

Sociology of Marriage and the Family
SOCI/WMNS 210
Department of Sociology



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Office location: Annex 111A
Office hours: Wednesdays, 2:30-4:00
Tuesdays and Fridays, 8:30-10:00

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Calendar Description

This course analyzes the institution of the family from a sociological perspective. Attention is given to macro and micro levels of analysis. Statistical profiles of family patterns are employed to illuminate changes in family structures over the past century. Topics include marriage, parenting, family violence, divorce, and family policy. The significance of gender in family life is given sustained attention throughout the course.

Course Readings

Textbook: McDaniel, Susan and Lorne Tepperman. 2011. *Close Relations: An Introduction to the Sociology of Families*, 4th ed. Toronto: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Library Course-pack: Required readings are available through the StFX library. You received this syllabus by email: it includes links to the required readings. These links work on "campus". Accessing the readings off-campus will be explained in class.

Optional reference book: Johnson, William A., Richard Retting, Gregory Scott and Stephan Garrison. 2010. *The Sociology Student Writer's Manual*. 6th ed. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Evaluation

October exam	10%	October 17
Book review	15%	November 16, beginning of class
December exam	20%	
Library research paper	25%	February 15 – beginning of class
April examination	30%	

Book Club Schedule

Monday, Nov 21	<i>Beyond Expectations</i>
Wednesday, Nov 23	<i>Baking as Biography</i>
Monday, Nov 28	<i>Childhood Under Siege</i>
Wednesday, Nov 30	<i>When Couples Become Parents</i>

Exams

The exams include multiple choice, short answer and essay questions.

Book review and term paper

Instructions for the book review and term paper will be provided in separate handouts. They will be sent to you by email and introduced in class.

Class absences and participation

You are encouraged to attend and participate in class. Should you miss class you are responsible to find out what was missed (e.g., lectures, announcements, videos, presentations). If you wish to notify me of a class absence, please do so through the Dean's Office or in person (please do not send an email about a missed class).

Information Technology

Cell phones: Please turn cell phones off and put them away during class. Noncompliance will be reported to the Dean.

Laptops: No laptops allowed. If you wish to use a laptop for note taking during class, please make an appointment to discuss your request.

Fall term Schedule of Reading (Winter term schedule will be emailed in December).

M Sept 12	McDaniel and Tepperman, Chapter 1
W Sept 14	McDaniel and Tepperman, Chapter 2
M Sept 19	McDaniel and Tepperman, Chapter 3 Zaidi and Shuraydi
W Sept 21	Brym and Lenton
M Sept 26	Bogle
W Sept 28	McDaniel and Tepperman, Chapter 4; Cherlin; The Economist
W Oct 3	Le Bourdais and Lapierre-Adamcyk.
W Oct 5	Green
W Oct 12	McDaniel and Tepperman, Chapter 5
M Oct 17	Midterm -----
W Oct 19	McDaniel and Tepperman, Chapter 6
M Oct 24	Knaak; Wolf
W Oct 26	Quirke
M Oct 31	Ranson
W Nov 2	Shaw
M Nov 7	Doucet
W Nov 9	Malacrida
M Nov 14	Blackford

Library links for fall term required readings

Zaidi, Arshia and Muhammad Shuraydi. 2002. "Perceptions of arranged marriage by young Pakistani Muslim women living in a Western society. *Journal of Comparative Family Studies* 33(4):399-436.

Brym, Robert and Rhonda Lenton. 2010. Love On-Line

Bogle, Kathleen A. 2007. "The shift from dating to hooking up in college: What Scholars have missed." *Sociology Compass* 1(2):775-788.

Cherlin, Andrew J. 2004. "The deinstitutionalization of American Marriage." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 66: 848-861.

The Economist. 2011. "The flight from marriage: Asians are marrying later, and less, than in the past." *The Economist* August 20, 2011.

Le Bourdais, Céline and Évelyne Lapierre-Adamcyk. 2004. "Changes in conjugal life in Canada: Is cohabitation progressively replacing marriage." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 66(4): 929-942.

Green, Adam Isaiah. 2010. "Queer Union: Same-sex spouses marrying tradition and innovation." *Canadian Journal of Sociology* 35(3): 399-436.

Knaak, Stephanie. 2005. "Breast-feeding, Bottle-feeding, and Dr. Spock: The Shifting Context of Choice." *Canadian Review of Sociology* 42 (2): 197-216.

Wolf, Joan. B. 2011. "On breastfeeding, shame and whether we've come to expect too much from mother" *Maclean's Magazine*, January 17, 2011.

Quirke, Linda. 2006. "'Keeping young minds sharp": Children's cognitive stimulation and the rise of parenting magazines, 1959-2003." *Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology* 43(4): 387-406.

Ranson, Gillian 1998. "Education, work and family-decision making: Finding the right time to have a baby." *Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology* 35(4):517-33.

Shaw, Susan M. 2008. Family leisure and changing ideologies of parenthood. *Sociology Compass* 2(2): 688-703.

Doucet, Andrea. 2009. Gender equality and gender differences: parenting, habitus, and embodiment. *Canadian Review of Sociology* 46(2)103-121.

Malacrida, Claudia. 2001. "Motherhood, resistance, and attention deficit disorder: Strategies and limits." *Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology* 38(2): 141-165.

Blackford, Karen. 2010. "A child's growing up with a parent who has multiple sclerosis: Theories and experiences. *Disability and Society* 14(5): 673-685.