

**SOC 240: Marriage and Family (Section 1)**  
**Fall 2016**

**Instructor:** Dr. Maggie Bohm-Jordan  
**Lecture:** Mon & Wed: 9:35AM – 10:50AM, Collins Classroom Center (CCC) 227  
**My Office:** CCC 458  
**Office Hours:** T/R: 9-11am, M 2-4pm or by appointment  
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**Course Overview**

A sociological analysis of the family as an institution and dynamics of the interpersonal relations of marriage and family. Examines cultural diversity among families as well as historical changes in the family and the impact of social policy. Overview of the structural, developmental, functional, and institutional aspects of marriage, intimate relationships, and the family. Changes in family patterns and racial, cultural, and ethnic diversity in families.

This course fulfills the requirement for “Social Sciences” in the General Education Program (GEP).

**Course Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Critically discuss marriage and family relations from a sociological perspective.
2. Correctly apply sociological concepts, theories, and methods of inquiry to analyze marriage and family relationships.
3. Effectively describe the historical context of marriage and family and discuss changes that have helped mold what is considered marriage and family today.
4. Critically discuss gender role expectations and their implications for marriage, family, and intimate relationships.
5. Critically analyze multiple dynamics of relationships from a sociological perspective such as gender, race, class, mate selection, sexuality.

**Textbook (Required)**

David, Knox. M&F. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Cengage

**Additional Course Materials**

Certain course materials will be made available for download from the Desire2Learn system (D2L) → “Content” section. Announcements will be made in class and through email.

## Grading

<i>In-Class Assignments</i>	<i>15 (3 points each)</i>
<i>Assignment 1</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Assignment 2</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Midterm exam</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Final exam</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>

A: 93-100, A- :90-92.99
B+: 87-89.99, B: 83-86.99, B- : 80-82.99
C+: 77-79.99, C: 73-76.99, C- : 70-72.99
D+: 67-69.99, D: 63-66.99, D- : 60-62.99
F: 0.00 – 59.99

## Grade Posting

Students' grade points from in-class assignments and exams, plus optional bonus points if applicable, will be posted in D2L as soon as they become available.

## In-Class Assignments

There will be a series of 5 unannounced in-class assignments spread randomly over the semester. Most of these assignments take the form of short-answer or essay questions; others are quizzes, consisting of a small number of standardized questions (multiple-choice, item matching, etc.). Typically, these in-class assignments will be related to the day's or the previous day's lecture, readings, and/or video clips. An in-class assignment may take place at any time during a class period (i.e., the beginning, the end, or the middle of it). Each of these will be worth 3 points/percent. Altogether they are worth 15 percent. Therefore, ***the dates of these assignments will NOT be announced in advance***, and students who fail to be present on those days will miss the assignments and lose the corresponding grade points (and naturally at the same time the student will also be recorded as absent on that day). ***In other words, there is a real possibility that you can lose 3 points by simply missing the in-class assignment***). Once you miss an in-class assignment, you will not be able to make it up.

***NO MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE OFFERED EXCEPT IN DOCUMENTED CONFLICTS OR EMERGENCIES.*** Only proper documentation can be accepted as justification for make-up assignments, such as a doctor/coach/supervisor's note, a subpoena, etc. A simple self-narration of an emergency or a special occasion (e.g., sickness, car failure, misfortune, family/work emergency, celebration/festivity, vacation, etc.), whether in oral or written forms, cannot be accepted as proper documentation and thus will not justify a make-up assignment. The practical implication of this policy is: ***FOR THOSE STUDENTS WHO DO NOT ATTEND CLASS REGULARLY AND FULLY, THEIR GRADES WILL SUFFER SEVERELY.***

## Class Participation

Students are encouraged to participate in class. In addition to the in-class assignments, very often students are presented with discussion topics or other opportunities to contribute to the class, which is designed to help students connect what they have learned in the classroom and their lives as members of various communities. I value class discussion and interactive learning, and expect students to be actively involved in the learning process.

### Assignment 1: Current Family Event

This 3-page typed paper (double spaced, Times New Roman, 12 font, 1-inch margin) will analyze a current event of student's choosing between 2010 to present from a magazine. Student will discuss:

1. Introduction: What is your topic?
2. Which theoretical perspective "best" fits in this current family event/issue.
3. Who/what/where is affected by this current family event/issue?
4. Describe possible solutions for this current family event/issue.
5. Conclusion
6. References (separate page and excluded from the 3-pages)

### Assignment 2: Film Analysis

This 3-page typed paper (double spaced, Times New Roman, 12 font, 1-inch margin) will analyze a film of your choosing. The film needs to address about the family (you may browse ahead for other chapters in the textbook). For this assignment you will need to discuss the following components:

1. Provide a brief written summary/synopsis of the film
2. Which theoretical perspective "best" fits in this film?
3. Do you agree/disagree with "your" film. Apply as many theories to support your arguments.
4. Is "your" film portraying the US family or other country? How so?
5. Reference(s) (separate page and excluded from the 3-pages)

### Exams

There will be two (2) in-class exams. The exams will draw questions from lecture materials, readings, in-class assignments, and video clips played in class. **Midterm exam** will be given in the middle of the semester. The midterm exam includes at least 50 multiple-choice questions and some short-answer/essay questions. The midterm exam is worth 25 percent. **Final exam** will be given on **December 16: Friday at 12:30PM – 2:30PM, CCC 227**. The final exam includes at least 50 multiple-choice questions and some short-answer/essay questions. The short-answer/essay questions may be cumulative. The final exam is worth 30 percent. Take careful note of the exam dates, especially the date and time of the final exam. **NEITHER EARLIER NOR MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE OFFERED EXCEPT IN DOCUMENTED CONFLICTS OR EMERGENCIES.** (See "In-Class Assignments" above for more information about what qualifies as proper documentation.)

### **Use of Technology**

***Any form of audio or video recording in the classroom is strictly prohibited.*** If a student has a legitimate need to record the instructor's lecture in audio or video format, then the student shall obtain the pertinent accommodation authorization **AND** the instructor's permission beforehand.

### **Classroom Etiquette**

The classroom is a learning environment and community, and as such, it is expected that students do their best to minimize disruptions that can distract from their learning and that of their peers. Students are expected to come to class on time and not to leave except in the case of emergency

situations. *The instructor reserves the right to request a student to leave the classroom or have the security personnel remove the student from the classroom if the student behaves in a way that interferes with the academic or administrative functions of the class.*

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is central to the mission of this institution. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated and will receive disciplinary sanctions per the UWSP policies. The UWSP policies regarding student academic standards and disciplinary procedures can be found here:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf>. If I observe academic misconduct, or if suspicions of academic dishonesty are reported to me, I will request that the identified parties come to my office to discuss the situation, and then the procedures set out in UWS/UWSP Chapter 14 will be followed. Students can visit the UWSP Tutoring-Learning Center <http://www.uwsp.edu/tlc/Pages/writingReadingTutorials.aspx> and the Purdue Online Writing Lab for further resources: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>

### **Diversity and Inclusion**

UWSP supports an inclusive learning environment where diversity and individual differences are understood, respected, and appreciated. These differences include race/ethnicity, gender, class, political view, religion, color, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital or family status, as well as personality, learning styles, and life experiences. We expect that students, faculty, administrators, and staff will respect differences and demonstrate diligence in understanding how other peoples' perspectives, behaviors, experiences, and worldviews may be different from their own.

### **Disability Support Services**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires educational institutions to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. For more information about UWSP policies, go to: <http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/ADA/rightsADAPolicyinfo.pdf>. If you have a disability and require classroom and/or exam accommodations, please register with the Disability and Assistive Technology Center and then contact me at the beginning of the course. For more information, please visit the Disability and Assistive Technology Center, located on the 6th floor of the Learning Resource Center (the Library). You can also find more information here: <http://www4.uwsp.edu/special/disability>

## COURSE OUTLINE

DATES	TOPIC/ACTIVITY	Due dates
Week 1 September 7	Introduction Chapter 1 – Marriage and Family, An Introduction	
Week 2 September 12/14	Chapter 1: Marriage and Family, An Introduction Chapter 2: Singlehood, Hanging Out, Hooking Up, & Cohabitation	
Week 3 September 19/21	Chapter 3: Gender in relationships	
Week 4 September 26/29	Chapter 4: Love and Relationship Development	
Week 5 October 3/6	Chapter 5: Communication and Technology in Relationships	
Week 6 October 10/12	Chapter 6: Sexuality in relationships Chapter 7: GLBTQ Relationships	
Week 7 October 17/20	10/20: <b>Midterm Exam</b> (Chapters 1-7)	Assignment 1 October 17
Week 8 October 24/27	Chapter 8: Marriage Relationships	
Week 9 Oct 31/ Nov 2	Chapter 9: Money, Work, and Relationships	
Week 10 November 7/9	Chapter 10: Abuse in Relationships	
Week 11 November 14/16	Chapter 11: Deciding about Children	
Week 12 November 21	Chapter 12: Rearing Children	
Week 13 Nov 28/30	Chapter 13: Stress and Crisis in Relationships	
Week 14 December 5/7	Chapter 14: Divorce and Remarriage	Assignment 2 December 7
Week 15 December 12/14	Chapter 15: The Later Years	
<p><b><i>Final Exam</i></b> (Chapters: 8-15) <b><i>December 16: Friday at 12:30PM – 2:30PM, CCC 227</i></b></p> <p><i>Unforeseen circumstances may necessitate changes in the course requirements and/or schedules. Any changes will be announced in advance.</i></p>		