

SOCI 200: Sociology of the Family
Mondays 6pm-9pm in GEOG 200
2014-2015 Term 2 (3 Credits)
Department of Sociology
University of British Columbia

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Course Description:

This course is directed at identifying core principles within the much broader field of Sociology of the Family, preparing students to take upper division Family Studies courses. Emphasis is placed on identifying theoretical foundations for the Sociology of the Family, as well as examining the changes in trends in Canadian Families, with some consideration of how international migration and changing social norms, particularly with respect to a broader definition of family is influencing these trends. The overall objective is to gain a sociological understanding of the family as an institution through which we experience society.

Course Evaluation

- 1) 30 percent of your grade will be based on a final examination.
 - 2) 40 percent of your grade will be based on a two-part midterm (an in-class portion and a take home mid-term exam).
 - 3) 30 percent of your grade is based on class attendance, preparation, and in-class participation.
- Unannounced quizzes and activities will be held throughout the term based on both readings and lectures. If you are present, you may participate. If you walk in while others are participating, you may participate if the time allows. If you miss the in-class activity or quiz you may not make it up.

Course Materials:

The following books are available at the bookstore:

Family Patterns, Gender Relations, 4th edition. 2014. Bonnie Fox.

One additional book, to be discussed during the first class meeting.

Policies:

Attendance for the entire class period is required. Lectures and class activities are essential for your understanding of the sociological concepts I will be teaching in this course, and your success in this course will be jeopardized if you miss class. With the exception of accommodations for religious observance, I will not excuse absences, so please do NOT email me to tell me you will not be in class. Please let me know at the beginning of the term if you require accommodation on religious grounds.

Because of the limited number of class meetings I am unable to accommodate students who will be missing ANY courses due to athletic activities. In the event that you do miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed from a classmate, and if you need clarification, to come to office hours. Students are required to check CONNECT for announcements.

You are requested to arrive on time. Repeated tardiness will be penalized.

Electronic devices can be useful tools; however, they are also very distracting. My classroom is a gadget free space – **I do not want to see or hear anyone’s electronic device.** We will have a class break during which students are free to check in with their machines.

Academic Dishonesty will not be tolerated. This includes lying, cheating, and plagiarism. I will deal with instances of academic dishonesty, should they occur, according to university policy. Please see the Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for university policies on academic misconduct and academic dishonesty: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,0,0>

UBC’s Early Alert program is designed to get students help quickly and in a coordinated way. Problems it can help with include academic advising, financial advising, counseling, and other resources that can help you get back on track. **If you are feeling stressed, please notify me or the TA** and indicate that you would like assistance. While we are not trained to help with personal problems, we can get you help from people who can assist you. Any information that they receive from you or us is strictly confidential and is in the interest of your academic success and wellbeing. This means that your parents will not be notified that you are seeking help. For more information, please visit earlyalert.ubc.ca.

If anyone has **special needs** that require modification of seating, testing, or meeting other class requirements, please let me know during the first two weeks of class.

Office Hours are times that we have set aside to meet with students. The hours are listed at the top of the syllabus. I encourage you to come and visit during office hours. Come individually, or with friends. It’s a chance to talk about the course, assignments, exams, study strategies, or whatever you would like to discuss. You don’t have to have a *problem* to visit. If you find yourself having difficulty with the readings, or if you do not do well on an exam we definitely want to see you.

Course Schedule: Please complete the readings by class time on the day that they are listed. It is estimated that each week you should spend about 3 hours reading for this course. I suggest you take notes on the reading and make sure that you can answer the questions that are available at the end of each chapter or reading.

	Date	Topic	Assignment
Week 1	5 January	Course introduction; Perspectives on the Family	
Week 2	12 January	Diversity in the Family Form	pp. 1-39; pp 41-96
Week 3	19 January	Diversity in the Family Form	pp 97-160
Week 4	26 January	Contemporary Families: Intimacy	pp. 161-230
Week 5	2 February	Contemporary Families: Parenthood; In-class Midterm	pp. 231-314
Week 6	9 February	No Class (Family Day)	
	16 February	No Class – Midterm Break	
Week 7	23 February	Parenthood and Childhood	Take-Home Midterm Due
Week 8	2 March	Contemporary Families: Employment	pp. 315-364
Week 9	9 March	Families and Change: Immigration	pp. 365-411
Week 10	16 March	Families and Change: Economic Stress	pp. 412-449
Week 11	23 March	Families and Change: Divorce	pp. 449-498
Week 12	30 March	What Role Does the State Have?	pp 499-554
Week 13	6 April	University Closed for Easter Monday	
Final Exam	TBA		