



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2021

Sex, culture and society 210 (APL 210)

Qualification	Undergraduate
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities
Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	06
Programmes	BA BA Languages BA Law BA Visual Studies BPolSci International Studies BPolSci Political Studies BSocSci Heritage and Cultural Tourism BSocSci Industrial Sociology and Labour Studies BSW BSc Geography and Environmental Science
Prerequisites	APL 110 GS
Contact time	1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Anthropology and Archaeology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Cultural constructions of sex and sexuality are the primary building blocks of social organisation. Anthropological discussions of sexuality tend to revolve around the various aspects of social organisation, such as the lifecycle, gendered identities, and personhood. These discussions are informed by the cultural meanings we impute to differences in biological sex and reproduction, and the ways in which these meanings influence social organisation, personhood, and power. In this module, we will consider cultural constructions of sex and sexuality as these inform certain aspects of social organisation such as kinship and marriage. We will attempt to develop an anthropological perspective on the interplay between sex, culture and society. To this end, we will examine the physiology of sexuality, and then consider different theoretical perspectives on human sexuality as reflected in cross-cultural ethnographic case studies.



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