

## Master Syllabus

### SOC 1115 - Sociology of Marriage & Family

**Division:** Liberal Arts, Communication and Social Sciences

**Department:** Sociology

**Credit Hour Total:** 3.0

**Lecture Hrs:** 3.0

**Prerequisite(s):** SOC 1101

**Date Revised:** February 2015

---

### Course Description:

This course is a sociological examination of theoretical perspectives on the institution of family. Topics include the historical context of the family, the role of marriage and family in society, family formation, socialization, divorce, parenting, family issues, family throughout the life course and social policy. Variations in family types and lifestyles among diverse groups worldwide are examined.

### General Education Outcomes:

- ❑ Oral Communication
- ❑ Written Communication
- ❑ Critical Thinking/Problem Solving
- ❑ Values/Citizenship/Community
- ❑ Information Literacy

### Course Outcomes:

#### Theoretical Perspectives

Analyze family and marriage through the major theoretical perspectives including functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interactionism.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** Multiple choice and/or essay exams are given which include this topic. Students are expected to score 70% or greater to be successful.

**Assessment Method:** Oral examination

**Performance Criteria:** Students are expected to give oral presentations. Students must score 70% or higher to be successful.

**Assessment Method:** Written surveys and/or questionnaires

**Performance Criteria:** Written assignments and/or reports are given with the minimum expectation of 70% or greater to be successful.

#### Historical Evolutions

Evaluate the socio-historical evolution of family forms and processes contributing to change in family forms and structure over time.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** Multiple choice and/or essay exams are given which include this topic. Students are expected to score 70% or greater to be successful.

#### Diversity in Families

Distinguish the causes and consequences of diversity in family forms such as cohabitation, marriage, child bearing, divorce and remarriage.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** Multiple choice and/or essay exams are given which include this topic. Students are expected to score 70% or greater to be successful.

#### Cross Cultural Comparisons

Compare and contrast cross-cultural information about marriage, families, parenting and social change.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** Multiple choice and/or essay exams are given which include this topic. Students are expected to score 70% or greater to be successful.

#### Interfamily Relationships

Investigate the dynamics of interfamily relationships.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** Multiple choice and/or essay exams are given which include this topic. Students are expected to score 70% or greater to be successful.

#### Gender and Sexual Orientations in Family

Examine the causes and consequences of the social meanings given to gender and sexual orientation in families.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** Multiple choice and/or essay exams are given which include this topic. Students are expected to score 70% or greater to be successful.

#### Role of Structure and Policy

Determine the role of social structure, governmental policy and systems of inequality on family forms and dynamics.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** Multiple choice and/or essay exams are given which include this topic. Students are expected to score 70% or greater to be successful.

**Outline:**

The American Family  
Historical Evolutions of Family  
Ethnic Diversity of Families  
Communication, Intimate Relationships, Gender Roles  
Family Life Cycle: Adjustment/Conflicts  
Children, Parenting, and Socialization  
Marital Termination, Remarriages, Alternatives  
Social Policy and Change