

SOC271

Introduction to the Family

3 Credits

Instructor: Gordon Jangula

Phone: 780 871 5720

Original Developer: Gura Bhargava

Current Developer: Gordon Jangula

Reviewer: Kelly Mutter

Created: 01/06/1992

Revised: 22/07/2015

Approval: 31/08/2015

The Implementation Date for this Outline is 01/09/2015

Copyright©LAKELAND COLLEGE. Email: admissions@lakelandcollege.ca
2602 - 59 Avenue, Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada T9V 3N7. Ph: 780 871 5700
5707 College Drive, Vermilion, Alberta, Canada T9X 1K5. Ph: 780 853 8400
Toll-free in Canada: 1 800 661 6490



SOC271 Version: 21



Introduction to the Family

Calendar Description

An introduction to the study of family relationships and their variant forms with focus on mate selection, couple, kin, age and gender dynamics, family dissolution or reconstitution and change. A comparative approach with emphasis on families in Canada.

Rationale

This course is intended for sociology majors and fulfills one of the requirements for those graduating with a degree in sociology. It also fulfills the social science requirements in other faculties.

Prerequisites

SOC100

Co-Requisites

None

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

1. define and describe the family, its structure, and function, from the perspective of each of the major sociological theoretical frameworks.
2. describe and explain changing trends pertaining to the family in Canada. This examination entails analyzing;
 - (1) the politicization of the family
 - (2) the role of changes in household technology on the changing patterns in household management
 - (3) the consequences of the revolution in reproductive technology for the family
 - (4) current changes in the structure of the Canadian family
 - (5) the effects of macro waves of aging in Canada

3. explain current sociological theories regarding the future of marriage and the family in Canada.
4. apply appropriate writing skills in terms of spelling, grammar, terminology, and building an academically sound analysis/argument regarding some aspect of the family as seen through the analytic lens of sociology.

Resource Materials

Required Text:

Baker, Maureen. *Choices and Constraints in Family Life*. 3rd ed. Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford University Press, 2014. Print.

Reference Text:

In addition to the required text, other sources may be recommended or required as supplemental reading.

Conduct of Course

This is a 3 credit course with 3 hours of lecture per week. (3-0-0).

Lectures are interspersed with videos, guest lecturers, and discussion of interesting current events. When possible, field trips to local institutions are offered. I invite your input as to the types of places you might like to tour and the types of presenters you might like to hear as guest lecturers.

In order to be able to keep up with lectures and discussions it is recommended that you read the assigned readings before class. You can expect to read approximately 2 hours per week in addition to class time. Class participation is essential if you want to get the most out of this course and you'll find that becoming personally involved also tends to make the course more enjoyable. It's been my experience that if you are thinking of something and/or are wondering about something then chances are that a number of other students are thinking about or wondering about the same thing. Believe me, they will thank you if you will take the initiative and speak up.

All assignments are to be completed and turned in at the assigned dates unless I tell you otherwise. If you have a problem in getting an assignment in on time please come and talk to me about it, sometimes other arrangements can be made. I reserve the right to give you a zero on any assignment not turned in on time or to reduce the mark by as much as 5% for each day late, so be sure and talk with me if you have a problem.

Plagiarism and cheating – presenting someone else's words, ideas or work as your own, is a serious academic crime. Punishments range from a zero for the assignment to expulsion from the College.

Evaluation Procedures

Midterm Exam #1	20%
Midterm Exam #2	20%
Research Assignment	30%
Final Exam	<u>30%</u>
Total	100%

The midterm exams will be take-home, and will be essay format. You will have a choice of questions from which to choose. The final examination will consist entirely of essay questions.

The research assignment will be discussed in class. You will be provided with a variety of potential essay topics; however you will have the option of researching a topic of your own choosing, subject to the approval of the instructor.

No supplemental assignments or examination re-writes are permitted in this course.

Grade Equivalents and Course Pass Requirements

A minimum grade of D (50%) (1.00) is required to pass this course.

Letter	F	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Percent Range	0-49	50-52	53-56	57-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95-100
Points	0.00	1.00	1.30	1.70	2.00	2.30	2.70	3.00	3.30	3.70	4.00	4.00

Students must maintain a cumulative grade of C (GPA - Grade Point Average of 2.00) in order to qualify to graduate.

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for success in any course. Absence for any reason does not relieve a student of the responsibility of completing course work and assignments to the satisfaction of the instructor. Poor attendance may result in the termination of a student from the course.

In cases of repeated absences due to illness, the student may be requested to submit a medical certificate. *Instructors have the authority to require attendance at classes.*

Course Units/Topics

Note:

Classroom interaction and the availability of unscheduled guest speakers and/or visits to institutions can affect the rate at which we progress through the course and therefore the course

calendar. Consequently, though classroom discussions follow the schedule in terms of general format, there may be variations in terms of specific dates. Also, if we find that we are taking more time than initially planned, we may decide to reduce the course load somewhat and drop a section.

Part 1: Family origins and conceptualizing family.

Part 2: Forming relationships, cohabitation and marriage.

Part 3: Life course of family life.

Part 4: The future of family life.



Copyright©LAKELAND COLLEGE.
2602 - 59 Avenue, Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada T9V 3N7. Ph: 780 871 5700
5707 College Drive, Vermilion, Alberta, Canada T9X 1K5. Ph: 780 853 8400
Toll-free in Canada: 1 800 661 6490 E-mail: admissions@lakelandcollege.ca