

Course Syllabus

Department: Social Science

Date: December 2012

I. Course Prefix and Number: SOC 220

Course Name: Sociology of Marriage and the Family

Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours and 3 contact hours

Catalog Description including pre- and co-requisites

A sociological examination of marriage and the family as a social institution, considering its structure and social functions. Emphasis will be placed on the impact of social class and gender on family life. Cross cultural variation, social policy issues and theory and research will also be examined. Prerequisite: SOC 100 or Permission of Instructor.

Relationship to Academic Programs and Curriculum including SUNY Gen Ed designation if applicable:

Course is a social science general elective and is a 200 level course option in the Liberal Arts A. A. degree sociology advisement area.

II. Course Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will:

- Describe the major social functions of the family
- Compare the functions of the American family currently with the functions met in the past.
- Analyze the structure and function of the family both historically and cross-culturally.
- Investigate how the family is impacted by social stratification issues such as social class and gender inequality.
- Recognize changes in gender roles in American society and explain how these have impacted marriage and the family and mate selection.
- Compare dating and mate selection arrangements in contemporary American society with patterns in the past and analyze cross-cultural variations in these patterns.

College Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> writing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> computer literacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> oral communications | <input type="checkbox"/> ethics/values |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> reading | <input type="checkbox"/> citizenship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> mathematics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> global concerns |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> critical thinking | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> information resources |

III. Assessment Measures (Summarize how the college and student learning outcomes will be assessed): *For each identified outcome checked, please provide the specific assessment measure.*

| List identified College Learning Outcomes(s) | Specific assessment measure(s) |
|--|---|
| Writing, Computer Literacy and Information Resources | Students will complete a research paper with opportunities for drafting and revision. Students will use appropriate computer applications and identify, locate, evaluate, use and share information in the course of completing their research papers. |
| Course Content Based Learning Outcomes | Closed book, in-class quizzes and examinations |
| Critical Thinking | Embedded multiple choice and/or essay questions in quizzes and examinations |
| Reading | Embedded multiple choice and/or essay questions in quizzes and examinations and/or reaction/summary essays on selected articles |
| Global Concerns | Embedded multiple choice and/or essay questions in quizzes and examinations |

IV. Instructional Materials and Methods

Types of Course Materials:

Required textbooks and ancillaries assigned (handouts, podcasts, readers, etc.)

Methods of Instruction

May include: Lecture, discussion, small group collaborative learning activities, videos/podcasts/lecture capture, active learning and online activities.

V. General Outline of Topics Covered:

- Family Structure and Society
- Theoretical Perspectives and The Family
- Historical Perspectives and The Family
- Race, Gender and social class and The Family
- Love and Relationships
- Sexuality
- Dating and Mate Selection
- Childhood and Parenting
- Marriage and The Family social and public policy issues
- Selected family problems (ex. Divorce, Domestic Violence)

*Note that Cross Cultural Variation concerns are embedded throughout course.