

SOC 221 Families and Society

Reference Syllabus Three-week online asynchronous format

Course Description

This course provides an historical comparative approach to understanding the changing structure and functions of the family. Specifically, this course examines the effect of economic, demographic, and cultural changes on relationships, gender roles, marriage, and childcare as well the variations among families by socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality.

This course satisfies GEF Area 4 (Society & Connections).

Required Text

Cohen, Philip N. 2018. *The Family: Diversity, Inequality, and Social Change: The Second Edition*. New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc. ISBN: 978-0-393-63932-2

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the family and marriage as social institutions
2. Describe family structure historically and in present day society
3. Identify and evaluate issues of family conflict, divorce, and remarriage
4. Identify causes and consequences of relevant problems within contemporary families (aligns with LEAP Essential Learning Outcome 1: Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World)

Assessments and Grading

Your grade in this course will be based on six components: First day syllabus quiz and introduction post worth 25 points each (50 total), 5 discussion board posts worth 50 points each (total of 250 points) along with 10 substantive discussion board replies to your classmates at 10 points each (total of 100 points), 4 assignments worth 50 points each (total of 200 points), a final paper (total of 100 points), and 3 multiple choice exams worth 100 points each (total of 300 points), Total course points = 1000

Discussion Board Posts

Discussion Board posts are located under Course Tools/Discussion Board. There will also be a link to the DBs via the daily folders. Click on Discussion Board for the current discussion board post.

Discussion board posts should be two to three short paragraphs that fully address the question(s) posed in the discussion board question. Note: I deduct points for posts that contain grammatical or spelling errors and posts that do not fully answer the question. Make sure to answer all parts of the question and use information gained from your readings to answer the discussion question in an objective manner. Posts should incorporate sociological concepts and terms as appropriate.

For each discussion board post, you must respond to two other students' posts in order to earn full credit for the assignment. Responses to other student's post should move the discussion forward. This means it is not enough to agree with the post or repeat what the original post said; rather, your response should add more information or perspective on a point related to the original post or present an alternate perspective. I deduct points for failure to respond fully to the discussion board question or to respond to a minimum of two other students' posts.

Assignments

Assignments will be short 1 to 2-page assignments relevant to the chapter. Instructions and rubrics will be posted on eCampus. I do not accept late assignments except in the case of a documented extenuating circumstance (such as your hospitalization or the death of an immediate family member). Please note all due dates in an easily accessible location so you do not inadvertently miss a scheduled course.

Final Paper

Your final paper will be a 2 to 3 page, double-spaced, paper on theoretical and sociological perspectives of family, accumulating your knowledge throughout the semester. Instructions and rubrics will be posted on eCampus.

Exams

You will complete three online exams. Exams are in multiple choice/short answer format. Exam questions are drawn from the assigned chapters in the textbook, assigned readings, and powerpoint presentations posted to WVU eCampus. All exams will be administered via WVU eCampus and will be opened on Sunday prior to the exam due date. Exams may be opened at any time of the day once they are posted; however, exams are timed and can only BE OPENED ONE TIME. Therefore, make sure you open the exam when you have sufficient time to complete it. All examinations must be completed by 11:59 p.m. on the assigned due date. Make sure you plan your time accordingly so that you do not miss an exam.

Grade Summary

Syllabus quiz & introduction post @ 25 points each (50 total)
5 DBs @ 50 points each (250 total)
10 DB replies @ 10 points each (100 total)
4 Assignments @ 50 points each (200 total)
1 Final paper @ 100 points
3 Exams @ 100 points each (300 total)

Grading Scale

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

Schedule

<u>Day</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
<u>Section 1 Introduction to the Family and Diversity of the Family</u>		
December 23 rd	Syllabus & Familiarize with eCampus	Introduction DB due Syllabus quiz due
December 24 th	Ch.1: A Sociology of the Family	DB 1 due Replies to Introduction DB due
December 25 th	Holiday	
December 26 th	Ch.2: The Family in History Ch.3: Race, Ethnicity, & Immigration	Assignment 1 Due Replies to DB 1 DB 2 due
December 27 th	Ch.4: Families and Social Class Ch.11: Work and Families	Assignment 2 Due Replies to DB 2
December 28 th	Review For Exam	Exam 1 due
December 29 th		
<u>Section 2: Gender, Sexuality, and Coupling</u>		
December 30 th	Ch.5: Gender	Assignment 3 due
December 31 st	Ch.6: Sexuality	DB 3 due
January 1 st	Ch.7: Love and Romantic Relationships	DB 4 due Replies to DB 3 due
January 2 nd	Holiday	
January 3 rd	Ch.8: Marriage and Cohabitation	Assignment 4 due Replies to DB 4
January 4 rd	Review For Exam	Exam 2 due
<u>Section 3: Children, Family Problems, and the Future of Families</u>		
January 6 th	Ch.9: Families and Children Ch.10: Divorce, Remarriage, and Blended Families	Discussion Board 5
January 7 th	Ch.12 Family Violence and Abuse	Replies to DB 5
January 8 th	Ch.13 The Future of Family	Final Paper Due
January 9 th	Review For Exam	FINAL EXAM DUE

WVU Academic Policies

For WVU academic policies, please see the following link:
<https://tlcommons.wvu.edu/syllabus-policies-and-statements>