ANBI 116 Evolution of Sex – Human Sexuality in an Evolutionary Perspective

FORMAT: 80 minute LECTURES

READING: One BROAD REVIEW OR BOOK CHAPTER PER SESSION, POSTED ON THE WEBSITE AS DOWNLOADABLE PDFS IN ADVANCE

DAY: Tuesday and Thursday

TIME: 9:30 AM to 10:50 AM

LOCATION: CSB 005

Office hours: CARTA Office, behind Center Hall, next to Center for Students with Disabilities, Thursday 11am to 1pm click on map

EXAMS: 1) FEBRUARY 14 Midterm, multiple choice, 1 hour, 2) MARCH 19 Final: two hours, simple sentence replies to questions

EVALUATION: Grades will be based on student participation, Midterm and Final exam performances.

WEB PAGE: https://pgagneux.wixsite.com/anbi116

LECTURES:

JANUARY 8: What is sex?

JANUARY 10: Culture and sex
Third party involvement, arranged marriages, bride price, dowry, menstrual taboos, and other imposed rules.

JANUARY 15: Why two sexes? Or are there more?
Heterogamy: small and motile or large and sessile, sex determination in mammals
Reading: Colegrave, Nick (2012). The Evolutionary Success of Sex. EMBO Reports

JANUARY 17: Mating systems across primates
How primates go about mating, from induced ovulation in lemurs to silver backs in gorillas, consortship in chimpanzee, and G-G in bonobos

JANUARY 22: Sexual Dimorphism, Sex Ratio
Development, anatomy, endocrinology, physiology, immune system and central nervous system
JANUARY 24: Sexual Selection, Finding a mate
Easier said than done
Reading: Steinsalz, David et al. (2015) This Gender Mystery Starts Nine Months Before Birth. The ratio of boys to girls at conception has been misunderstood for centuries. Nautilus

JANUARY 29: Social pairing versus reproductive pairing
Genetic quality versus resource provisioning

FEBRUARY 1: The risk of sex: loss of winning combinations, threat of violence/exploitation, threat of infection
Sex is costly

FEBRUARY 5: Sex and conflict
Pairs within larger groups, how is this possible? Sexual jealousy as major reason for murder across societies?

FEBRUARY 7: Sex versus reproduction
Uncoupling of sexual behavior and reproduction, recruiting sex for other purposes.

FEBRUARY 12: Sex in art, religion and other business
From earliest symbolic and figurative art to Kajuraho, Rembrandt, Japanese Ukiyo-e, pop art and the virtual world

FEBRUARY 14: MIDTERM (one hour)

FEBRUARY 19: Genital mutilation – too close for comfort
The need for modifying, identity, covenant, control

FEBRUARY 21: Sexual violence, Sex and Power
The troubling association between sex, violence and power
Reading: Smutts, Barbara (1992) Male Aggression against Women. Human Nature
FEBRUARY 26: **Sex trade, Contraception and Paternity Testing**
Big business, big social fall-outs

FEBRUARY 28: **Reproductive disease**
Evolution acts mostly on differential reproduction. What are reproductive diseases?

MARCH 5: **Biology and identity, sex and gender**
Bodies and minds, hormones and surgeries, social norms and change
Reading: Fausto-Sterling, Anne (2005) The Bare Bones of Sex: Part 1—Sex and Gender. *Journal of Women in Culture and Society*

MARCH 7: **IVF/ART assisted reproductive technologies**
Is infertility a disease? Will there be evolutionary consequences from over-application of ART?

MARCH 12: **The paradox of human post-reproductive Lifespan**
Grandmothers, grandfathers and the transmission of culture

MARCH 14: **Recap and Sum Up**

MARCH 19: **FINAL EXAM**

**Statement on Academic Integrity:**

“Academic Integrity is expected of everyone at UC San Diego. This means that you must be honest, fair, responsible, respectful, and trustworthy in all of your actions. Lying, cheating or any other forms of dishonesty will not be tolerated because they undermine learning and the University’s ability to certify students’ knowledge and abilities. Thus, any attempt to get, or help another get, a grade by cheating, lying or dishonesty will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office and will result in sanctions. Sanctions can include an F in this class and suspension or dismissal from the University. So, think carefully before you act. Before you act ask yourself the following questions: a) is my action honest, fair, respectful, responsible & trustworthy and, b) is my action authorized by the instructor? If you are unsure, don't ask a friend—ask your instructor, instructional assistant, or the Academic Integrity Office. You can learn more about academic integrity at academicintegrity.ucsd.edu”

(Source: Tricia Bertram Gallant, Ph.D., UCSD Academic Integrity Office, 2017)