



MODULE DESCRIPTION

Module title	Code
Love, Sex and Marriage: Transcultural, Evolutionary and Anthropological Perspectives	

Teacher(s)	Unit
Co-ordinating: Prof. Victor de Munck Other(s):	Institute of Asian and Transcultural Studies

Cycle of studies	Level of module	Type of module
1st cycle		Elective

Mode of implementation	Period of instruction	Language(s) of instruction
Lectures	1 semester	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: none	Additional requirements (if any): none

Module volume in credits	Total student workload	Contact hours	Independent study hours
5	133	32	101

Aim of module: competences developed by the study programme		
<p>Love, sex, and marriage are the elemental units of society, without which there is no society. Yet their interrelationship is much neglected as a subject of study. This course will investigate patterns of love, sex, courtship and marriage from socio-anthropological, evolutionary, and psychological perspectives. While sex is obviously a biological drive its cultural expression varies. Romantic love and marriage (however varied) are also generally considered to be cultural universals and therefore rooted in our biological make-up. Given this assumption, it follows that underlying both the feeling of love and the social practice of enduring parental and parent-child bonds there must also be some sort of universal evolutionary psychological processes at work. The first third of this course will explore this theoretical perspective. Thus we will ask and investigate the questions: 1) are love and marriage universal and if so what are the core universal characteristics by which they are recognized? 2) What are the evolutionary functions of love, sex, and marriage (somewhat loosely defined as enduring cohabitation which entail culturally legitimate and privileged sexual access and parental “rights and duties” to the offspring that come out of this relationship)? 3) What is the evolutionary evidence for (in particular) the function of love? The second third of the course examines the variety of ways sex, love and marriage vary across culture. We will examine cultural variation and if there are underlying similarities that lead to finding universal patterns of relationship between these three concepts. In the last third of the class we examine courtship, love and marriage in contemporary U.S. society across straight gay and polyamorous relationships. In this last third we look at how the contemporary world, partially through new technologies, is reconfiguring sex, love and marriage and whether these new configurations are extensions of universal configurations or radically new ways to reconfigure intimate relationships</p>		
Learning outcomes of the module	Study methods	Assessment methods

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students will be able to cite and evaluate studies that have aimed at explaining the genetic bases of male and female human courtship patterns; - explain how natural selection plays a part in favouring some genetic patterns in courtship behaviours of both humans and non-human species; - explain the significance of cross-cultural research in seeking universal human patterns of courtship-related behaviour and identify some of the limitations of cross-cultural research; - correlate important love, sex and marriage patterns with family structure and economic patterns cross-culturally; - demonstrate a familiarity with the key cross-cultural love, sex and marriage practices and norms (among the cultures we read about); - identify gender-related behaviour patterns that foster equality or inequality between women and men in various societies; - identify key ideals in Western romantic ideology and explain how they do or do not correlate with real courtship and marriage experiences; - have an understanding of cross-cultural variation and similarities in conceptions of sex and love and their relation to marriage; 	<p>Readings from three books and a series of articles; class discussions, short research projects. Not all the assigned articles will be required reading for each day. Some will be only scan-read and I will lecture on them.</p> <p>All the reading assignments will be made available via Moodle or as e-mail attachments.</p>	<p>Research projects, quizzes on readings, final test.</p>
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Topics	Contact hours							Independent study time and assignments	
	Lectures	Consultations	Seminars	Exercises	Laboratory work	Practise	Total contact hours	Independent work	Assignments

1. INTRODUCTION TO COURSE	2						2		
2 EVOLUTIONARY APPROACHES to romantic love	2						2	7	1. Kendrick “A Dynamical Evolutionary View of Love in Sternberg and Weiss 2006, pp 15- 34. 2. Buss “The Evolution of Love” in Sternberg and Weiss 2006, pp 65-86.
3. BIOBEHAVIORAL APPROACHES to love and marriages	2						2	5	Fisher “A drive to love”, in Sternberg and Weiss, 2006, pp 87-115.
4. SOCIO-PSYCH APPROACHS (styles) to Romantic Love	2						2	7	1. Hendrick & Hendrick “Styles of Romantic love”, in Sternberg and Weiss, 2006, pp 149-170. 2. Sternberg “A Triangular Theory of Love”, in Sternberg and Weiss 2006, pp 119-135.

<p>5. CULTURAL MODELS OF LOVE, SEX & ROMANTIC LOVE</p> <p>distinguishing between the three concepts in human relations</p>	2					2	7	<p>Manoharan, C. and de Munck, V. 2016, pp 1-18.</p> <p>De Munck and Kronenfeld 2015, pp 1-15.</p>
<p>6. TRANSCULTURAL & ANTHROPOLOGICAL APPROACHES, part 1 trans-cultural</p> <p>intimate relations (marriage and love) in different cultures in the world</p>	2					2	5	<p>1. Dion and Dion “Individualism, Collectivism, and of RL”, in Sternberg and Weiss 2006, pp 298-312.</p> <p>2. De Munck, “Self, Other and the Love dyad in Lithuania”, in Jankowiak 2008, pp 65-94.</p>
<p>7. TRANSCULTURAL & ANTHROPOLOGICAL APPROACHES, part 2. Marriage and sex in Polynesia and Tibet</p>	2					2	7	<p>1. Goldstein 1987, pp 39-48.</p> <p>2. Mageo M. 1994, pp. 10-25.</p>
<p>8 TRANSCULTURAL & ANTHROPOLOGICAL APPROACHES, part 3: Tourism love, sex, and Marriage: Nigeria and Dominican Republic</p>	2					2	7	<p>1. Smith “Intimacy, Infidelity and Masculinity in Southeastern Nigeria”, in Jankowiak 2008, pp. 174-195.</p> <p>2. Brennan, “Love Work</p>

									in Sex Work (and After): Performing at Love”, in Jankowiak 2008 pp 196-210.
9. MODERN LOVE: HOOK-UP CULTURE how no-commitment sexual relationships have become acceptable	2						2	7	1.Reinhardt and De Munck 2019, pp 1-16. 2. Escasa-Dorne and Jankowiak, “Do Women Really Desire Casual Sex? Analysis of a Popular Adult Online?”, in Jankowiak 2008, pp 369-387.
10. MODERN LOVE: SWINGING AND BDSM looking at alternative sex/love styles in the U.S.	2						2	5	Jankowiak, and Mixson, "I Have His Heart, Swinging Is Just Sex”, in Jankowiak 2008, pp.185-196.
11. MODERN LOVE: STRAIGHT WOMEN Stories of courtship sex and marriage among women in the U.S. and analysis of these stories using cultural models theory and affordance theory	2						2	5	De Munck 2019, Interviews with straight women pp. 37-83 (any two cases ~30 pps).
12.MODERN LOVE: STRAIGHT MEN Stories of courtship sex and marriage among en in the U.S. and analysis of these	2						2	5	De Munck 2019, Interviews with straight Men pp 83-127 (any 3 cases ~30

stories using cultural models theory and affordance theory									pps.).
13. MODERN LOVE: NONBINARY GAY/LESBIAN WOMEN Stories of courtship sex and marriage among lesbian women in the U.S. and analysis of these stories using cultural models theory and affordance theory	2						2	5	De Munck 2019, Interviews with Gay women pp. 128-158.
14. MODERN LOVE: GAY MEN Stories of courtship sex and marriage among lesbian women in the U.S. and analysis of these stories using cultural models theory and affordance theory	2						2	5	De Munck 2019, Interviews with Gay Men pp.160-188.
15. MODERN LOVE: POLYAMORY Narratives of courtship sex and marriage among polyamorous men and women in the U.S. and analysis of these stories using cultural models theory and affordance theory	2						2	5	De Munck 2019, Interviews with polyamorous male & female pp.189-211.
16. REVIEW	2						2		
17. Preparations for research projects and final test								19	
Total	32						32	101	

Assessment strategy	Weight, %	Assessment time	Assessment criteria
Quizzes	30%	During semester	True/False; One word; Multiple choice quizzes will be given randomly on one of the readings during 8 class periods; only the top 6 will count towards your grade; each will be worth 5 points. They will be simple questions to test whether or not you read the material.
2 Research projects	15% 15%	During weeks 4-5: a survey questionnaire Weeks 9-10: freelist or interview	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be asked to do 2 research projects for class purposes only. One will be to use the Hendrick love scale and collect data from 10 people and analyse it with a simple bar graph and one page write up. Students will do a freelist on romantic love terms (e.g. ask people to “list all the things they associate with romantic love”) and to do a write-up of the results. The write up should consider data presented in class and compare their

			<p>findings to it.</p> <p>Both assignments are not intended to take more than 2 hours each—data can be collected via internet from friends; they do not require any outside reading. The purpose is to gain experience on how data is collected for many studies about cultural/personal beliefs and how such data can be obtained and analysed. Grading will be done on basis of your write up and the adequacy of the data collected.</p>
Final Exam	40%	During exam session.	<p>A final exam of multiple choice, true false, fill-in-the-blank questions and one essay question will be given to test students overall learning of the class material. Final will be graded on a 10-point scale with the top exam in the class being a 10, and all exams within 5% of that grade also being 10s, those between 95-90% of top score are 9s, those exams between 89-80% are 8, and so forth. If below 40% of answers are incorrect, relative to the top grade, then you do not pass the course.</p>

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or a web link
Compulsory reading list				
Sternberg, Robert J. and Karin Weis, eds.	2006	The New Psychology of Love		New Haven, CT: Yale University Press
Jankowiak, Williams, ed.	2008	“Intimacies: Love and Sex Across Cultures		New York: Columbia University Press
M Goldstein,	1987	When Brothers Share a Wife		Natural History
De Munck, V & Kronenfeld D.B.	2015	Romantic Love in America	Jan-March 1-16	Sage Open
Reinhardt, A. & de Munck, V	2019	Normative Scripts and Themes of the Hookup Culture		Not yet published paper.
Escasa-Dorne, M. & Jankowiak, W Shapiro, W (Ed.)		Do Women Really Desire Casual Sex? Analysis of a Popular Adult Online	Focality and Extension in Kinship	Sydney, Australia: ANU Press
De Munck, Victor	2019	Romantic Love in America		New York: Lexington Books.
Manoharan, C and de Munck, V.	2016	The conceptual relationship between	4(1)	Journal of Mixed Methods.

		love, romantic love, and sex: A free list and prototype study of semantic association		
Mageo, M.	1994	Hairdo's and don't's: Hair Symbolism and Sexual History in Samoa	29(2):407-432	Man
Sternberg, Robert J.	1986	A Triangular Theory of Love	93(2)	Psychological Review
Additional reading list				
Bogle, K. A.	2008	Hooking up: Sex, dating, and relationships on campus		New York, NY: New York University Press.
Fisher, Helen	2004	Why we Love: The Nature and Chemistry of Love		New York: Owl Books