

SOCIOLOGY 371: Sociology of Families

FALL 2009

Lectures: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30pm – 13:45pm (ICT 102)

Instructor: Dr. Anne H. Gauthier

Teaching assistant: Leah Soveran

Emergency Evacuations: In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point by the Food Court in the Professional Faculties Building.

Contact information:

Dr. Anne H. Gauthier

Office: ss918

Email: SOCI371@ucalgary.ca

Office hour: Tu/ Th 2pm-2:30pm

Phone number: 220-6520

Leah Soveran

Office: ss919

Email: SOCI371@ucalgary.ca

Office hour: Tu 11am-12pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Structure and functions of the family, family systems, sociology of family life stages (such as childhood, adolescence, adulthood, old age), contemporary trends and problems of the family.

Required textbook:

McDaniel, S.A. and L. Tepperman (2007). *Close Relations: An Introduction to the Sociology of Families*. 3rd ed. Pearson / Prentice Hall.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Your grade in the course will be determined by the following:

Quiz #1	Thursday 1 Oct	10%
Mid-term exam.....	Thursday 5 Nov.....	30%
Final exam.....	(registrar scheduled)...	35%
Assignment #1.....	due Thursday 22 Oct	10%
Assignment #2.....	due Thursday 26 Nov	15%

Quiz and Exams: There will be a total of three exams (quiz, mid-term and final exam). They will consist only of multiple choice questions. They will cover all the material

covered in the lectures and in the textbook. Note that the lectures cover more material than the textbook itself. Students are responsible for the material covered in class regardless of whether they are present for each class. See also the regulations regarding absences at exams (under 'Course conventions').

Assignments: There will be two such assignments. The first one will be worth 10% of the final grade, the second 15%. More information will be provided in due course. Note that the assignment should be submitted at 12:30pm on the due day at the beginning of the lecture. There will be a 10% deduction per day in the case of late submission.

The assignments will be graded using the following schema (out of a maximum of 10 points):

- Very good to excellent = 9 to 10 points (Very well written, satisfies all the requirements of the assignment).
- Good = 7 to 8 points (overall good, satisfies all the requirements of the assignments but some minor weaknesses).
- Passable = 5 to 6 points (satisfies most of the requirements of the assignments but major weaknesses).
- Non-satisfactory = 0 to 4 points (does not satisfy the requirements of the assignment, major weaknesses).

Final grade: There will be no provision for make-up exams or any other work for the purpose of improving grades. A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not essential if the student is to pass the course as a whole.

EMAIL CONVENTION

Students are encouraged to use the lectures and office hours to ask questions. For after-hours questions, the use of email is acceptable. We have set up a special email address for this course. Please send all of your queries, comments, etc to: SOCI371@ucalgary.ca. We will check once a day this email account (except on weekends). You should expect a reply within 24 hours (except weekends).

LETTER GRADE ASSIGNMENT

At the end of the course, the numerical marks will be summed and a final letter grade will be assigned based on the following:

Percentage range	Letter grade	Percentage range	Letter grade
95 or higher	A+	67-71	C+
90-94	A	63-66	C
85-89	A-	59-62	C-
80-84	B+	54-58	D+
76-79	B	50-53	D
72-75	B-	49 or lower	F

COURSE CONVENTIONS

Exam Policies: You must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take an exam. All requests for deferral of an examination due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferred exams may be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, you will be able to write a “make up” exam as close to the original exam as possible. The date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferred exam. Deferred exams will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

Ethics Research: Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Academic Misconduct: cheating is regarded as a serious academic offense. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar, which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor’s office or the Department main office. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor’s office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Safewalk: The University of Calgary provides a “safe walk” service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.

Academic Accommodation

Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, telephone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. **It is a student’s responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.**

Handing in Papers Outside of Class, Return of Final Papers, and Release of Final Grades

1. When students are unable to submit papers at class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant rather than at the Sociology Department main office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the Sociology Department main office. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, (i.e., outside an instructor’s office, the department office, etc.). Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will only be available for pick-up during the instructor’s office hours at the end of this term or the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology department. They are only available online.

SOCI 371 ---- FALL 2009 --- TIMETABLE

Week	Dates	Topic	Reading
1	Tu 8 Sept	Introduction	Chap 1
	Th 10 Sept	Data and methods	
2	Tu 15 Sept	Family theories	Chap 1
	Th 17 Sept	Historical perspectives and diversity	Chap 2
3	Tu 22 Sept	Continued	
	Th 24 Sept	Family life cycle and individual life-course	
4	Tu 29 Sept	Transition to adulthood (guest lecture)	
	Th 1 Oct	Quiz #1	
5	Tu 6 Oct / Th 8 Oct	Dating, cohabitation, marriage ¹	Chap 3, 4
6	Tu 13 Oct	Relationships	Chap 5
	Th 15 Oct	Parenting	Chap 6
7	Tu 20 Oct	Parenting	Chap 6
	Th 22 Oct	Families and work ²	Chap 7
8	Tu 27 Oct	Families and work (incl. video)	Chap 7
	Th 29 Oct	Family policies	
9	Tu 3 Nov	Family policies	
	Th 5 Nov	Mid-term exam #1	
10	Tu 10 Nov	Divorce	Chap 9
	Th 12 Nov	Reading day / no lecture	
11	Tu 17 Nov	Divorce	
	Th 19 Nov	Family transitions	Chap 10
12	Tu 24 Nov	Family stress	Chap 8
	Th 26 Nov	Family violence (guest lecture)	Chap 8
13	Tu 1 Dec	Family poverty (incl. video)	
	Th 3 Dec	Family poverty	
14	Tu 8 Dec	The future of families	Chap 11
	To be determined	Final exam	

Notes: 1- Information about the first assignment will be given in class on Tu. 6 Oct.

2- Information about the second assignment will be given in class on Th. 22 Oct.