Interdisciplinary Studies Honors 1021 (LHP)-Sex and the Supernatural Honors Seminar/
History 2130 (LHP)-Sex and the Supernatural Honors Seminar
Fall 2014
3 Semester Hours
MW 12:15-1:30
Prerequisite: Eligibility for Honors Courses or Permission from the Professor
Room: SH 138

Professor:
Dr. Scott Cook, Associate Professor, History
Office: SH 111
(931) 393-1738
scook@mscc.edu
http://www.mscc.edu/webs/scook
This course will not use Desire2Learn (D2L).

Office Hours:
M: 6:20-10:40, 1:30-1:50
T: 6:20-7:50, 10:40-1:50
W: 6:20-10:40, 1:30-1:50
R: 6:20-7:50

The professor believes that part of a professor’s obligation to a class is to be available for help
and questions. Students may telephone the professor or come to the office during posted office
hours. In addition, students may email at any time. Otherwise, students may make an
appointment for a specific meeting.

Course Description:
Interdisciplinary Studies Honors: Sex and the Supernatural is a multidisciplinary Honors seminar
that examines the relationships among sex, religion, gender, literature, history, and culture. This
course will emphasize the cultural and historical significance of the Mesopotamians, Egyptians,
Greeks, Romans, and Indians; the relationships among gender, sexuality, and the Church during
the Middle Ages; and the evolution of concepts of religion and sexuality in the United States.

Texts/Course Materials:

Fowler, H. Ramsey, and Jane Aaron. The Little, Brown Handbook, 12th ed. New York:


Two Large Examination Books (‘green books’)

Course Objectives:
To increase competency in communicating ideas
To improve vocabulary
To increase critical thinking skills
To apply Standard American English to academic inquiry
To improve one’s ability to make an academic argument
To increase one’s global knowledge of sociopolitical and religious events
To conceive the evolution of increasingly complex systems of society and religion and the
effects of that evolution for concepts of gender roles and sexuality.
To identify the dissemination, exchange, resistance, and rejection of historical ideas from the
perspectives of sexuality, religion, gender, and culture
To understand the implications of studying history and applying past situations to the present
To formulate sound historical comparisons of events and cultures
To consider more deeply the human experience and its interactions and interconnections
To help the student to develop a better perspective about current events through the emphasis
that few phenomena are uniquely modern
To illustrate how to use the past to predict the future
To view the scope of human existence through a wide lens
To conceive the student’s role as a citizen in the ongoing stream of global existence

Course Conduct:
This is a presentation and discussion course. This class will emphasize the ancient world and the
United States—with additional topics as time permits. The responsibility for preparation and
learning lies with the students as this is an Honors course. When not discussing one of the
required texts for the course, student groups will research the topics assigned for the day and
prepare a brief report and presentation. The presentation should be ten minutes of material.
because of the emphasis on student presentation and discussion, students must read and prepare
if they wish to be successful in this course.

Grades:
Reading Responses and Presentations: 400 points
Midterm Exam: 200 points
Final Exam: 200 points
Class Participation and Discussion/Quizzes: 200 points

A=900-1000
B=800-899
C=700-799
D=600-699
F=599 and below

The professor does not round grades.

Tests: Students have two major examinations. These tests will contain material from the text,
class discussions, and lectures and will include a combination of identification, short essay, and
long essay. In addition, the final exam, although not entirely cumulative, will have a cumulative component. The exams are students’ opportunities to show the professor the wealth of information that they have gleaned during the term. Students should take copious notes from lectures; material on the exams does not come directly from the book. Students, generally, may not take a missed exam; students should schedule the exam before the absence. Any student for whom the professor approves a make-up exam must complete either an oral or a long-essay written exam at the discretion of the professor during the professor’s regularly scheduled office hours.

Class Participation: The professor expects students to engage with the course and participate in class as appropriate. Texting, sleeping, or skipping class negates the possibility of participation and, subsequently, reduces the class participation score. Inattentiveness or absence (as well as inappropriateness or excessive talking) reduces one’s grade by 5 points per incident. If the student has a presentation on the day of an absence, the penalty is 10 points per incident. In addition, students will have a reading quiz on each of the four great works listed on the syllabus. A score of less than 70% on a quiz will reduce the class participation score by 20 points each.

Written Assignments: During the term, a different student group will present their readings relevant to the topic of the day. These are short reading response papers that simply summarize and critique the presentation. The length requirement is no less than two pages and no more than three pages. All papers will be submitted electronically through email by 6:00 a.m. on the day of the student presentation. Submissions must be sent directly from the students’ MyMotlow email accounts to Dr. Cook’s Motlow email address: scook@mscc.edu. Students will not print their critiques for in-class submission but should bring a copy for their reference.

Always strive to use good academic print sources or print sources accessed electronically through the Motlow library databases for ebooks and journal articles, Google Books, or Google Scholar. If you need help finding appropriate sources, consult Dr. Cook in advance of your presentation.

Students must format their papers according to one of the major styles listed in The Little, Brown Handbook. While MLA, Chicago, and APA are all appropriate, students will gain the most benefit if they use the format of their intended major. You must type this assignment with twelve (12) point Times New Roman font. Set all four margins at one inch. You must set the margins manually. Word processing programs are not default set for academic writing. Microsoft 2007-2013 automatically add an additional space between paragraphs. You must also reset this feature to “no spacing.” As these writing assignments are academic in nature, you should not use first or second person in these accounts for any reason. “You” is colloquial, and “I” automatically weakens your position and the argument.

Please read carefully Chapter 44 of The Little, Brown Handbook about ethical use of material, quotations, and plagiarism. If you use an author’s words and ideas, you must use quotation marks and a parenthetical citation. Otherwise, you have plagiarized. If you use an author’s ideas but not his or her words, you must use a parenthetical citation. Otherwise, you have plagiarized. It is always better to overcite than to undercite; therefore, you must be certain to cite anything
that is not “common knowledge.” Remember that the penalty for plagiarism is failure of the assignment and failure of the course because **plagiarism is stealing**.

The professor expects all written assignments to be grammatically and historically accurate. Students who repeatedly produce grammar, mechanics, or usage errors should expect to earn no higher than a “C” on written assignments—regardless of length or accuracy. Consult the appropriate chapters in *The Little, Brown Handbook* for the basics of grammar. If a student needs help writing an argumentative research paper or a grammatical summary, he or she should utilize the service that the college provides from Smarthinking. Students pay for this service when they pay for tuition; they should at least get their money’s worth. Students are also encouraged to use the services provided through the Honors Tutoring Program, as well.

**Attendance:** Regular attendance and punctuality are mandatory by the nature of this course; attendance directly affects the class participation score. Generally, students who maintain regular attendance and actively engage in the course’s content have the most successful outcomes. Students cannot learn or discuss if they do not come to class. The professor will take attendance at the beginning of each class. Because of the importance of attending classes, the professor does not differentiate between “excused” and “unexcused” absences. Completion of the drop and withdrawal processes is the responsibility of the student; simply not attending does not remove the student from the roll.

**Honors Symposium:** On April 9, 2015, the Honors Program will host its Seventh Annual Honors Symposium. This opportunity allows honors students to present their research during the term in a brief presentation to faculty, peers, and family. A reception will follow. While this opportunity is completely voluntary, students are welcomed to participate with the professor’s approval.

**Tennessee Collegiate Honors Council:** On Friday, February 20, the Honors Program will attend the TCHC Conference in Clarksville, TN. Students will be required to submit research proposals, and a committee selects the best proposals to present. Last year, the Honors Program had 17 presentations at TCHC. If you would like to participate, look for an email in December or January.

**Acceptance of Late Work:** Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period. As this is an Honors class, the professor generally will not accept late work.

**Cheating/Plagiarism:** An education has two key components: intellect and character. The professor expects students’ words and actions to reflect high standards. Because plagiarism is, at its essence, stealing, any student caught engaging in this iniquitous behavior will earn an “F” in the course regardless of any other grades, and the professor will submit your name to Motlow administration.

**Classroom Misconduct Policy:**
1. The professor reserves the right to confiscate all ringing cell phones and hurl them out of the window. If a student must have a cell phone (or similar electronic device) during class, the professor requests that phone be on **VIBRATE** mode. If an apparatus disrupts
class, the professor will ask the student to leave for the remainder of that class and will record an absence for that student. The student may, instead, have the option of singing the chorus of the offending ringtone.

2. Texting during class is disruptive and disrespectful. Any student who must text is absent.

3. Electronic devices including, but not limited to, laptops, netbooks, and iPads are not allowed in this course except during a presentation.

4. The discipline of history contains a number of serious, controversial, and debatable concepts. The professor encourages and welcomes classroom discussion but reminds students to be mindful and respectful of others’ opinions and beliefs. For any student who speaks inappropriately, threateningly, or disrespectfully, the professor will ask the student to leave for the remainder of that class, will record an absence for that student, and, if warranted, notify the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

The instructor has the primary responsibility for maintenance of academic integrity and controlling classroom behavior and can order temporary removal or exclusion from the classroom of any student engaged in disruptive conduct or conduct that violates the general rules and regulations of the institution for each class session during which the conduct occurs. Extended or permanent exclusion from the classroom, beyond the session in which the conduct occurred, or further disciplinary action can be effected only through appropriate procedures of the institution.

Disruptive behavior in the classroom may be defined as, but not limited to, behavior that obstructs or disrupts the learning environment (offensive language, harassment of students and professors, repeated outbursts from a student which disrupt the flow of instruction or prevent concentration on the subject taught, failure to cooperate in maintaining classroom decorum, etc.), text messaging, and the continued use of any electronic or other noise or light emitting device which disturbs others (disturbing noises from beepers, cell phones, palm pilots, lap-top computers, games). For more information, see MSCC Policy 3:02:00:03.

**Students with Disabilities:**

Students with disabilities must notify Sonya Hood, Directors of the Office of Disabilities Services, at (931) 393-1765. No accommodations can be made without notification from this office.

**Other College Information:**

Emergency Procedures Policy:

In case of a **medical emergency** we will immediately dial 9-911 and report the nature of the medical emergency to emergency response personnel. We will try to stay with the person(s) in need and maintain a calm atmosphere. We will talk to the person as much as possible until response personnel arrive on campus, and we will have someone go outside to meet emergency personnel and direct them to the appropriate location.

In the event of an emergency (drill or actual), a signal will be sent. Based on that signal, students will follow the procedures below for that specific type of emergency:

- **Loud warbling sound throughout Building (FIRE)**
  - Collect purses and coats and proceed immediately out of your room and exit
through the closest emergency exit. Proceed to the Designated Assembly Area closing windows and doors as you exit. Remain there until the "All Clear" Signal is given by an Emergency Management Team member. (Instructors- Provide your Designated Assembly Area, and its location to students)

**Tornado Siren (SEVERE WEATHER):**
Proceed to the closest designated severe weather shelter on the 1st floor and proceed all the way into the shelter. Crouch down on the floor with your head between your knees facing away from the outside walls. Remain there until the "All Clear" Signal is given. (Instructors- Provide the recommended room number or hallway location to students)

**Air Horn (1 Long Blast) and Face to Face All Clear (INTRUDER/HOSTAGE):**
Ensure door is closed, locked and lights turned off. If your door will not lock, move some tables and chairs in front of the door quickly. Move immediately to the rear of the room away from the door and sit on the floor- out of sight if possible. Remain calm and quiet and do not respond to any inquiries at the door unless you have been given the "All Clear" and a member of law enforcement or your campus Emergency Management Team member makes face-to-face contact at your door.

**Classroom Locked-door Policy:**
In order to adhere to MSCC Emergency Preparedness Policy and to facilitate effective classroom management, the classroom door will remain closed and locked for the duration of the class period.

**Educational Technology:**
*The only educational technology this class will use is Motlow email. The professor neither utilizes nor checks Desire2Learn (D2L).*

Accessing Campus Computers or the MSCC Library from off Campus:
Your Username format is your First Initial, Last Name and Month and Day Birthday in the Format of MMDD. Example: Marcia Smith born on April 11, 1992 - Username: msmith0411. Your Pin will be the numeric pin you created when you initially applied to Motlow College.

Using D2L:
For help with D2L including how to submit materials to a Dropbox, see this page:
http://www.mscc.edu/techtube.aspx

Technical Support/Assistance:
Students having problems logging into a course, timing out of a course, using course web site tools, or any other technical problems, should contact the MSCC Technology Help Desk at 931-393-1510 or toll free 1-800-654-4877, Ext. #1510 (or d2lhelp@mscc.edu).

**Confidentiality of Student Records:**
The education records of current and former students at Motlow State Community College are maintained as confidential records pursuant to The Family Educational Rights and
Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 as amended. For further information, see MSCC Policy No. 3:02:03:00.

Student Success:
Tutoring:
MSCC professors can guide students to specific resources regarding Tutoring in their discipline. In particular, students may find help with Math and Essay Writing via each campus’ Learning Support labs. Students should contact the labs on their campus to schedule appointments for help. For additional help, see the Student Success page: http://www.mscc.edu/student_success/index.aspx

Academic Advisement:
MSCC professors can guide students to specific resources regarding Advisement. For additional help, see the Academic Advisement page: http://www.mscc.edu/advisement/index.aspx

This course outline is subject to change without notice.
Tentative Course Schedule Fall 2014

08/25  Introduction to Course, Expectations, and Texts  
   Last Day to Add a Class

08/27  Introductory Discussion  
   No Assigned Reading

09/01  No Class (Labor Day)

09/03  Mesopotamia:  Inanna/Ishtar  
   The Religious Temples and the Origin of Prostitution  
   Homosexuality and Mesopotamia
   **Group 1 Presentations**

09/07  Last Day to Be Deleted from a Class

09/08  Mesopotamia:  *Epic of Gilgamesh*  
   All Students Read  
   **Group 2 Presentations**

09/10  Ancient Egypt:  Sexuality in the Egyptian Creation Story (Isis, Osiris, Horus, and Set)  
   The Pharaoh and Sexuality  
   Ramses and the Harem Conspiracy  
   Turin Erotic Papyrus  
   **Group 3 Presentations**

09/15  Ancient Egypt:  Temple of Mut/Festival of Drunkenness  
   Cleanliness and Circumcision  
   Contraception  
   Pregnancy Tests and Adultery  
   **Group 4 Presentations**

09/17  Constitution Day Panel Presentation  
   Powers Auditorium, Eoff Hall, from 10:50-12:05 (Bonus Opportunity)

   Ancient Hebrews:  Creation Story (Adam and Eve)  
   Lilith  
   Sex in the Old Testament/Psalms  
   Sodom and Gomorrah  
   **Group 5 Presentations**
09/22  **Ancient India (Indus Valley Civilization):** Indian (IVC) Creation Story and Krishna
       Tantra
       Kama Sutra
       Hijra

       **Group 6 Presentations**

09/24  **Ancient China:** Tung Hsuan and Chinese Pillow Books
       Prostitution
       Aphrodisiacs
       Taoism, Confucianism, and Sexuality

       **Group 1 Presentations**

09/29  **Ancient China:** Tung Hsuan and Chinese Pillow Books
       **Ancient Japan:** Japanese Creation Myth
       Prostitution
       Geishas

       **Group 2 Presentations**

10/01  **Ancient Greece & Rome:** The Sexuality of Zeus
       Pandora
       Adultery and Rape in Ancient Greek Society and Mythology
       Rape in Modern America

       **Group 3 Presentations**

10/04  **Honors Trip: Shiloh National Military Park**

10/06  **Ancient Greece & Rome:**  *Oedipus Rex*
       All Students Read
       **Group 4 Presentations**

10/08  **Midterm Examination**

10/13-  No Class (Fall Break)
10/14

10/15  **Ancient Greece & Rome:**  *Antigone*
       All Students Read
       **Group 5 Presentations**

10/17  **Honors Trip: Historic Huntsville Ghost Walk**

10/20  **Ancient Greece & Rome:** Aphrodite and Prostitution
       Sexuality of the Oracle at Delphi
       Roman Baths and Prostitution
       Adultery and Rape in the Roman World

       **Group 6 Presentations**
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Presentations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/22</td>
<td>Ancient Greece &amp; Rome:</td>
<td><em>Lysistrata</em></td>
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<td><strong>Group 1 Presentations</strong></td>
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<td>10/27</td>
<td>Ancient Greece &amp; Rome:</td>
<td>Pederasty in Ancient Greece and Rome</td>
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<td>Roman Prostitution</td>
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<td>Lupanara Grande (Pompeii)</td>
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<td>Roman Birth Control</td>
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<td><strong>Group 2 Presentations</strong></td>
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<td>10/29</td>
<td>The Church:</td>
<td>Sex/Sexuality and the New Testament</td>
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<td>Traditional Protestant Attitudes Toward Sex</td>
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<td>Traditional Catholic Attitudes Toward Sex</td>
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<td>Traditional/Historical Attitudes Toward Women in the Church</td>
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<td><strong>Group 3 Presentations</strong></td>
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<td>11/01</td>
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<td>Last Day to Withdraw with a “W”</td>
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<td>Intent to Graduate Forms Due</td>
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<td>11/03</td>
<td>The Church:</td>
<td>Witchcraft and European Witch Hunts</td>
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<td>Skyclad</td>
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<td>Salem Witch Trials</td>
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<td>Vampires as a Sexual Manifestation</td>
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<td><strong>Group 4 Presentations</strong></td>
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<td>11/05</td>
<td>Russia:</td>
<td>Rasputin (Religion, Healing, and Assassination)</td>
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<td>Britain:</td>
<td>PM William Gladstone (Obsession with Prostitutes and Self-flagellation)</td>
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<td>Alan Turing</td>
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<td><strong>Group 5 Presentations</strong></td>
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<td>11/10</td>
<td>United States:</td>
<td>Ben Franklin’s Sexuality and the Hellfire Club</td>
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<td>Presidential Affairs:</td>
<td>George Washington (Sally Fairfax, Catherine “Kitty” Greene, Slaves)</td>
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<td>Thomas Jefferson’s Sexuality (Sally Hemings)</td>
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<td>Thomas Jefferson and Amendment 8 “Mandate for Castration for Gay Men”</td>
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<td><strong>Group 6 Presentations</strong></td>
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<td>11/12</td>
<td>United States:</td>
<td>Anthony Comstock and Comstock Act</td>
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<td>Margaret Sanger</td>
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<td>World War II (Victory Girls/Wolves, Birth Control, Women in WWII, Homosexuality and the Holocaust)</td>
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<td>Presidential Affairs: FDR and Eleanor Roosevelt</td>
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<td><strong>Group 1 Presentations</strong></td>
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11/17 Sexual Revolution: Helen Gurley Brown: *Sex and the Single Girl*
Betty Freidan: *The Feminine Mystique*
Birth Control Pill
Masters and Johnson

**Group 2 Presentations**

11/19 United States: Alfred Kinsey
*Letters to One: Gay and Lesbian Voices from the 1950s*

**Group 3 Presentations**

11/24 United States: Presidential Affairs: John F. Kennedy
Streaking and Swinging in the 1970s
Billy Tipton
*Griswold v. Connecticut* (1965)

**Group 4 Presentations**

11/26- No Class (Thanksgiving Holiday)
11/30

12/01 United States: Abortion in the 19th and 20th Centuries
*Roe v. Wade* (1973) and Norma McCorvey
Stonewall Inn Riots

**Group 5 Presentations**

12/03 Other Topics: *A Free Ride* (1915)
Presidential Affairs: Bill Clinton
Jocelyn Elders
Female Genital Mutilation
Transgender Teen Couple: Arin Andrews and Katie Hill (see Dr. Cook)

**Group 6 Presentations**

12/10 Final Exam: 10:15-12:15

02/20- Tennessee Collegiate Honors Council Conference
02/21 Clarksville, TN

04/09 Seventh Annual Honors Symposium
Marcum 105, 12:00-2:00