

Brief Course Outline

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

Course Number and Section:

PHILOSOP

2076F 550

Instructor Name(s): Jennifer Epp

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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 class investigates the nature and value of friendship, love, and sex using ancient and contemporary philosophical texts. Questions include: What is love? Is love a feeling or a type of action? Does love involve union with the beloved? Is love always good? Can lovers be friends? What is friendship? Is monogamy morally required? Can polyamory be ethical? Is sex valuable, and if so in what way? Can love be a political principle? How are shame and pleasure related to oppression? And what might be learned by thinking about connections between desire and disgust in relation to disability and selfhood? What is consent and why is it important?

Learning Outcomes:

Comprehension, Analysis, Argumentation, and Critical Thinking: To develop student's abilities to identify, understand, construct, and critique arguments as well as to analyze concepts.

Area Specific and Self Knowledge: To introduce students to central debates in the philosophy of sex, love, and friendship. While doing so, students are invited to think about these debates in relation to representations of sex, love, and friendship in art and popular culture, as well as in relation to their own experiences, beliefs, and relationships.

Epistemic Responsibility and Critical Thinking: To improve student's abilities to critique their own opinions and identify weaknesses in their own arguments.

Communication and Active Listening: To improve student's oral and written communication skills for the purposes of information seeking and sharing.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Available on Brightspace and UWO libraries.

Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Practice Objection	09/21/24	5
Journal Exchange	Oct. 11	5

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Journal	12/06/24	20
Essay	Student Chosen	20
New Topics Presentation	TBA	25
Exam	TBD	25

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

Friday, September 6, 2024