

The University of Manitoba Faculty of Arts
Department of Sociology
2005-2006R

SOCIOLOGY 077.246
THE FAMILY

Section L02 (Slot5) 10:00 am to 11:15pm in 403 Tier

FALL 2005

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Calendar description of the course: A sociological analysis of various family arrangements and practices in contemporary societies and their historical roots. An examination of the relationships between family and other institutions in the context of widespread social changes.

Within this framework, the course is designed to examine (a) the family as a social organization in historical and cross-cultural perspectives and (b) Canadian families from historical, demographic and legal and social policy perspectives. The main purpose of the course is to enable students to appreciate the pluralistic nature of family life in Canada.

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: Personation.” For details see page 26 and page 27, in the University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar, 2005-2006. 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 sites 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 36 in the *University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar, 2005-2006*

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.

The topics listed in the course outline are about the same as the last term, the lectures will be not be same since they will be updated based on new information. If you are planning on not attending the lectures and depend on some one’s last term’s lecture or audio tapes, you are taking chances since those lecture notes may be outdated. This is especially critical for those who choose multiple-choice questions.

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; 90-100 A+.

8. The last date for withdrawal without academic penalty is November 16, 2005.

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Sociological Study of Family Life

- 1.1 Current debates on what the family was, is and should be. Conservative, liberal and feminist perspectives.**
- 1.2 Understanding Marriages and Families: assumptions, realities, definitions.**
- 1.3 Origins of the family -an historical account of the study of family**
- 1.4 Families in history across cultures.**
- 1.5 Variations across cultures in Kinship and Marriage Patterns.**

Readings: Chapter 1.

2. Evolution of Family Patterns in Canada.

- 2.1 Family life among the indigenous Groups: the case of Inuit.**
- 2.2 Family among the founding groups--Anglophone and Francophone duality**
- 2.3 Family among the late-comers--Ethnic variation: Pluralism in family life**
- 2.4 Pluralism and Convergence among Canadian families**

No Readings for this section:
Lectures Only

First Test - Sept 29th

3. Family Patterns in Canada: Demographic Trends

- 3.1. Major Types of Families in Canada**
- 3.2 Fertility Behaviour**
- 3.3 Canadian family: transition or decline?**

No Readings for this section: Lectures Only

4. Family, Gender, and Socialization

- 4.1 Cultural Approaches to Gender Identity**
- 4.2 Socialization – issues in raising children**
- 4.3 Gender and Socialization**

Readings: Chapter 3

5. Family and Issues of Parenthood

- 5.1 Old and new images of parenthood**
- 5.2 Parenthood across social class and ethnicity**
- 5.3 Decline of Parenthood? -- Involuntary and Voluntary Childless Marriages**
- 5.4 Issues of Abortion and Adoption**

Readings: Chapters 11 and 12

Second Test – October 27th .

6. Family and the Division of Labour

- 6.1. History of productive and reproductive work**
- 6.2. Dual-Earner Families in Canada**
- 6.3. Division of domestic labour**

Readings: Chapter13

7. Families Under Stress

- 7.1. Family Stressors**
- 7.2. Theories of Family Crisis**
- 7.3. Managing and Resolving Family crisis**

Readings: Chapter 16

8. Abuse and Violence in Families
 - 8.1. Violence in the Family: a perspective
 - 8.2. Violence against spouses
 - 8.3. Violence against children
 - 8.4. Other forms of family violence
 - 8.5. Summary and conclusions

Readings: Chapter 10

Third Test – November 22nd

9. Theoretical Perspectives on Changing Family Relations
 - 9.1. Standard Sociological Theories
 - 9.2. Feminist Approaches

Reading: Chapter 2

10. Family: future directions

No Readings for this section: Lectures Only

Last Test – December 6th