

Course Syllabus

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Textbook(s) *Marriages and Families: Changes, Choices, and Constraints*. 5th edition. Nijole Benokraitis. Pearson Prentice-Hall. 2008.

Course Description **Please make a hard copy of the entire syllabus and all activities immediately upon registering for the course.**

Description

This course focuses on all major theories and areas of research in the sociology of the family. It emphasizes the relationship between the family and its environment, including the law, the economy, education and religion. It will explore how the family has changed over time, considering sociological issues at every stage of life. Students will address how personal concerns are rooted in social structures and how these are utilized as a way of understanding how private lives are shaped by social forces.

Objectives Students should be able to:

for

Individual

Learning:

- | Define different parenting styles.
 - | Describe family structures and interaction patterns and how they influence growth and development of children.
 - | Explain developmental stages of parenting and the effect on growth and development of children and parents.
 - | Describe changes in parenting and family life during the 20th century.
 - | Describe the role of families in teaching and supporting learning.
 - | Identify characteristics of functional and dysfunctional families.
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Academic Dishonesty Academic dishonesty is an act by a student to use and/or represent the work of other individuals as that of his or her own. Academic dishonesty is unacceptable within the campus and in this course. Students committing acts of academic dishonesty, such as assignment of lowered or failing grades on assignments and/or for the entire course depending upon the instructor's view of the dishonest act. Consult the college catalog for more information on the institutional policy on academic dishonesty.

WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's words or ideas as your own. The following are *allexamples* of plagiarism:

1. Quoting or paraphrasing material without citing the source of that material. Sources can include Web sites, magazines, journals, TV and radio programs, movies and videos, photographs and drawings, charts and graphs; any information.
 2. Quoting a source without using quotation marks -- even if you do cite it.
 3. Buying a paper online or downloading a paper from a free site.
 4. Copying or using work done by another student.
 5. Citing sources you didn't use.
 6. Turning in the same paper for more than one class without the permission of both teachers
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Attendance The *WebCT* system maintains a log each time you enter your online course. Students are required to login at least once each week to meet assignment deadlines and to receive additional instructor announcements. Students who do not login and who do not contact the instructor either through email or by phone by the 10th class day may be administratively withdrawn from the class.

Late Work Due dates are assigned to each unit. No credit will be given for work submitted after the due date unless arranged with the instructor.

Safeguards Back up every piece of work you do on disk, and make a hard copy. If you experience computer difficulties, you are responsible for solving technical problems. Heavy Internet use occurs during the evening hours of 8-10 p.m. You might want to consider logging off during these hours.

Deadlines Odd things happen in cyberspace: emails get lost; servers disconnect temporarily; logins are impossible, etc. Do not wait until the last minute to submit your assignments. Allow time to meet deadlines. Reply and check for replies on every email sent and received. Be sure to check your logon, for important messages.

How to Proceed Through This Course This course is divided into several units. I suggest that you briefly visit all of the units before you begin the course. This "cognitive map" of the types of assignments required for each unit. The first thing you should do each week is to go to the course website if there are any announcements posted for the week. After reviewing the announcements, go to the Course Unit(s) for that week. It will be posted within the Course Unit with accompanying reading materials (textbook chapters). Occasionally, other materials may be used for clarification of concepts. You should proceed through the units in the order they are assigned. Many times, each chapter

toward the next group of concepts and applications. Deadlines are posted within the units and are posted on the course dates posted in the Assignment area and the course syllabus. Dates posted in the Dropbox area do not apply to student

Good Study Habits If you have never taken a distance education course before, an essential ingredient to passing an online course, is to have your own in a distance education course means that greater responsibility is placed on the student, for successful completion who is motivated, self-disciplined, and has good organizational skills tends to develop the study habits essential for non

While it is enjoyable to have the flexibility of scheduling your course study time, some students never develop a successful place the student in a position that may result in non-completion of deadlines or "cramming" for major assignments. Try when developing good study habits in an online course:

Set aside a certain day or time to work on your course. Try to do this early in the week, so you have time to email your exercises and projects you may have been assigned. Get into the habit of checking the Announcement section and Unit a mental picture of what you will need to do during the week.

Do not wait until the last day before a deadline, to study and complete assignments. Remember that even though you are given three hours, you will be using the three hours of "classroom" time to read and complete assignments. If you wait until the last when trying to complete the work in an insufficient amount of time. An online class does not mean less time; often it is more responsible for reading and completing the work on your own.

Netiquette Netiquette is using good manners in cyberspace. Since most of the communication over the net is by way of text, be sure not to be offensive to the receiver. Remember email is a document and can be read by someone other than the intended audience (e.g., attacks on a person) is also unacceptable, and will follow the same discipline actions found in the [student handbook](#), in addition at the instructor's discretion. Whether you are in a chat room, writing an email or posting to a discussion area, remember to give consideration of others. If you would like to read more about the subject of netiquette, use the links below.

<http://www.iwillfollow.com/email.htm>

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

Grading Policy	35%	Unit Activities
	30%	Research Exploration
	35%	Midterm Reflections (2)
	100%	

Written Work All of the assignments should be treated as an **essay** format. It is rare to submit an incorrect response when students have access to the library, the Internet, the textbook). Therefore, grading criteria must adapt to the method of course delivery. You should include detail, theoretical foundations, statement of research conducted, organization, and thoroughness of each answer. No question in less than one, highly-developed paragraph. Brevity is the worst enemy of online students....your written work is the reflection of the level of your understanding of the subject matter. Utilize the opportunity to convince me that you thoroughly understand the subject matter. **will provide you with a choice of one activity or another. Please note that you do not need to complete both assignments.**

Midterm Reflections Two Midterm Examinations will be administered during the semester. Both exams are open-book/essay format. You will take the exam as many times as you prefer, during the scheduled dates of the examination. Please review your syllabus for schedule that you print a hard copy of the exam for reference during the examination, in the event of a technical glitch. **No late exam. Do not wait until the last minute to complete or submit your examination.**

Extended Due Dates If you need additional time on any unit or assignment, you must advise me 24 hours prior to the posted final due date. I will request and the amount of additional time you are requesting. Place your request in the form of an email and I will respond to your gradebook 24 hours after submitting any assignment to make certain that you have received credit for each assignment. If an error has been posted, please notify me as soon as possible so that we can resolve the error. An occasional extended due date is allowed, but requests will be denied.

UNIT

ASSIGNMENTS

Please note that your Research Exploration is attached at the end of the course : begin working on that assignment anytime during the semester. It is due no later than should be submitted in the Unit #8 Dropbox with the same title.

Unit 1

Read Chapters 1- 3
Complete Unit Activity

Unit 2

Read Chapters 4-5
Complete Unit Activity

Unit 3

Read Chapters 10
Complete Unit Activity

Unit 4

Read Chapter 11
Complete Unit Activity

Unit 5

Midterm Reflection #1 (**Essay/Open-book**) Chapters 1-5,10-11

Due no later than 6/28! You may access the exam as many times as you prefer. It is accessible throughout the semester.

Unit 6

Read Chapter 12
Complete Unit Activity

Unit 7

Read Chapter 13-14
Complete Unit Activity

Unit 8

Read Chapters 17-18 **Complete** Unit Activity

Research Exploration due no later than July 17! Submit with Unit #8 Dropbox

Unit 9

Midterm Reflection #2 (**Open-Book/Essay**) Ch.12-14,17-18

Due no later than 7/22! You may access the exam as many times as you prefer. It is accessible throughout the semester!

**Sociology 215
Unit Titles and Due Dates**

Unit Title	Due Date
Unit #1	Due no later than 6/5
Unit #2	Due no later than 6/12
Unit #3	Due no later than 6/19
Unit #4	Due no later than 6/26
Unit #5 Midterm Reflection #1(Open-Book)	Midterm Reflection #1 Due by 6/28
Unit #6	Due no later than 7/3
Unit #7	Due no later than 7/10
Unit #8 AND Research Exploration due no later than 7/17!	Due no later than 7/17
Unit #9 Midterm Reflection #2 (Open-Book)	Midterm #2 Due by 7/22

Sociology 215

Research Exploration

Due no later than July 17!

Human Rights Watch

Human Rights Watch (<http://www.hrw.org/>) is an innovative organization designed to bring attention to and confront individuals and families regardless of their economic position in the global economy. You will need to begin your Exploration by visiting the website and exploring the many facets available. Information on families and individuals is provided by country:

- Africa
- Americas
- Asia
- Europe/Central Asia
- Middle East/Northern Africa
- United States

Global Issues include:

- Arms

- Business
- Childrens' Rights
- Counterterrorism
- Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- HIV/AIDS
- International Justice
- LGBT Rights
- Refugees
- Womens' Rights
- United Nations

You should select one country other than the Darfur region of Sudan. The second part of your only on the Darfur region of Sudan. Conduct similar research on that country and present in the same format for both countries. An informative video is available at:
<http://www.cnn.com/video/partners/clickability/index.html?url=/video/education/2006/06/20/>

Procedure:

- Where is the country located?
 - What is the ethnic composition?
 - What conflict is taking place in that region?
 - How and why did the conflict start?
 - What is the potential fate of the refugees?
 - How has the international community responded to that country's crisis?
 - What is the status of any recent peace initiatives?
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