

GS 1181.F46

Pregnant Males & Virgin Birth?



Instructor: Dr. Michael Dixon

Email: mdixon@angelo.edu

Phone: 325-486-6636

Office: Cavness 101A

Office Hours: M – F 9:00 – 11:00

Course Information

Course Description

1181 Freshman Seminar (1-0). Seminar on various contemporary topics. This course is designed to introduce incoming freshmen to the intellectual and cultural environment of the university and the impact it will have on their lives as students. Freshman Seminars incorporate various integral elements in order to facilitate first-year students' transition from high school to college-level learning. Emphasis will be on communication, critical thinking, and information literacy. Open to all majors; restricted to and required of first-time-in-college students.

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses: None.

Prerequisite Skills

Example: Accessing Internet websites, using ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word and/or PowerPoint are expectations of this course.

Core Objectives:

- Critical Thinking 1: Gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to a question or issue.
- Communication Skills 1: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written communication.
- Personal Responsibility 1: Demonstrate the ability to evaluate choices, actions and consequences as related to ethical decision-making.

Course Delivery

This is a face-to-face course with online components that students are expected to access in Blackboard.1

Required Texts and Materials: None

Communication

I will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

Grading

Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

Your grade in this course will be determined by the following:

25% Attendance and In-class Participation

This will include being present, on time and completing in-class activities.

25% Participation (Out-of-class)

This is based on out of class activities. Details are available on Blackboard

20% Assignments

This will include homework, quizzes and discussion forum assignments.

20% Written opinion summaries (2 summaries, 10% each)

10% Final Exam

Grading System

Course grades will depend on completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

This course uses the following grading scale:

A = 90.00-100 points

B = 80.00-89.99 points

C = 70.00-79.99 points

D = 60.00-69.99 points

F = 0-59.99 points (Grades are not rounded up)

General Policies Related to This Course

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)²
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)³

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university's [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).⁴

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#).⁵ The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dr. Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 [Grading Procedures](#)⁶ for more information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's Academic Integrity policy⁷ in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.⁸

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 [Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day](#)⁹ for more information.

Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Miller, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: [Incident Reporting Form](#)¹⁰

Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

Email: michelle.miller@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State's policy please visit the [Title IX website](#).¹¹

Information About COVID-19

Please refer to ASU's [COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) Updates](#)¹² web page for current information about campus guidelines and safety standards as they relate to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Modifications to the Syllabus

This syllabus, including grade evaluation and course schedule, is subject to modification on potentially short notice based on developing circumstances.

Course Schedule

Class Date	Class Topic	Assignment
1 Aug. 24	Introduction	E-mail homework
2 Aug. 26	Why sex? Parthenogenesis	Parthenogenesis DB
3 Aug. 31	Library/Professional Literature	Library Assignment
4 Sep 2	Natural Selection/ Sexual Selection	Sexual Dimorphism DB
5 Sep 7	Mate Choice	Mate Choice/Sexual Selection DB
6 Sep. 9	Species/hybrids	
7 Sep. 14	Meet a professor	
8 Sep. 16	Rare males? Why not one sex? Sex determination	Natural hybrids DB
9 Sep. 21	Hermaphrodites	Hermaphrodites DB
10 Sep. 23	Be skeptical, GPA	Tree Octopus Assignment
11 Sep. 28	Reproductive technology	TBA
12 Sep 30	Sex change in animals and humans	
13 Oct 5	IVF Controversy	Writing Assignment

14 Oct 7 Surrogates/5 parents issue
15 Oct 12 Summary/Review
14 Sep 14 **FINAL EXAM**

Study
ALL LECTURE MATERIAL

-
- ¹ <https://blackboard.angelo.edu/>
 - ² <https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/>
 - ³ <https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/>
 - ⁴ <https://www.angelo.edu/live/files/27603-student-handbook-2020-21#page=96>
 - ⁵ <https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/>
 - ⁶ <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures>
 - ⁷ <https://www.angelo.edu/live/files/27603-student-handbook-2020-21#page=96>
 - ⁸ https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/writing-center/academic_honesty.php
 - ⁹ [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of)
[of](#)
 - ¹⁰ <https://www.angelo.edu/incident-form>
 - ¹¹ <https://www.angelo.edu/title-ix>
 - ¹² <https://www.angelo.edu/covid-19/>