

**University of Manitoba**

**Department of Sociology**

**Course Outline**

**77:246 Sociology of the Family**

**Fall 2001**

**Section L02**

**Instructor:** Dr. Jane Ursel

**Office:** 108 Isbister Bldg.

**Telephone:** 474-8979

**Class Time:** Monday and Wednesday 2:30 - 3:45PM

**Class Room:** 214 Tier Building

**Office Hours:** Monday and Wednesday 1:30 - 2:30 (or by appointment)

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**Required Readings:** CLOSE RELATIONS: An Introduction to the Sociology of Families by Susan A. McDaniel and Lorne Tepperman, Prentice Hall Allyn and Bacon of Canada, Scarborough

FAMILIES: Changing Trends in Canada - Maureen Baker (ed), McGraw-Hill Ryerson, Toronto

**Other Readings:** A book review assignment will require students to select from a prepared list a book

on the family to review.

**Course Objectives:** The purpose of this course is to introduce students to a Sociological approach to the study of the family. The family will be analysed as an institution that both responds to and impacts on our social environment. In particular, we will examine the impact of gender roles on the structure of the family, the division of labour within the family, child rearing and the balancing of work and family life. Guest lectures will be arranged to have researchers and practitioners who study/work with families speak about the nature of their work. Overall the objective of this course is to help students develop an analytic approach to the family.

**Course Organization:** The course is divided into four sections: Section I considers different theoretical and conceptual approaches to the family. Section II focuses on Parenting and the contemporary challenge of balancing work and family life. Section III will address the issues of stress, violence and divorce. Finally, Section IV will explore the issues of new families and the future of the family. Students will be evaluated through in class tests, a book review outline, and final book review.

**Evaluation:** Oct. 3 Test 1 20%

Oct. 31 Book Review Outline 10%

Nov. 7 Test 2 25%

Nov. 14 Book Review 25%

Dec. 5 Test 3 20%

**Note:** November 14, 2001 is the last date for voluntary withdrawal without academic penalty from first term half courses. You will have returned 55% of your grades before that date.

**Policy on Grades and Tests:**

The following letter/percentage/GPA/descriptive scale will be used:

A+ 90 - 100% 4.5 Exceptional

A 80 - 89% 4 Excellent

B+ 76 - 79% 3.5 Very Good

B 70 - 75% 3 Good

C+ 66 - 69% 2.5 Satisfactory

C 60 - 65% 2 Adequate

D 50 - 59% 1 Marginal

F 49% or less 0 Failure

**Note:** Senate Policy #1307 requires "a post-examination review of final grades in multi-sectioned courses that will ensure an equitable correspondence between grades and level of performance in all sections." Sociology 77:246 is a multi-sectioned course, and accordingly the final grade distribution in this course may be raised or lowered to achieve such equity, and therefore your final grade may be changed.

Only documented reasons will be accepted for missing a test or for late submissions of written assignments. It is the student's responsibility to inform me as soon as possible of requests for deferrals for reasons of health, compassion or disability. Ordinarily tests must be made up within one week. With prior approval from instructor a late submission will be marked without penalty. Without prior approval a late submission will be docked one grade point per day overdue. A missed test, in which no makeup test has been arranged, will result in no grade for the missing test and/or assignment.

The University acknowledges the right of all students to observe Holy Days of their faith which fall within the academic year. I should be notified ahead of your intended absence.

If you have special learning needs (if you require extra time to write an exam, aids or other supports) please introduce yourself to me at the beginning of the term and suitable testing arrangements will be made.

## **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence, with grave consequences. You should acquaint yourself with the University of Manitoba's academic regulations and policy, especially its policies on plagiarism, cheating and exam impersonation found in the University General Calendar.

## **SCHEDULE**

### **PART I CONCEPTUALIZING FAMILY**

Sept 10 Readings: Chap. 1 Close Relations; Chap. 1 Baker (optional)

Sept 12 Chap. 2 Baker - 'Theoretical Frameworks'

Sept 17 Readings: Chapter 3 Baker - 'Biases in Family Literature'

Sept 19 Chapter 6 Baker - 'Ethnic Families'

Sept 24 Readings: Assigned reading- The Legacy of Residential Schools

Sept 26 Chap. 2 Close Relations - 'How Families Begin'

Oct 1 Readings: Chap. 3 Close Relations - 'Marriage and Well-Being'

**Oct 3 Test 1 20%**

Oct. 8 Thanksgiving

**PART II FAMILY; PARENTING & WORK**

Oct 10 Readings: Chap. 7 Baker - 'Intimacy and Commitment'

Oct 15 Readings Chap. 4 Close Relations - 'Entering Parenthood'

Oct 17 Readings: Chap. 5 Close Relations - 'Parenting'

Oct 22 Readings: Chap. 8 Baker - 'Child Rearing & Socialization'

Oct 24 Readings: Chap. 9 Baker - 'Middle Age & Elderly'

Oct 29 Readings: Chap. 6 Close Relations - 'Domestic Division of Labour'

Chap. 5 Baker (Optional)- 'Paid and Unpaid Work'

Oct 31 Readings: Chap 7 Close Relations - 'Work and Family Life'

Nov 5 Readings: Chap. 12 Baker - 'The State and Family Policies'

**Nov. 7 Test 2 25%**

Nov 12 Remembrance Day

## **PART III STRESS, VIOLENCE & DIVORCE**

Nov 14 Readings: Chap. 8 Close Relations - 'Stress and Violence'

Nov 18 Readings: Chap. 11 Baker - 'Patterns of Family Violence'

Nov. 21 Readings: Chap. 9 Close Relations - Divorce

Chap 10 Baker - Divorce and Remarriage (Optional)

## **PART IV NEW FAMILIES AND FUTURE FAMILIES**

Nov 26 Readings: Chap. 10 Close Relations - 'Fresh Starts'

Nov. 28 Readings: Chap. 11 Close Relations - 'A Glimpse into the Future'

Dec 3 Readings: Chap. 13 Baker - 'The Future of the Family'

**Dec 5 Test 3 20%**