

COURSE OUTLINE

PSYC 205/WMST 205

Women and Psychology

3 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description: This course will examine the history of women in psychology. Additionally, women's lives and experiences will be explored from a lifespan developmental perspective which includes psychological, social, and biological influences. Students will examine current research on a variety of topics and critically evaluate the literature.

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Develop a perspective on the history of women in psychology
2. Investigate current knowledge about conflicts and issues in the psychology of women and examine and evaluate its empirical basis
3. Develop an understanding of the ways in which women's development is affected by biopsychosocial influences
4. Examine the role of relationships and communication in women's lives
5. Evaluate the research on developmental and psychological similarities and differences between females and males

Major Topics

- I. Women psychologists and their contributions to the field
- II. Social constructs of femininity and masculinity
- III. Meaning and significance of male/female similarities and differences
- IV. Physical, social and psychological development
- V. The role of relationships in women's development
- VI. Communication in women's lives
- VII. Mental and physical health
- VIII. Sexuality
- IX. Violence against women
- X. Career/Work issues for women
- XI. Myths and Stereotypes

Course Requirements

Students will demonstrate their skills in research and critical evaluation through written assignments, seminar presentations and participation in classroom discussions. Students will produce a semester project which summarizes and evaluates current research in a chosen area of interest.

Other Course Information

Students must have completed PSYC 101 or its equivalent