placed on the quizzes, but note that you can take each quiz only one time so please do not click on the link for a quiz until you are ready to take it. Obviously, it would be an excellent idea to read, study, absorb, and become one with each chapter prior to attempting the quiz. Quizzes must be completed no later than 11:59PM on the day they are due.

Occasionally, technical issues will crop up where your quiz score is not recorded properly. This can happen if you hit the "Back" button in your browser, your internet connection is interrupted, you minimize the Blackboard window, or other sometimes random things. If this happens, you will not be able to get back into your quiz to finish it. Please take care to focus on just taking your quiz and not click onto other windows or buttons when taking the quizzes. Except in special circumstances, I *will not* reset your quiz for you to take again. (In recognition of the probability of technical issues, I will drop the two lowest quiz scores at the end of the term.)

Once the quiz is complete you will be able to view your score and whether or not you got each question

correct. I will not provide the correct answers, however. You will be responsible for looking up and finding the correct answers to any questions you may have missed. If, after struggling mightily, you still cannot find the correct answer to a question, let me know and I will provide guidance toward finding the correct information.

## Exams

There will be five (5) exams over the course of the semester. Each exam will consist of some combination of multiple-choice, true-false, and short answer/essay questions.

Exams will be proctored at either the Tutorial Lab at the Valencia Campus of COC (Bonelli Hall 209) or another suitable facility closer to you. **If you are not local to COC (local being defined as living in the Santa Clarita, Antelope, or San Fernando Valleys) you will need to find an authorized, alternate educational facility, such as a local community college or university to take each exam. If this applies to you, please contact the proctoring facility prior to the exam, obtain their contact information and contact Renee McConnell (661-362-3349 or renee.mcconnell@canyons.edu) in the COC TLC lab to get everything set up. Since there are a large number of students taking 100% online classes at COC, Renee will need some time to verify the status of the facility and send out exam details to the proctor.**

Exams will be made available as scheduled and must be completed no later than the due date. I will not accommodate any vacations or other trips you may have planned. If you have planned a vacation or other trip that overlaps with any of the exams, you should consider taking a different class or understand that you will need to arrange for a proctoring facility at the location where you are traveling. A more complete set of instructions will be provided near the time of the first exam.

## Discussion Boards

A discussion question will be posted for each chapter covered. Students are expected to create a "New Thread" in response to the initial question AND to reply to at least two (2) other students' "New Threads." In this way, we can get a dialog going amongst all of the members of the class.

Each topic will be worth a total of 20 points, 10 points for your response to the initial question (the "New Thread") and 5 points for each of the two (at least) replies to other students' posts. All New Threads and replies must be posted no later than 11:59 PM according to the deadlines listed on the syllabus. I would encourage you to read and post more than the minimum required and not wait until the last minute to post.

Your "New Thread" is held in a queue until all students have posted their answer to my initial question. The following day, I will release all the initial posts so you may then read them and compose your replies. When you post your "New Thread," you will only see your post and will not see any other posts. Please do not be alarmed...it's there and you will see it again.

With regards to quality: The discussion forums are an integral and important part of this course designed to allow students to delve more deeply into various issues in psychology and share their various perspectives. As such, simple postings, such as "I agree!," will not count as a legitimate posting. Further, I consider proper spelling and grammar to be essential components of writing, and therefore I will grade down for numerous misspelled words or poorly written responses. Blackboard has a spell-check feature and I would encourage you to use it and to read what you have written before you hit the submit button. I would also encourage you to compose your responses off-line in your word processor and then paste the text into Blackboard. In that way, your work is protected in case your internet connection drops while posting to the board.

New Threads should be at least 150 words, but more is always welcome. These assignments are worth a relatively large portion of your grade and should be considered less intimidating, but no less important, than short essays that you might submit in a face-to-face class. Make sure to answer each discussion

prompt completely and correctly, using proper spelling and grammar, and citing references when applicable.

Replies should be at least 75 words in length. Please remember you are required to reply to at least two students during each discussion. This means that at least two of your replies should be a minimum 75 words or more to be eligible for full credit. Any additional replies to students in a discussion can be shorter.

The length requirements, 150 words for New Threads and 75 words for Replies, are mere minimums to be eligible for credit. I do not suggest that you use the word count function to say as little as possible. Please keep in mind that a 76 word Reply is not likely to earn as many points as a 125 word reply, especially if it appears as though words were arbitrarily added just to meet the minimum word requirement.

With regards to online etiquette, please do not use the discussion boards as a forum for insulting or otherwise trashing each other or the instructor.

**Acceptable-->** "I disagree with your position and here are my reasons..."

**Unacceptable-->** "You are a big giant doody-head."

If you use the board as a place to insult others, you will be banned from the discussion boards and will not get credit for any further discussion assignments.

## Other Course Policies

### Make-Up Policy

My basic rule is this: *You may not make up any quiz, discussion, or other assignment during the course.* If you have an emergency which would prevent you from taking an exam, you must notify me prior to the exam or as soon as humanly possible after, and you must provide outside documentation of the emergency in order for me to even consider arranging for a make-up exam. Examples of what I mean by "emergency" include hospitalization, a severe auto accident on the way to class, or documented alien abduction. A vacation, even a pre-planned one, does NOT qualify as an emergency. Quizzes, discussions, and other assignments may not be made up under any circumstances.

### The Dreaded Grading Policy

The grading system, which applies to the exams, homework, quizzes, discussions and the final grade, is as follows:

<b>A</b>	90% and above	<b>What it's all worth:</b>	
<b>B</b>	80 - 89%	Unit Exams	60%
<b>C</b>	70 - 79%	Quizzes	20%
<b>D</b>	60 - 69%	Discussions	20%
<b>F</b>	Below 60%		

Your grades will be posted on the Blackboard site in the "My Grades" area. Note that I do not offer any extra credit work for this class.

**It's So Hard For Me To Get Here. Do I Really Need to Attend Class?**

Lucky for you this is an online class, so physical attendance is unnecessary (except for exams). I do not require any minimum amount of online time, but you will probably find you will be online several times each week, if not daily, in order to complete your assignments. You should expect to spend approximately 5-10 hours per week completing the reading and course work for this class.

### How do I send you e-mail?

Glad you asked! If you use your own e-mail program, just send an e-mail to **rick.howe@canyons.edu**.

In Blackboard you can click on the **E-Mail Instructor** button.

Regardless of what method you use, when sending an e-mail to me you must put your name AND, for this class, "**Psych 230**" somewhere in the subject line. An example would be:

To: rick.howe@canyons.edu  
From: jsmith@yahoo.com  
Subject: Joe Smith - Psych 230 Online - Question about quiz 2

Failing to identify yourself in this way will result in your e-mail not being read. Note that Blackboard does NOT automatically insert your name when sending an e-mail, so you need to make sure you identify yourself.

Also, please make sure that my e-mail address (rick.howe@canyons.edu) is allowed through any spam filters you may be using. In the past, a few students have missed important e-mail from me because their e-mail system believed I was not to be trusted. Regardless of my trustworthiness, if you do not receive information or an answer to your e-mail because your filter blocked my message, that will not be my fault and will not be grounds for making up any assignments or any other compensation you may desire.

Regarding promptness: If you send me an e-mail that requires a response, I will try my best to respond within 24 hours if I receive the message during the work week (M-F), but I make no guarantees about mail received later in the day on Friday or during a weekend. It is likely that any message received between late Friday afternoon and Sunday night will not receive a reply until Monday morning.

### Am I Allowed to Cheat?

Well, yes - but only if you wish to receive a zero on the assignment, be reported to the administration, and likely be suspended from COC. If this is not your wish, then here is my policy on cheating: DON'T!!! If you are caught cheating on an exam, quiz, or any other assignment, you will, at a minimum, receive a grade of 0 for that assignment, and in addition there may be formal proceedings to remove you from class and/or school. If you are unclear about what constitutes cheating, please consult the schedule of classes. If you have any questions about this, please let me know.

### Any warnings about the material in the course?



Why yes, yes there are. The subject matter discussed in this course may be considered mature, sensitive and/or controversial in nature. Some topics in human sexuality including sexual anatomy, contraception, sexually transmitted infections, sexual behaviors, sexual orientation, sexual coercion, rape, child sexual abuse, paraphilias, domestic violence, prostitution and pornography may be objectionable to some students. Regardless of who you are, it is almost certain that you'll be offended by something in this class.

*Continued enrollment in the course verifies your readiness to analyze and discuss these mature topics.*

**Are there any disclaimers you would like to add, Mr. Howe?**

Oh, if you insist. I just wanted to mention that all policies and schedules are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. I will make every effort to notify all students of any such changes in a timely manner.

## Course Schedule

**Introduction to the Online Class** - A chance to look around, get familiar with the layout, and submit some extra-credit assignments!

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

**Friday, August 20:**  
 Syllabus Quiz (Extra Credit)  
 Introductory Discussion (Extra Credit)  
 Introductory Assignment (Photo) (Extra Credit)  
 Information Update Assignment (Extra Credit)

## Unit 1: Introduction and the Physiology of Sex

**Chapter 1: Studying Human Sexuality** - The obligatory "Why Do We Study Human Sexuality" chapter wherein you discover why you are studying sexuality. Also a discussion of the advantages and drawbacks of various methods used to study sexuality.

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

**Monday, August 23:**  
 Chapter 1 Discussion

**Wednesday, August 25:**  
 \_\_ Introductory Discussion New Thread  
 \_\_ Chapter 1 Discussion New Thread

**Thursday, August 26:**  
 Chapter 1 Quiz

**Friday, August 27:**  
 \_\_ Syllabus Quiz  
 \_\_ Introductory Discussion Replies  
 \_\_ Introductory Assignment (Photo)  
 \_\_ Information Update Assignment

**Sunday, August 29:**  
 \_\_ Chapter 1 Discussion Replies  
 \_\_ Chapter 1 Quiz

**Chapter 2: Sexual Anatomy** - Oh, you think you know all the parts...just wait until you read this chapter!

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

**Monday, August 30:**  
 Chapter 2 Discussion

	<b>Wednesday, September 1:</b> <a href="#">__ Chapter 2 Discussion New Thread</a>
<b>Thursday, September 2:</b> <a href="#">Chapter 2 Quiz</a>	
	<b>Tuesday, September 7:</b> <a href="#">__ Chapter 2 Discussion Replies</a> <a href="#">__ Chapter 2 Quiz</a>

**Chapter 3: The Physiology of Human Sexual Responding** - A discussion of how all those parts work together.

Assignments Posted

Assignments Due

<b>Tuesday, September 7:</b> <a href="#">Chapter 3 Discussion</a>	
<b>Thursday, September 9:</b> <a href="#">Chapter 3 Quiz</a>	<b>Thursday, September 9:</b> <a href="#">__ Chapter 3 Discussion New Thread</a>
	<b>Sunday, September 12:</b> <a href="#">__ Chapter 3 Discussion Replies</a> <a href="#">__ Chapter 3 Quiz</a>

**Unit 1 Exam**  
**Chapters 1 through 3**  
**Available Monday, September 13 & Tuesday, September 14**

## Unit 2: Reproduction

**Chapter 9: Conception, Pregnancy, and Birth** - A discussion of the where babies come from.

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

<b>Monday, September 13:</b> Chapter 9 Discussion	
	<b>Wednesday, September 15:</b> __ Chapter 9 Discussion New Thread
<b>Thursday, September 16:</b> Chapter 9 Quiz	
	<b>Sunday, September 19:</b> __ Chapter 9 Discussion Replies __ Chapter 9 Quiz

**Chapter 5: Contraception: Planning and Preventing Pregnancy** - Tools for pregnancy planning, as well as a discussion of effective contraception methods.

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

<b>Monday, September 20:</b> Chapter 5 Discussion	
	<b>Wednesday, September 22:</b> __ Chapter 5 Discussion New Thread
<b>Thursday, September 23:</b> Chapter 5 Quiz	
	<b>Sunday, September 26:</b> __ Chapter 5 Discussion Replies __ Chapter 5 Quiz

**Chapter 8: Sexually Transmitted Infections** - A frank look at the various types of STIs, how you can prevent getting them, and treatment options if you do get them.

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

<b>Monday, September 27:</b> Chapter 8 Discussion	
	<b>Wednesday, September 29:</b> __ Chapter 8 Discussion New Thread
<b>Thursday, September 30:</b> Chapter 8 Quiz	

**Sunday, October 3:**

[\\_ Chapter 8 Discussion Replies](#)

[\\_ Chapter 8 Quiz](#)

**Unit 2 Exam**

**Chapters 9, 5, and 8**

**Available Monday, October 4 & Tuesday, October 5**

## Unit 3: Love and Pleasure

**Chapter 4: Love, Intimacy, and Sexual Communication** - Examines the importance of communication in intimate relationships.

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

Monday, October 4: Chapter 4 Discussion	
	Wednesday, October 6: __ Chapter 4 Discussion New Thread
Thursday, October 7: Chapter 4 Quiz	
	Sunday, October 10: __ Chapter 4 Discussion Replies __ Chapter 4 Quiz

**Chapter 6: Sexual Behaviors: Experiencing and Sharing Sexual Pleasure** - An exploration of topics such as ways to enhance sexual pleasure.

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

Monday, October 11: Chapter 6 Discussion	
	Wednesday, October 13: __ Chapter 6 Discussion New Thread
Thursday, October 14: Chapter 6 Quiz	
	Sunday, October 17: __ Chapter 6 Discussion Replies __ Chapter 6 Quiz

**Chapter 7: Sexual Problems and Solutions** - A look at the challenges faces in sexual functioning and solutions as well! (It's more than just popping the little blue pill...).

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

Monday, October 18: Chapter 7 Discussion	
	Wednesday, October 20: __ Chapter 7 Discussion New Thread

Thursday, October 21: <a href="#">Chapter 7 Quiz</a>	
	Sunday, October 24: <a href="#">_ Chapter 7 Discussion Replies</a> <a href="#">_ Chapter 7 Quiz</a>
<b>Unit 3 Exam</b> <b>Chapters 4, 6, and 7</b> <b>Available Monday, October 25 &amp; Tuesday, October 26</b>	

## Unit 4: Sexual Development

**Chapter 12: Sexual Development Through Life** - An examination of how we develop and change throughout life with regards to sexuality.

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

<b>Monday, October 25:</b> Chapter 12 Discussion	
	<b>Wednesday, October 27:</b> __ Chapter 12 Discussion New Thread
<b>Thursday, October 28:</b> Chapter 12 Quiz	
	<b>Sunday, October 31:</b> __ Chapter 12 Discussion Replies __ Chapter 12 Quiz

**Chapter 10: Gender: Expectations, Roles, and Behaviors** - Gender role development, societal expectations, and how they affect behavior.

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

<b>Monday, November 1:</b> Chapter 10 Discussion	
	<b>Wednesday, November 3:</b> __ Chapter 10 Discussion New Thread
<b>Thursday, November 4:</b> Chapter 10 Quiz	
	<b>Sunday, November 7:</b> __ Chapter 5 Discussion Replies __ Chapter 5 Quiz

**Chapter 11: Sexual Orientation** - Review of research into the origins of sexual orientation.

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

<b>Monday, November 8:</b> Chapter 11 Discussion	
	<b>Wednesday, November 10:</b> __ Chapter 11 Discussion New Thread
<b>Thursday, November 11:</b> Chapter 11 Quiz	

**Sunday, November 14:**

[\\_ Chapter 11 Discussion Replies](#)

[\\_ Chapter 11 Quiz](#)

**Unit 3 Exam**

**Chapters 12, 10, and 11**

**Available Monday, November 15 & Tuesday, November 16**

## Unit 5: The Extremes

**Chapter 14: Paraphilias: The Extremes of Sexual Behavior** - Behavior that is just a little bit out of the ordinary, to say the least...

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

<b>Monday, November 15:</b> Chapter 14 Discussion	
	<b>Wednesday, November 17:</b> __ Chapter 14 Discussion New Thread
<b>Thursday, November 18:</b> Chapter 14 Quiz	
	<b>Sunday, November 21:</b> __ Chapter 14 Discussion Replies __ Chapter 14 Quiz

**Chapter 13: Sexual Aggression and Violence: Rape, Abuse, and Harassment** - How do you define rape? Harassment? This chapter takes a look at those and other issues.

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

<b>Monday, November 22:</b> Chapter 13 Discussion	
	<b>Wednesday, November 24:</b> __ Chapter 13 Discussion New Thread
<b>Thursday, November 25:</b> Chapter 13 Quiz	
	<b>Tuesday, November 30:</b> __ Chapter 13 Discussion Replies __ Chapter 13 Quiz

**Chapter 15: The Sexual Marketplace: Prostitution and Pornography** - You'll know it when you see it...

### Assignments Posted

### Assignments Due

<b>Tuesday, November 30:</b> Chapter 15 Discussion	
	<b>Thursday, December 2:</b> __ Chapter 15 Discussion New Thread
<b>Friday, December 3:</b> Chapter 15 Quiz	

**Monday, December 6:**

[\\_ Chapter 15 Discussion Replies](#)

[\\_ Chapter 15 Quiz](#)

**Unit 5 Exam**

**Chapters 14, 13, and 15**

**Available Tuesday, December 7 & Thursday, December 8**