

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: Sex, Love, and Friendship

Course Number and Section

PHILOSOP

2076F 550

Instructor Name(s): Emily Torine Cichocki

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL Brightspace is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course explores philosophical thinking about sex, sexuality, love, romance, friendship, and other kinds of interpersonal relationships. We will think critically about the nature of these relationships and the ethical issues that surround them.

Questions explored include: What is love? What different kinds of love are there? How have historical perspectives influenced our understanding of love/friendship? What different kinds of friendship are there? What is the value of friendship? Does love bring happiness? How do social norms influence our friendships, relationships, and sexual preferences? Are racial preferences in sexual partners morally problematic? What is monogamy? What is non-monogamy/polyamory? How should we navigate political disagreements with those we love? Is there a male loneliness crisis? What is safe/ethical sex? How should boundaries and preferences be communicated during sex? How should we understand and practice consent?

We will explore these questions and more(!) through reading both historical and contemporary texts and in our collaborative in-class discussions.

Learning Outcomes: one outcome per entry

- Developed the ability to identify, understand, discuss, and critique conceptual and philosophical arguments
- Gained familiarity with philosophical and public debates about love, relationships, romance, sexuality, social/gender norms, relationship and family structures, and so on
- Developed the ability to engage in thoughtful and nuanced discussions on these topics
- An improved ability to articulate and revise their own positions in these discussions
- Cultivated the ability to connect course concepts to their own lived experiences and to discussions/debates from pop culture and social media

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Course readings will be made available on Brightspace. No textbook purchases are necessary.

Methods of Evaluation: one assignment per entry

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Reading Reflection 1		5
Reading Reflection 2		5
Reading Reflection 3		5
Quiz 1		10
Quiz 2		10
Theory Summary		15
Final Essay		30
Participation		20

Friday, August 14, 2026

Huron Brief Course Outline 2026/27

In-course Costs \$000.00

For Textbooks and Course Materials (below), you are required to include the cost of each textbook or other learning material.

Note whether there are any restrictions that would prevent a student from using a second-hand copy. Here is some suggested text:

- Required textbook: [author, title, edition, publisher, date]. Cost: [insert amount].
 - Or include the weblink of the textbook’s publisher site that includes the cost information.
- Students need to purchase this edition. Second-hand or older editions will not be sufficient.
- OR Students are welcome to purchase second-hand or earlier editions of this textbook.
- This course has an optional field trip that costs [insert amount].
- This course has a required field component that costs [insert amount].

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.