

University of Manitoba - Department of Sociology

SOC 2460 Sociology of the Family

Section A01, Slot 3, 3 credit hours

Sept. – Dec. 2012

Instructor: Dr. Jane Ursel
Office: 108 Isbister Bldg.
Telephone: 474-8979
Email: jursel@cc.umanitoba.ca

Class Time: 10:30am – 11:20 am Monday, Wednesday & Friday
Class Room: Rm. 215 tier Bldg.
Office Hours: Noon – 3:00pm Monday & Wednesday (**or by appointment**)

Required Readings: Changing Families: Relationships in Context - Anne-Marie Ambert
Pearson Canada Inc., Toronto, Ontario 2012 (Second Edition)

Other Readings: Your major written assignment is a book review. This will require students to select one book, from a prepared list of books, fictional and non-fictional. These books will deal with different aspects of family life. The list of books and a guideline for doing the book review will be provided in September. This assignment is divided into two components an outline of the book review worth 10% is due October 15th and the full book review is due November 14th

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 1 considers different methodological & conceptual approaches to the family including Macro, (global) changes in family and reproduction. Section 2 considers the family as a public institution and in relation to other public institutions. Section 3 considers the internal dynamics of families in partnering and parenting. Section 4 considers major challenges to the family, divorce, remarriage, family violence and child abuse & elder abuse.

Evaluation:

.....	October 5	Test 1	20%
	October 15	Book Review Outline	10%
	Nov. 2	Test 2	25%
	Nov. 14	Book Review	25%
	Dec. 5	Final Test	20%

Note: November 14, 2012 is the last date for voluntary withdrawal without academic penalty from first term half courses. You will have been assessed on 55% of your total grade before that date.

Policy on Grades and Tests:

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

A+	90 - 100%	4.5	Exceptional	C+	65 - 69%	2.5	Satisfactory
A	80 - 89%	4	Excellent	C	60 - 64%	2	Adequate
B+	75 - 79%	3.5	Very Good	D	50 - 59%	1	Marginal
B	70 - 74%	3	Good	F	49% or less	0	Failure

University of Manitoba 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.” 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.

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 INTEGRITY

Breaching academic integrity is a serious offence, with grave consequences. You should acquaint yourself with the University policy on ‘Personation at Examination’ (section 5.2.9) and ‘Plagiarism and Cheating’ (section 8.1) found **online** at: University of Manitoba Academic Calendar and Catalogue – General Academic Regulations Section 5 and Section 8. The faculty of Arts also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.

SCHEDULE

PART I CONCEPTUALIZING FAMILIES

Sept. 7 Introduction to the Course - Conceptualizing the Family
Friday Family as a Private Sphere, Family as a Public Institution

Sept. 10 Family as a Reproductive System
Mon. **Readings:** TBA

- Sept. 12 Family as a Reproductive System con't
Wed. **Readings:** Chap. 1
- Sept.14 Family & Reproduction a Global Perspective
Friday
- Sept. 17 Reproduction and Sex Selection
Mon. **Readings:** TBA
- Sept. 19 Different conceptualizations of the Family
Wed. **Readings:** Chap. 1
- Sept. 21 Historical and Cross Cultural Perspectives on Family Life
Friday **Readings:** Chap. 2
- Sept. 24 First Nations Families and the Residential school System
Mon. **Readings:** Chap. 2
- Sept. 26 The Family and institutional co-ordination
Wed. **Readings:** Chap. 3

PART II FAMILY AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

- Sept. 28 Economics and the Family
Friday **Readings:** Chap. 4
- Oct. 1 Economics and the Family con't
Mon. **Readings:** Chap. 4
- Oct. 3 Economics and the Family.
Wed.

Oct. 5 - Friday Test 1 20%

Oct 8 - Monday Holiday – Thanksgiving Day

- Oct. 10 Family and Neighbourhoods
Wed. **Readings:** Chap. 5
- Oct. 12 Education, Family and Child Care
Friday **Readings:** Chap. 6
- Oct. 15 Education, Family and Child Care
Mon.. **Readings:** Chap. 6
Book Review Outline due Oct. 15
- Oct. 17 Mediating Family & Public Institutions – Social Policy
Wed. **Readings:** Chap. 14 Pgs. 424-442

PART III PARTNERING AND PARENTING: INTERNAL FAMILY DYNAMICS

Oct. 19 Sex and Partnering – (Guest Lecture)
Friday **Readings:** Chap. 7

Oct. 22 Sex & Partnering con't
Mon. **Readings:** Chap. 7

Oct. 24 Marriage and Reproduction
Wed. **Readings:** Chap. 8

Oct. 26 Marriage and Reproduction con't
Friday **Readings:** Chap 8

Oct. 29 Reproductive Technology
Monday

Oct. 31 Spousal Relations (Guest lecture)
Wed. **Readings:** Chapter 9

November 2 – Friday Test 2 25%

Nov. 5 Parenting
Mon. **Reading:** Chap. 11

Nov. 7 Parenting in a Dangerous World (Guest Lecture)
Wed.

Nov. 9 Parenting in special families (Guest lecture)
Friday **Readings:** Chap. 11

PART IV PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES IN FAMILIES

Nov. 12 Remembrance Day holiday
Mon..

Nov. 14 Divorce & Remarriage
Chapter 12
Wed. **Book review due**
Last Date for Voluntary Withdrawal

Nov.16 Divorce & Remarriage Con't
Friday **Readings:** Chap. 12

Nov. 19 Domestic Violence
Mon. **Readings:** Chap. 13

Nov. 21 Domestic Violence Con't
Wed. **Reading:** Chap. 13

Nov. 23 **Child Abuse & Neglect**
Fri. **Reading:** Chap. 13

Nov. 26 **Child Abuse & Neglect con't**
Mon

Nov. 28 **Programs for Perpetrators Guest Speaker**
Wed.

Nov. 30 **Family Violence – Legislation & Courts**
Friday

Dec. 3 **Course Review**
Mon. **Reading:** Chapter 14

Dec. 5 – Wednesday Final Test 20%