

Women's Leadership Center to host speaker on masculinity

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Dr. Andrew Smiler, assistant professor of psychology at Oswego State University, Oswego, NY, will give a talk entitled "Masculinity and What it Means" on Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007, at 4 p.m. at the Women's Leadership Center (WLC) at Alfred University. His talk will explore the idea of how everyone has a masculine side and a feminine side, male stereotypes, women's masculinity, and what masculinity really means. Smiler graduated with two bachelor's degrees - in mathematics and psychology from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; two master's degrees - in clinical psychology and developmental psychology -- from Towson State University (MD) and the University of New Hampshire, respectively; and a Ph.D. in developmental psychology from the University of New Hampshire. Smiler has published many papers and publications on related topics; his primary field of interest is the development of masculinity among men and women. His secondary line of research is on the normative development of romantic/dating and sexual behavior among adolescents and young adults. Within this research, emphasis is placed on the development of healthy relationships and sexual decision-making. The Women's Leadership Center builds on Alfred University's heritage as the first truly co-educational institution in the nation. The WLC offers AU's women students the opportunity to explore and fulfill their leadership potential personally, professionally, and in their communities. It does this by bringing powerful female role models to campus, fostering connections between female students and AU graduates, and offering leadership-building experiences both within and outside of the classroom. Programming at the WLC is open to all students, faculty, staff, and community members.