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SOCI 332.01: Sociology of the Family

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Sociology of the Family
SOCI 332
Spring, 2016

Course Information

- Number: SOCI 332
- Title: Sociology of the Family
- Credits: 3
- Course offered: Spring semester

Personal information

- Instructor: John Domitrovich
- Office: Room 317 in Sociology Department, located in the Social Sciences building
- Telephone: (251-2337 home)
- Office hours: (Room 317) Sociology Department; Monday and Friday 1pm -3pm
- Email: john_domitrovich@skc.edu

Required materials

Required text is **The Family by Philip N. Cohen**; 1st edition (2015); W.W. Norton & Company. Reading material may be given out to students, and additional readings will be placed on Moodle. A number of videos will be viewed by students throughout the quarter, and students will be held responsible for all video content.

Course description

Sociology of the family consists of a historical, cross-cultural, and analytical study of the family. It includes an emphasis on ideology, social structures, and agency affecting family composition and roles.

Course objectives

a. Knowledge objectives:

- The student will demonstrate various concepts related to the use of some of the scientific techniques used in the study of families.
- The student to demonstrate an understanding of the evolutionary development of the American family from the colonial period to the modern period.
- The student to demonstrate the knowledge of the cross-cultural relationships seen between sex and family structure, kinship determination, political and religious participation, and child preference.
- Students to demonstrate knowledge of the associations between family structure, class position, parental values, and religious ideology and affiliation.
- Students to understand the relationships between race, ethnicity, and family structure, poverty, marriage and education.

b. Value objectives:

-Student will assess their own gender role schemas, and sexist attitudes, and they will develop an appreciation for and an awareness of the cultural change process with respect to American gender roles.

c. Cultural objectives

-Student to understand the roles and importance of the third gender (two spirit) in Native American society.

d. Grading objectives:

-there will be five exams, each worth 50 points

All exams must be taken in order to receive a grade

-there will be roughly one assignment per week, with each assignment worth 20 points. (approximately 200 points), and all assignments will be due one week after the assignment is given in class

-all late assignments will receive a maximum grade of "C"

-no assignments will be accepted after one week from the date that the assignment is due

-all assignments must be typed, in size 12 font, minimally 1 page per assignment (maximum of two pages), and double spaced.

There will be extra credit possibilities offered throughout the semester

-If an exam is not taken by a student and the student does not have an acceptable excuse (entailing a medical note from the doctor in some cases) the student must complete the exam the following week, and the highest possible grade that the student will receive is a grade of "C" (70%). If the exam isn't taken the following week, the student will receive a zero for the exam.

-If an exam is missed, **it is up to the student to arrange for a makeup exam** by contacting the preceptor or the instructor.

Attendance is considered essential in order to do well in this course. Attendance will be worth 100 points and the student may miss five classes without being penalized. For every additional class missed, the student will lose 10 points in the final tally.

Grades will be based on the following points:

495-550=A (.90)

440-494=B (.80)

385-439=C (.70)

330-384=D (.60)

Less than 330=F

Reasonable accommodations

Reasonable accommodations are provided to students with diagnosed disabilities through disability services on campus. It is imperative that a student with a disability inform the instructor of this disability at the beginning of the quarter, in order for the instructor to make a reasonable accommodation, so that the student will be able to maximize their potential within the academic setting.

Please keep all copies of returned and graded assignments and extra credit papers until the end of the semester (for your own protection)

Tentative Class Schedule

- Week one:
 - (1/25-1/29) Syllabus review What is a family? The family as a system Some basic sociological definitions
 - Read chapters 1 (“A Sociology of the Family”) and 2 (“The Family in History”) in text
- Week two:
 - (2/1-2/5) The evolution of the American family
 - Read chapter 3 (“Race, Ethnicity and Immigration”) in text
- Week three
 - (2/8-2/12) Cross-cultural patterns with respect to sex and kinship determination, residence pattern, child preference, political and religious participation
 - Read chapter 4 (“Families and Social Class”) in text
- Week four
 - (2/15-2/19) **No Class on Monday**
 - Race, ethnicity and immigration
 - Read chapter 5 (“Gender”) in text
- Week five
 - (2/22-2/26) **Quiz #1 on Monday, the 22nd**
 - Discussion of family and social class relationships
 - Read chapter 6 (“Sexuality”) in text
- Week six
 - (2/29-3/4) Continue on class and family variables
 - **Outside presentation on poverty/ homelessness and the family**
 - Read chapter 7 (“Love and Romantic Relationships”) in text
- Week seven
 - (3/7-3/11) Socialization, gender and gendered activities
 - **Outside presenter on being the single-parent head of a family**
 - Read chapter 8 (“Marriage and Cohabitation”) in text

- Week eight
 - (3/14-3/18) Sexuality and other social variables
 - **Quiz #2 on Monday the 14th**
 - Read chapter 9 (“Families and Children”)
 - **Panel on variation in sexual orientations**
- Week nine
 - (3/21-3/25) Attachment and bonding and adult attachment styles
 - Read chapter 10 (“Divorce, Remarriage and Blended Families”)
- Week ten
 - (3/28-4/1) **Quiz #3 Monday, the 28th**
 - Marriage and Cohabitation
 - Read chapter 11 (“Work and Families”)
- Week eleven
 - (4/4-4/8) **NO classes this week (Spring Break)**
- Week twelve
 - (4/11-4/15) Discussion on Families and Children
 - **Outside presentation on working with families in the CPS system**
- Week thirteen
 - (4/18-4/22) Divorce, remarriage and blended families
 - **Quiz #4 on Monday, the 18th**
 - **Outside presentation on domestic violence**
 - Read chapter 12 (“Family Violence and Abuse”) in text
- Week fourteen
 - (4/25-4/29) Discussion of work and families
 - **Outside presentation on adult protective services**
 - Read chapter 13 (“The Future of the Family”) in text
- Week fifteen
 - (5/2-5/6) Complete unfinished business
 - **Quiz #5, on Monday the 2nd**
- Week sixteen
 - (5/9-5/13) **No Final Exam**