
COURSE OUTLINE

Sociology 160
Family and Community

Winter, 2009

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Office Hours: Thursdays, 5:00 PM to 5:45 PM **or by appointment**
Lecture: Thursdays, 6:00 PM – 8:50 PM

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

Students study the variety and dynamics of family and community in contemporary society with critical examination of significant issues. How families and communities adapt to change in society is discussed. Special attention is paid to changing trends, variations in families, gender relations, family violence, community oriented interventions, and social policies.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

A major aim of the class will be to assist students to develop a capacity for independent, critical thinking with respect to family and community issues. This ability should aid students in understanding the ways in which social problems are interrelated and how they are connected to power relations in families. The intended learning outcomes of the class:

- 1) distinguish between facts and personal opinion about family and marriage;
- 2) discern families from an historical perspective;
- 3) analyze varieties of family lives;
- 4) comprehend diversities of family forms;
- 5) observe changing patterns and trends of Canadian families including demographic aspects;
- 6) understand sociological conceptual perspectives and apply them to contemporary family lives;
- 7) learn about the internal development of the family through the life cycle and the dynamics of interactions within a family system;
- 8) connect family experiences with external social forces;
- 9) review family relationships and situations from micro and macro perspectives; and recognize power relationships within families.

REQUIRED TEXT(S):

McDaniel, Susan and Tepperman, Lorne (2007), ***Close Relations: An Introduction to the Sociology of Families***, 3rd Canadian Edition, Pearson Education Canada.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

This course consists of one 3 hour lecture per week. Students are expected to complete assigned readings on time, and to come to class prepared to discuss those readings. Occasional film presentations are scheduled. The course will be based on a series of lectures, followed, at times, by seminar-type discussions in which the students are urged to participate.

STUDENT EVALUATION:

The final grade for this course will be based on 4 components which include: **two separate mid-term examinations, an annotated bibliography & class presentation, and a final examination** (see more details below)

	Due Date	Weight
Midterm Exam 1	February 5th	20%
Midterm Exam 2	March 12th	20%
Annotated Bibliography and Class presentation	See Schedule of Topics	20%
Final Examination	Exam Week	40%

Mid term Exam 1 (20%):

The mid-term examination will be held in class on Feb 5th, 2009. The exam will consist of true/false, multiple choice questions, and short answer. You will be tested on all material including assigned readings, lecture material, class discussions, and video presentations *Covers all material from Weeks 1 - 4.*

Mid term Exam 2 (20%):

The mid-term examination will be held in class on March 12th, 2009. The exam will consist of true/false, multiple choice questions, and short answer. You will be tested on all material including assigned readings, lecture material, class discussions, and video presentations *Covers all material from Weeks 6 – 9.*

Annotated Bibliography and Class Presentation (20%):

1. An annotated bibliography is a list of citations to books, articles, and other documents i.e. policy papers, research studies, the Internet. Each citation is followed by a brief (usually 150 words) descriptive and evaluative paragraph, the annotation. The purpose of the annotation is to inform the reader of the relevance, accuracy, and quality of the sources cited. Creating an annotated bibliography calls for the application of a variety of intellectual skills: concise exposition, succinct analysis, and informed library research.

First, locate and record citations to books, periodicals, and documents that may contain useful information and ideas on your topic. Briefly examine and review the actual items. Then choose those works that provide a variety of perspectives on your topic.

Write a concise annotation that summarized the central theme and scope of the book, article, research study etc., Include one or more sentences that (s) evaluate the authority or background of the author, (b) comment on the intended audience, (c) compare or contrast this work with another you have cited, or (d) explain how this work illuminates your bibliography topic.

The annotated bibliography should contain between **25 to 30 references**.

2. Students are required to give an in-class presentation on one topic discussed this semester. The presentation is due the week that your Annotated Bibliography is scheduled for class discussion. Students are required to work in groups and to submit **one Annotated Bibliography** for the group. Presentation requirements:

1. The length should be approximately 10-15 minutes (shared equally among group members)
2. Do not copy every single word used by the author. Stress important points, and give reasons why you support or do not support the authors perspectives
3. Speak clearly, slowly, and articulately
4. Avoid continual reading from your notes, and make eye contact with the audience
5. Act like a presenter (including how you dress)
6. Ask and answer questions
7. Present with confidence and be yourself

Final Examination (40%):

The final examination will be held during examination week. The exam will consist of true/false, multiple choice questions, and short answer questions. You will be tested on all material including assigned readings, lecture material, class discussions, and video presentations. Students must contact the instructor before the exam period if they are unable to take the exam and shall write it at the time agreed between the instructor and the student. *Covers all material from weeks 11-14*

GRADES:

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

PROCEDURE CHANGES

In order to deal with the day-to-day management of the course, new procedures or revisions to procedures may be implemented from time to time throughout the semester. Such procedures and revisions will be announced in class for two consecutive sessions before they are implemented. It is the responsibility of each student to keep informed of such developments.

All matters that are not covered by this course outline are governed by official college policies and procedures

Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

Students are encouraged to utilize support services available at the Writing Centre to prepare for their essay exams.

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-8

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS

WEEK	DATE	TOPICS	READINGS
1	Jan 8	Class Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain how sociology differs from psychology and social work. How can it contribute to the understanding of families and communities? 	
2	Jan 15	Family and Family-like Relationships & Historical Perspectives on Canadian Families	Chapter 1 & 2
3	Jan 22	How Families Begin <i>Class Presentation 1</i>	Chapter 3
4	Jan 29	Single Parent Families – Issues and Challenges <i>Class Presentation 2</i>	Handout
5	Feb 5	MIDTERM EXAM 1 <i>Covers all material from Weeks 1 – 4</i>	
6	Feb 12	Immigrant and Minority Single Parent Families- Issues and Challenges <i>Class Presentation 3</i>	Handout
7	Feb 19	Aboriginal Single Parent Families - Issues and Challenges <i>Class Presentation 4</i>	Handout
8	Feb 26	Types of Intimate Couples <i>Class Presentation 5</i>	Chapter 4
9	March 5	Parenting <i>Class Presentation 6</i>	Chapter 6
10	March 12	MIDTERM EXAM 2 <i>Covers all material from Weeks 6 – 9</i>	
11	March 19	Work and Family life <i>Class Presentation 7</i>	Chapter 7
12	March 26	Stress and Violence <i>Class Presentation 8</i>	Chapter 8
13	April 2	Divorce and Ending Relationships <i>Class Presentation 9</i>	Chapter 9
14	April 9	Family Transitions <i>Class Presentation 10</i>	Chapter 10
	FINAL EXAM	<i>Covers all material from weeks 11-14</i>	