

University of Calgary
Department of Sociology
Sociology 371-01
Sociology of Families
Winter 2010

Instructor: Diane Field

Class Hours & Location: Thursdays 18:00-20:50; ST 126

Office No. & Phone No.: SS952/ (403) 220-5982

Office Hour: Thursdays 4:15pm – 5:15 pm or by appointment

Course email: soci.371@ucalgary.ca (please write “Soci 371” in Subject box)

Required Text:

McDaniel, Susan A. and Lorne Tepperman, 2007. **Close Relations: An Introduction to the Sociology of Families (3rd Edition)**. Toronto: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Course Description:

This course will introduce students to the sociology of families from various sociological perspectives. It will be the goal of this course to provide students with a thorough grounding in both the theoretical and substantive issues in the sociological study of families and family life. Topics that we will explore include: defining a family, theoretical perspectives in the study of the family, the historical family, family organization, marriage and parenting, work and the family, the transitional family, and the changing Canadian family.

Course Objectives:

1. To provide a broad, introductory view of the sociological study of families, particularly Canadian families.
2. To introduce the student to both theoretical and empirical issues in the study of families.
3. To develop skills to critically examine, evaluate, and understand the social issues of the family which impact the student within his/her own life and within the larger society.

Course Requirements:

Students are required to complete two midterm exams, one Registrar-scheduled final exam, and one written assignment. The midterm exams will consist of both multiple-choice and written responses. All exams will be non-cumulative.

For midterm exams and the final exam, students will be responsible for all material covered in lectures, required readings, and films. If you miss a class, you are responsible

for getting the lecture notes from another student. Therefore, finding a “student buddy” will be necessary. I will **not** distribute my lecture notes to students.

Details of the written assignment will be provided at a later date.

Midterm #1	February 11, 2010	25%
Midterm #2	March 18, 2010	25%
Final Exam	(TBA – exam period)	25%
Written Assignment	April 15, 2010 (in class)	25%

Late written assignments will be subject to a penalty of 5% per day, except in cases of *documented* emergencies.

Grading System:

A+ (95-100%)	B+ (80-84%)	C+ (67-69%)	D+ (55-59%)
A (90-94%)	B (75-79%)	C (63-66%)	D (50-54%)
A- (85-89%)	B- (70-74%)	C- (60-62%)	F (49% or below)

The grades for a course component may be scaled to maintain equity among sections and to conform to departmental norms.

Emergency Evacuations:

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

Deferrals:

If at all possible, you must provide *advance* notice to the instructor if you are unable to take a test or pass in an assignment or essay on time. All requests for deferral of a course component 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. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction, or religious conviction. 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.

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make

up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department.

Please note that requests to defer a final examination or to defer term work past the end of a term go through the Undergraduate Programs Office (UPO) and must be processed by the deadlines that are established in the U of C Calendar. You can find the forms you need online:

Deferred Final Exam Application:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Winter2008DEFERREDFINALEXAMINATIONS.pdf>.

Deferred Term Work Form:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>.

You must submit these deferral forms to the Social Sciences Associate Dean (Students) through the UPO office: Undergraduate Programs Office, 4th floor, MacEwan Student Centre. Only the Associate Dean approves requests for deferrals which extend beyond the end of a term. Instructors are not involved in such decisions. To make an appointment with the Associate Dean, phone (403) 220-8155.

Ethics Research:

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

Academic Misconduct:

Plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct are regarded as serious academic offences. 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 the students individually, during class, or during the instructor’s office hours. If a student is unable to pick up his/her assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelop 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 L.R.T., 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 the 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 the 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 on-line.

Course Topics and Related Readings:

Week	Date	Topics	Required Readings
1	January 14, 2010	Course Introduction	No readings required
2	January 21, 2010	Defining the “Family; Theoretical Perspective on the Family	Close Relations text: Chapter 1
3	January 28, 2010	History of the Canadian Family	Close Relations text: Chapter 2
4	February 4, 2010	Forming Intimate Relationships	Close Relations text: Chapter 3
5	February 11, 2010	MIDTERM # 1	
6	February 18, 2010	NO CLASS (READING WEEK)	
7	February 25, 2010	Diversity of Intimate Relationships	Close Relations text: Chapter 4
8	March 4, 2010	Making Relationships Work	Close Relations text: Chapter 5
9	March 11, 2010	Parenting	Close Relations text: Chapter 6
10	March 18, 2010	MIDTERM # 2	
11	March 25, 2010	Domestic and Working Lives in the Family Setting	Close Relations text: Chapter 7
12	April 1, 2010	Family Stress and Violence	Close Relations text: Chapter 8
13	April 8, 2010	Divorce and Ending Relationships	Close Relations text: Chapter 9
14	April 15, 2010	Future Scenarios (WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT DUE IN CLASS)	Close Relations text: Chapter 11
		FINAL EXAM – TBA (Registrar-Scheduled Final)	