

Revised: S. Murguía
Date Reviewed: M Oja
Date Reviewed: S. Eveland
Textbook update: Spring 2022
C & GE approved: February 10, 2022
Board approved: May 11, 2022
Semester Effective:

Sociology (SOC) 2141 Sociology of Marriage, Family and Relationships (3 Units) CSU
[formerly Sociology 41]

Advisory: Eligibility for English 1500 or 1501 strongly recommended

Hours and Units Calculations:

48 hours lecture. 96 Outside of class hours. (144 Total Student Learning Hours) 3 Units

Catalog Description: Sociological analysis of the family, including historical and recent changes, present nature and the socio-cultural and economic forces shaping these changes. C-ID: SOCI 130

Text:

Lamanna, Mary Ann, Agnes Riedmann and Susan Stewart. *Marriages, Families and Relationships*, 14th ed., Cengage, 2021.

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, a successful student will be able to

1. demonstrate an understanding of major sociological theories to the social institution of the marriage, family, and relationships
2. identify and discuss marriage, family and relationships from cross-cultural, historical, social, economic, and political perspectives
3. identify and examine sex, gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, immigration status, class, and age in relation to socialization within the family,
4. identify and understand the various kinship and family arrangements,
5. describe and explain the basic dimensions of social inequality and social change, and
6. identify the intersection among race, ethnicity, class, immigration status, age, class, sex, gender, and sexuality within the family.

Course Scope and Content:

- Unit I Introducing Sociology, Marriage, Families, and Relationships (MFR)
- A. Introducing Sociology, Sociological Theory and Sociological Inquiry
 - a. the sociology of social institutions
 - b. the Sociological Imagination and MFR
 - c. MFR through the three general theoretical perspectives: structural functionalism, conflict, and symbolic interactionism

- B. Defining MFR
 - a. the social construction of MFR
 - b. MFR through socio-historical perspectives

- Unit II Diverse Bonds among MFR Roles and Socialization
 - A. The application of the Sociological Imagination and the links between private experiences and social structure
 - B. Dating, courting, and mate selection
 - C. Sex, gender, and sexuality
 - D. Race, ethnicity, nation
 - E. Singlehood, Cohabitation and Other Non-marital Arrangements
 - F. Social dynamics of oppression, exclusion, inequality patriarchy
 - G. Social Class
 - a. Poverty
 - b. The intersections of sex, gender, race, ethnicity, and class

- Unit III Social Dynamics of Exclusion, Oppression, Inequality, and Inequity
 - A. Social class and poverty
 - B. Multi-racial arrangements
 - C. Multi-sex, gender, and sexuality arrangements
 - D. Multi-ethnic/cultural arrangements
 - E. Patriarchy
 - F. Oppressive bondage, slavery, trafficking
 - G. Intersectionality

- Unit IV Motives and Motivation for MFR Bonds
 - A. Affect / Love bonds
 - B. Utility / Practicality bonds
 - C. Interaction and communication patterns
 - D. Conflict, communication, and problem solving
 - E. Power, control, and decision making

- Unit V Bonding Rites: Marriage and Parenthood
 - A. Marriage: here, there, and everywhere
 - B. Marriage in U.S. history
 - C. Marriage in the 21st Century
 - D. The marriage premium happiness, health, and economic security
 - E. Equality of marriage benefits

- Unit VI Bonds and Responsibility: Parents, Children and Work
 - A. Population and fertility trends worldwide
 - B. Fertility in the U. S.
 - C. The costs and rewards of raising children
 - D. Remaining childfree
 - E. The transition to parenthood
 - a. Other paths to parenthood: adoption
 - b. Parenting styles
 - F. Children
 - a. socialization
 - G. Work

- a. paid vs. unpaid labor
- b. domestic labor / domestic duties
- c. “Second Shift”

Unit VII Breaking Bonds: Violence, Abuse, and Exploitation

- A. The nature of stress and crisis
- A. Intimate partner violence
- B. Child abuse and neglect
- C. Elder abuse
- D. Explanations for violence among intimates
- E. The public’s response

Unit VIII Broken Bonds: Stress, Trauma, Break-up, Separation, Divorce, and Dissolution

- A. Divorce in the United States
- B. Reasons people divorce
- C. Experiencing divorce
- D. Divorce and children: child support
- E. Effects of divorce on children
- F. Legal procedures for divorce

Unit IX New Bonds: Family Life, Partnering, and Remarriage after Divorce

- A. Being single again
- B. Repartnering after divorce
- C. Remarriage
- D. Stepfamilies
- E. Surviving and thriving in stepfamilies

Unit X Aging and Family Life

- A. The demographic revolution
- B. Aging in historical perspective
- C. Family transitions
- D. The aging couple
- E. Widowhood
- F. Grandparents and their grandchildren
- G. Retirement
- H. Health

Unit XI Future of the Family

- A. Family policy
- B. Building resilience: general policies and programs to support families
- C. Policies and programs for children
- D. Policies and programs for the elderly

Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:

The students in this class will spend a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of the regular class time doing the following:

1. Studying



2. Answering questions
3. Completing required reading
4. Completing written work

Methods of Instruction:

1. Lectures
2. Class discussions
3. Audiovisual presentations
4. Small group activities
5. Out-of-class activities
6. Guest speakers

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Objective exams
2. Written assignments
3. Application exercises
4. Research project
5. Field journal
6. Oral presentations
7. Reflection and discussion

Supplemental Data:

TOP Code:	220800: Sociology
SAM Priority Code:	E: Non-Occupational
Distance Education:	Online; Offline
Funding Agency:	Y: Not Applicable(funds not used)
Program Status:	1: Program Applicable
Noncredit Category:	Y: Not Applicable, Credit Course
Special Class Status:	N: Course is not a special class
Basic Skills Status:	N: Course is not a basic skills course



TAFTCOLLEGE

Prior to College Level:	Y: Not applicable
Cooperative Work Experience:	N: Is not part of a cooperative work experience education program
Eligible for Credit by Exam:	E: Credit By Exam
Eligible for Pass/No Pass:	C: Pass/No Pass
Taft College General Education:	CSD: CSU Area D CSE: CSU Area E LSBS: Local GE Social/Behavioral Sci
Discipline	Sociology