

Sociology 102

The Family

Section 2855 – 11:15-12:40 TTh – ARTB 317

Instructor: Stacey L. Allen

Office: ARTB 328 C

Office hours: Monday & Wednesday 12:40-2:00; Monday – Thursday 3:25-4:00

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Textbook resource site : <http://www.myfamilylab.com/>

Semester: Fall 2011

Course Description: This course covers the sociological and psychological components of family living practiced in the United States and in various cultures worldwide. Topics include singlehood, love, cohabitation, marriage, divorce, cultural and historical variation, communication, and conflict resolution.

Recommended Preparation: Sociology 101; eligibility for English 1A

Required Text:

Schwartz, Mary Ann and BarBara Marliene Scott. Marriages and Families; Diversity and Change. 6th edition. New Jersey: Prentice Hall. 2010.

Please note that an electronic version of the textbook is available at <http://www.coursesmart.com/marriages-and-families-diversity-and-change/mary-ann-schwartz-barbara-marliene-scott/dp/9780205685127> for a reduced price. Print versions can be purchased in the campus bookstore. In addition, the textbook is on reserve in the library.

Classroom policies:

- There will be no make-ups for missed assignments, quizzes, or exams.
- Excessive tardies and/or absences will not be tolerated. Students with excessive absences may be dropped from the class. Students who arrive late on the day of a quiz or exam may be disqualified from taking the quiz or exam. If you arrive late to class, please take the first available desk closest to the door. If you must leave class early, please notify the instructor before class begins and sit in a desk close to the door to minimize distractions.
- Baseball caps may not be worn during exams or quizzes.
- Dictionaries are not allowed during exams or quizzes.
- Please refrain from interrupting or talking during lectures. You will be asked to leave if you are disruptive during class.
- Respect your fellow classmates. We will discuss controversial issues and topics often in class, please be aware that not everyone will share your point of view. Please show respect to those whose opinions may differ from yours.
- All electronic equipment (i.e. cell phones, MP3 players, etc.) must be turned off during class. You will be asked to leave class if electronic equipment disrupts a lecture or class discussion.
- Cheating of any kind, including plagiarism will **not** be tolerated!

Students with disabilities: El Camino College is committed to providing educational accommodations for students with disabilities upon the timely request by the student to the instructor. A student with a disability, who would like to request an academic accommodation, is responsible for identifying herself/himself to the instructor and to the Special Resources Center. To make arrangements for academic accommodations, contact the Special Resources Center.

Correspondence with instructor: Please include the course section number in the subject line when corresponding via email. When leaving a voicemail please include your name, telephone number and your class section number. Discussing student grades is **strongly** encouraged during office hours; however, student grades will **not** be discussed via email. It is **strongly** encouraged that students check their MyECC email regularly as well as the My Team Site for this particular class.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Define relevant concepts in marriage and family studies.
2. Evaluate how family structure and functions have changed over time and how they differ among various cultures.
3. Identify and describe the major sociological perspectives and research methods as they apply to the study of marriages and families.
4. Explain the historical changes experienced by the American family from the colonial period to present, with special emphasis on various racial, ethnic, and immigrant groups.
5. Compare and contrast traditional and contemporary gender roles.
6. Describe the interrelationship between friendship, love, and commitment.
7. Discuss effective communication techniques for resolving conflict.
8. Compare and contrast various theoretical explanations of dating and mate selection.
9. Identify and describe developmental tasks and changes related to sexuality over the life course.
10. Describe the transition to parenthood for contemporary American families.
11. Compare and contrast major theoretical perspectives on parenting styles and childhood socialization.
12. Analyze the traditional stages of the family life cycle and the relevance of this model to contemporary American families.
13. Explain how changes in work and the economy impact the family.
14. Identify and describe the social and psychological factors associated with family violence and sexual abuse.
15. Assess the social forces thought to impact the rate of marital separation and divorce in the United States.
16. Evaluate the strengths and challenges of single parent families, remarriages, and blended families.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Using secondary source research, students will objectively analyze the effects that agents of socialization have on gender socialization in a written assignment.
2. Given a family scenario, students will objectively analyze parenting styles and assess techniques for improving parenting strategies in a written assignment.

Assignments and Evaluation

Participation/attendance: Participation and attendance are vital to this course. You will be expected to participate in class discussions as well as small group discussions and activities.

20 points possible

Assignments: The course will include in-class and out-of-class assignments. College level writing is expected for all assignments. All out-of-class assignments must be typed in assigned format. El Camino College provides free writing and Internet assistance at the Writing Center located in Humanities 122. It is strongly advised that students take advantage of this service.

100 points possible altogether

Quizzes: Four true/false quizzes will be administered during the semester. Only your top 3 quiz scores will count towards your final grade in the class. Students are required to bring a scantron (Form 882-E) and a sharpened no. 2 pencil to each quiz. Quiz dates will be announced on a weekly basis.

10 points possible for each quiz

Exams: Four exams will be administered during the semester, each consisting of 50 multiple choice questions. Only your top 3 scores will count towards your final grade in the class. Students are required to bring a scantron (Form 882 E) and a sharpened no. 2 pencil to each exam.

50 points possible for each exam

Exam Grading Scale:

50 – 45 = A
44 – 40 = B
39 – 35 = C
34 – 30 = D
29 - 0 = F

Overall Point Totals:

Participation/attendance	20 points
Assignments	100 points
Quizzes	30 points
Exams	<u>150 points</u>

TOTAL 300 points

Overall Grading Scale:

300-270 = A	100-90%	Excellent
269-240 = B	89-80%	Good
239-210 = C	79-70%	Satisfactory
209-180 = D	69-60%	Passing
179 – 0 = F	50 -0%	Failing

Extra Credit: On occasion, extra credit assignments will be available. Please note that the maximum number of extra credit points earned during the semester may not exceed 10.

Schedule

(Subject to change)

Please read the assigned chapter prior to the first class session of each week.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Exam/Assignments</u>
1	8/29-9/1	Welcome to the Fall Semester!	Visit My Team Site
	9/5	Labor Day Holiday	Campus Closed ☺
2	9/6-9/8	Ch. 1 – Families over Time	
	9/9		Last day to add classes
3	9/12-9/15	Ch. 1 – Families over Time Ch. 2 – Studying/Explaining Families	
4	9/19-9/22	Ch. 2 – Studying/Explaining Families Ch. 3 – Gender	
5	9/26-9/29	Ch. 3 – Gender	Gender Assignment due
6	10/3-10/6	Ch. 4 – Love	Exam #1 Ch. 1-3
7	10/10-10/13	Ch. 4 – Love Ch. 6 – Sexuality	
8	10/17-10/20	Ch. 6 – Sexuality Ch. 8 – Marriage	
9	10/24-10/27	Ch. 9 – Parenting – pages 249-254; 267-286	Exam #2 Ch. 4, 6, 8
10	10/31-11/3	Ch. 9 – Parenting – pages 249-254; 267-286	Parenting Assignment due
11	11/7-11/10	Ch. 10 – Work	
12	11/14-11/17	Ch. 11 – Abuse and Violence	
	11/18		Last day to drop with a “W”
13	11/21-11/23	Ch. 11 – Abuse and Violence	
	11/24-11/25	Thanksgiving Holiday	Campus Closed
14	11/28-12/1	Ch. 12 – Divorce	Exam #3 Ch 9-11
15	12/5-12/8	Ch. 12 – Divorce	
16	12/12-12/15	Ch. 13 – Remarriage	Exam #4 Ch. 12 & 13

Student Record

Keep track of your scores throughout the semester.

<u>Quizzes</u>	<u>score</u>	<u>Exams</u>	<u>score</u>
Quiz #1		Exam #1	
Quiz #2		Exam #2	
Quiz #3		Exam #3	
Quiz #4		Exam #4	
Add scores		Add scores	
Subtract lowest score		Subtract lowest score	
Quiz Total (30)		Exam Total (150)	
<u>Assignments</u>		<u>Overall Total</u>	
Gender assignment (20)		(Add Total from each category)	
Parenting assignment (50)		Assignment total	
VDQ #1 (10)		Quiz total	
VDQ #2 (10)		Exam total	
VDQ #3 (10)		Participation & Attendance (20)	
Assignment Total (100)		Extra credit	
		Total points earned (300)	
		Grade	

To calculate your grade at any time during the semester add all of your scores and divide by the total possible points at that particular time. Keep in mind that your lowest quiz and exam score will be dropped.

It is **strongly** recommended that you keep track of your grades throughout the semester!