SOCS 2301.22 | Marriage and the Family (Winter 2017) | Online

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Catalog Course Description: Sociological and theoretical analysis of the structures and functions of the family, the varied cultural patterns of the American family, and the relationships that exist among the individuals within the family, as well as the relationships that exist between the family and other institutions in society (3 Credit Hours).

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
1. Demonstrate understanding of the family and marriage as social institutions through theoretical perspectives.
2. Examine the diversity and complexity of contemporary families.
3. Explore changing cultural attitudes about marriage and alternatives to marriage.
4. Critically evaluate such issues as sexuality, partner choice, resolving marital issues, having and raising children, and combining work with family.
5. Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between theories and research methods used in the scientific study of marriage and family.
6. Describe some of the historical changes and current trends regarding the structural nature of the American family including the role of gender in relationships.
7. Identify causes and consequences of relevant problems within contemporary families.

Subject Matter
- Sociologically Defining American Family
- Theories of Love, and Dating
- [De] Institutionalization of Marriage
- Balancing Work and Family Life
- Familial Violence and Issues of Power
- Divorce, & Blended Families
- Social Construction of Gender and Sexuality
- Cohabitation and Alternatives to Marriage
- Diverse Family Structures
- Sociology of Parenting

Major Course Assignments & Examinations

All assignments are aligned to student learning outcomes and designed to give students an opportunity to integrate and synthesize their gained knowledge of Sociology using the following skills:
1. Critical Thinking Skills: The ability to think creatively, innovatively inquire, and analyze, evaluate and/or synthesize information.
2. Written and Visual Communication Skills: The ability to effectively develop, interpret and express ideas through written, oral and / or visual communication.
3. Empirical and Quantitative Skills: The ability to manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
4. Social Responsibility: The ability to demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and / or the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Assignments may include but are not limited to the following:
- Course Assessment
- Scholarly Journal Research
- Moderated Class Discussions
- Expository Essay/Analysis Paper
- Objective-Item Exams
- Marriage Interview


Institutional Policies: All institutional policies affecting this course can be found at the following link:
https://www.brookhavencollege.edu/syllabusaddendum

Financial Aid Statement: If you are receiving Financial Aid grants or loans, you must show participation in this class prior to the December 13, 2017 certification date. Do not drop or stop attending any class without consulting the Financial Aid office. Changes in your enrollment level and/or failing grades may have adverse consequences. Phone: 972-860-4110. Course Withdrawal: If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar’s Office by December 22, 2017 for Spring 2018. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an “F.” If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop/withdrawal deadline, you will receive a “W” (Withdraw) in each class dropped. For procedures see the Brookhaven College website and select A-Z for a listing.

NOTE: This is an abbreviated syllabus and is subject to change. A more detailed syllabus will be distributed to students by the instructor.