

The University of Manitoba
Faculty of Arts
Department of Sociology
2003-2004R

SOCIOLOGY 077.247
COURTSHIP AND MARRIAGE

Section L02 (Slot9) 11:30am to 12:45pm in 403 Tier

SPRING 2004

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Office hours by appointment
3 credit hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar description of the course: The main purpose of the course is to provide basic sociological information on choice of partners, marital interaction, adjustment, changing roles of wives and husbands, with special emphasis on division of labour, power relations and sexual adjustment in contemporary Western marriages and across cultures.

REQUIRED BOOK

Riedman, Agnes, Mary Ann Lamana, and Adie Nelson, *Marriages and Families - Canadian Edition. 2002-3*

METHOD OF EVALUATION

The procedures which will be used to evaluate the student's performance are four tests with the following weights: first test=20%, second test=30%, third test=30% and the last test=20%. Each test will be held in class. *The tests are not cumulative.* There will be a choice of all multiple-choice, all essay and a combination of multiple-choice and essay questions tests. The tests will be based on both readings and lectures. The *tentative* dates are specified in the course outline

IMPORTANT POINTS

1. Students should acquaint themselves with the University Policy on "Plagiarism and Cheating" and "Examinations: Personations." For details see the section on "General Academic Regulations and Policy," Section 4.2.8 and in section 7.1 in the University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar, 2003-2004. In addition to the

University of Manitoba policies, the Faculty of Arts stipulates Penalties for Plagiarism as follows:

The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism in a written assignment, test, or examination is F on the paper and F for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism such as the purchase of an essay or cheating on a test or examination, the penalty can also include suspension for a period up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty. The Faculty also reserves the right to submit the student work that is suspected of being plagiarised to Internet sited designated to detect plagiarism.

- 2. Senate Policy #1307 requires a “a post-examination review of final grades in multi-sectioned courses that will ensure an equitable correspondence between grades and level of performances in all sections.” Accordingly, the final grade distribution in this course may be raised or lowered to achieve this equity and, therefore, your final grade may be changed.**
- 3. Disruptions due to talking or early departures from the class room are inappropriate as they are inconsiderate and disrespectful of the needs and the rights of others in the class. Repeated talking loud etc., may result in debarment from the course. On this matter, please see Section 2 (Inappropriate and Disruptive Student Behaviour) on page 37 in the University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar, 2003-2004.**
- 4. Although lectures are designed to touch upon the issues raised in the text, they do not repeat point by point what is in the text. If you have difficulty in understanding the textual material, please see me so that I can provide you some assistance in this respect.**
- 5. I am usually available in my office (except when I am in class) during the week. However, if you need to discuss course materials, please make an appointment.**
- 6. Make-Up Tests. No make-up test unless for medical reasons supported by a doctor's certificate.**
- 7. The grades will not be marked on a curve. Instead, the following distribution will apply to all four tests :% 0-39 F; 40-49 D; 50-59 C; 60-69 C+; 70-74 B; 75-79 B+; 80-89 A; 90+ A+.**
- 8. The last date for withdrawal without academic penalty is March 17, 2004.**

COURSE OUTLINE

I. *INTRODUCTORY LECTURES: CONCEPTS AND PERSPECTIVES*

1. Sociological study of marriage and other forms of intimate relationships

- 1a. Social and demographic contexts of marriage
- 1b. Changing definitions of marriage
- 1c. Choices in relationships
- 1d. Demographic aspects of marriage and other forms of relationships in Canada
- 1e. Values governing marriage: conflict/ambiguity
 - Religious and traditional views *vs* individualism, egalitarianism, etc.

NO READINGS: LECTURES ONLY

II. *SELECTION OF INTIMATE PARTNERS*

2. Perspectives on the Selection of Partners

- 2a. Arranged vs. love-marriages: Social Structural Implications
William J. Goode's hypothesis.
- 2b. The place of romantic love and other considerations
 - The nature of love: some views
 - The function of romantic love: views of Sydney Greenfield
 - Elements of romantic love

READINGS: Chapter 4

First Test - Feb 5th

3. Formation of Intimate Relationships

- 3a. Theories on the selection of partners
- 3b. Courtship in a Free-Choice Society
 - Historical account of dating
 - Traditional and contemporary patterns of dating: a feminist critique of dating practices.
- 3c. Violence in Dating Relations

READINGS: Chapter 7

- 4. Sexuality in Intimate Relationships**
 - 4a. Premarital Sexuality**
Value-system in premarital sex.
Ira Reiss' and Morton Hunt's researches
Canadian data on premarital sex
 - 4b. Canadian Sexual Attitudes and Behaviour**

READINGS: Chapter 5

III. ASPECTS OF MARRIAGE AND OTHER FORMS OF RELATIONSHIPS

- 5. Profiles of Marital and other forms of Relationships**
 - 5a. Biological and sociological determinants of marital relationships**
 - 5b. Jessie Bernard - His & Her Marriage**
 - 5c. Cuber & Haroff - Five Relationships**
 - 5d. Childfree Marriages**
 - 5e. Common Law Unions**

READINGS: Chapter 8

Second Test – March 9th

- 6. Communication, Conflict-Management, and Violence in Relationships**
 - 6.1. Communication and Conflict in marital life**
 - 6.2. Violence in the Family: a perspective**
 - Violence against spouses**
 - Violence against children**
 - Other forms of violence**
 - 6.3. Summary and conclusions**

READINGS: Chapter 10

7. Power, Adjustment, Quality in Relationships

7a. Power and Authority

7b. Marital Quality and Satisfaction

READINGS: Chapter 9

Third Test – March 25th

IV. DIVORCE AND RE-MARRIAGE

8. Some Perspectives on Divorce

8a. Divorce from a religious and historical perspective

8b. Sociological Perspectives on Divorce

8c. Canadian Divorce Law

8d. Divorce Rate in Canada

9. Factors in Divorce

9a. Sociological

9b. Psychological

9c. Humanistic

10. Remarriage

READINGS: Chapters 14 and 15

11. Concluding lecture

Last Test – April 8th