

## Brief Course Outline

**Course Title:** Sex, Love, and Friendship

**Course Number and Section:**

PHILOSOP

2076F 550

**Instructor Name(s):** Emily Cichocki

**Instructor Email(s):** ecichock@uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL 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 may include: What is love? What different kinds of love are there? Is love a feeling or an action? What is the value of friendship? How do gender/social norms influence our friendships, relationships, and sexual preferences? What is safe/ethical sex? What are monogamy and polyamory? Is marriage a just institution? What is ethical polyamory? Is porn ethical? Can it be? How should we communicate our boundaries during sex? How should we understand and practice “consent”?

Other topics may include (but are not limited to): BDSM/kink, desire, objectification, dis/ability and sex, sex work, online-dating, touch-starvation, queer chosen family, parenting, family-making, abortion, giving birth/adopting, feminist relationality, intersectionality, relational trust/self-trust.

### Learning Outcomes:

- Develop the ability to identify, understand, discuss, and critique conceptual and philosophical arguments
- Gain familiarity with philosophical and public debates about relationships, sexuality, reproductive ethics, social/gender norms, relationship and family structures
- Improve students’ abilities to articulate and revise their own positions in these debates
- Gain practice identifying and critically evaluating argumentative assumptions
- Cultivate students’ ability to connect course concepts to their own lived experiences and to debates from popular culture/ social media

### Textbooks and Course Materials:

Course materials will be made available as PDFs on OWL.

## Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Journal Entries		30
Short Essay 1		30
Short Essay 2		30
Participation		10

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

Friday, April 12, 2024