

Basic Course Information

Semester	Fall 2014	Instructor Name	Dahna Rasmussen
Course Title & #	Marriage and Family-SOC 110	Email	dahna.rasmussen@imperial.edu
CRN #	10710	Units	3
Room	413	Office	807F
Class Dates	08/18/2014-12/10/2014	Office Hours	M/T:3-4PM, W/Th:3-5PM
Class Days	T	Office Phone #	760-355-6283
Class Times	6:30-9:40 PM	Office contact if student will be out or emergency	Elvia M. Camillo 760-355-6144

Course Description

The sociological perspective on marriage and the family as social institutions. Topics include: the history of love and marriage, myths and hidden realities, kinship systems, mate selection, social class differences in marital roles and child-rearing practices, and how social change effects marriage and the family. (C-ID SOCI 130) (CSU)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Understand that race, gender and family systems are social constructions. (ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)
2. Demonstrate the ability to make oral presentations that are organized, rely on evidence and engage the audience. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4)
3. Evaluate how different sociological theories apply to particular social issues and problems. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the historical cultural influences on love, marriage and the family.
2. Recognize the cultural myths that influence the understanding of marriage and the family, as well as, the hidden realities which distort what goes on inside families.
3. Compare and contrast traditional and changing sex roles in terms of their impact on marital and familial behavior, and demonstrate awareness of the process of sex role learning.
4. Describe the singles subculture including living together, and the process of pairing and the marriage market.
5. Analyze verbal and non-verbal communication and conflict resolution within marriage.
6. Identify the causes and processes of marital separation and divorce, as well as, children's response to divorce.
7. Define single parenthood, remarriage and the blended family, and the divorced subculture.
8. Recognize the current topics and issues regarding marriage and the family.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Required Texts: Lauer, Robert H. and Jeanette C. Lauer. 2012. *Marriage and Family: The Quest for Intimacy* (8th edition). McGraw Hill Publishing ISBN 978-0-07-811162-4.

Additional readings may be required and will be provided on Blackboard.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Course Requirements: You are expected to demonstrate your understanding of sociological material you will learn in this course through the following course requirements:

- **Three (3) Exams (each 100 points):** Each exam will consist of a combination of the following types of questions: multiple choice, matching, fill in the blank, true/false, and/or short answer. Exam questions will be based on assigned reading, lectures, and/or videos. There are no makeup exams, unless there are *serious, extenuating* circumstances that prevent you from taking the exam. If there is a conflict with a scheduled exam time, *you must notify me in advance*.
- **In Class Pop Quizzes (50 points):** Quizzes are written responses to questions posed in class about assigned reading for that day’s class. There will be 10 unannounced quizzes. Each quiz is worth five points. **NOTE: In-class quizzes are not scheduled on the syllabus, and therefore, cannot be made up. Please do not ask for a “make up” quiz if you miss one.**
- **Response Paper (50 points):** Completion of this paper assignment will be based on the assigned readings. The paper will be due at the beginning of class on the date indicated on the course schedule. Assignment instructions will be available on Blackboard. Late papers will be accepted with a **10% point deduction per day** after the assigned due date.
- **Oral Presentation (50 points):** Each student will give an oral presentation on a topic relevant to the material presented in class and/or provided in the assigned readings. Presentation should be rely on scholarly evidence and engage the audience. Assignment instructions will be available on Blackboard and presentations will be scheduled early in the semester.
- **Extra Credit (maximum of 5 points each):** additional in class exercises (limited to 3 per semester) **may** be provided.

Instructional Methods: Lecture, Discussion, Audio Visual, Group Activity. It is expected that students will engage in (2) hours of independent work for each hour of lecture or class work.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Semester Grade: Your semester grade will be calculated by total points earned from exams and course assignments. Keep track of the points you earn in the course to avoid any discrepancies when I calculate your final grade. The grading scale for both individual exams and your final course grade is based on a 90-80-70-60 scale (see below). Do not ask me to create individual “extra assignments” at the end of the semester so that you raise your grade.

Exams (3 @ 100 points each)	300 points
Response Paper	50 points
Pop Quizzes	50 points
Oral Presentation	50 points

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS	450 points

Scale for semester total points: A (100-90%) =450-405

B (89-80%) =404-360
C (79-70%) =359-315
D (69-60%) =314-270
F (59% & below) =269 and below

Exam Grading Scale:

A (100-90%) =100-90
B (89-80%) =89-80
C (79-70%) =79-70
D (69-60%) =69-60
F (59% & below) = 59 and below

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Classroom Etiquette

- **Classroom Demeanor:** Please arrive to class on time. If you arrive to class late, then find your seat as quietly as possible so as not to disturb others. Conversely, if you must leave class early, you must let me know in advance. (Please leave as quietly as possible; sit near the door.) Here are some key points to remember:
 - Class ends at 9:40 PM (or when I have announced that class is over); do not begin packing your belongings five minutes before class ends.
 - Turn off your cell phones. (I will answer your phone if it rings!) Having your phone ring during class is distracting not only for other students but also for me. If you need to keep your phone on for personal reasons (childcare, "on call" for work), then please see me.
 - If you feel that you must read/do other schoolwork, read the newspaper, have a detailed conversation with a classmate, text, Tweet, take a nap, play on the Internet, or listen to your I-Pod, don't come to class.
 - Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.
 - You may use a laptop to take notes during class, but if your use of it becomes disruptive in class, then you will be asked not to use your computer.

If you abuse the aforementioned non-class related activities, then you will be asked to leave the class for the day. (If this happens, you are responsible for getting notes and other related information that occurred in your absence.)

- **Class Discussion:** I expect and encourage students to participate in class through verbal and written contributions. I will not accept racist, sexist, homophobic, and other kinds of derogatory language directed at others students or me while we have in-class discussion. While you may disagree with someone else's point of view, there can still be great classroom conversation without having to be disrespectful to others. Furthermore, please make meaningful, relevant comments to the lecture topic.

- **Food and Drink** are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed.
- **Children in the classroom:** Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Academic Honesty

- **Plagiarism** is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to 'cite a source' correctly, you must ask for help.
- **Cheating** is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Additional Help

- **Blackboard** support center: <http://bbcrm.edusupportcenter.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8543>
- **Learning Labs:** There are several 'labs' on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Study Skills Center (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program.
- **Library Services:** There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the Study Skills Center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.
- **Personal Responsibility:** Please read the assigned material by the date indicated—lectures and in-class discussions are based on the idea that you have some general understanding of assigned reading for that day's class meeting. You are responsible for *all* assigned reading, even if it is not discussed in lecture. Furthermore, at times, I may introduce material *not found in the text*. Regardless, if you miss a lecture, then it is your responsibility to get lecture notes from another student in the class. I do not post lecture notes on Blackboard. Other personal responsibilities:
 - Read the syllabus—*thoroughly*. Please don't ask about information that can be easily found in the syllabus.
 - Keep track of your grade. Calculate your own grade. I will not do that for you during the course of the semester.
 - If you miss a class, don't ask "Did I miss anything important?"
 - If you have trouble understanding material, then ask me. **Get help sooner than later.**
 - If you are doing poorly in the course, do not wait until the end of the semester and ask how I can help you raise your grade. Relatedly, do not ask if I will create an extra assignment for you to raise your grade.
- **E-mail & Phone Correspondence:** Please use Blackboard to send messages to me. *If you send course-related messages to my IVC e-mail address, I will not respond to your message—unless it relates to trouble accessing Blackboard.* Also, when sending an e-mail, please do not address me with "hey" or some other informal nickname, or write your e-mail in IM/chat room/text format—I will not respond to your

message. When you call and leave a message, please be sure to **clearly** leave your name and phone number so that I can get back to you. Typically, I will reply to your e-mail or phone message within 48 hours.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313, if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762

Information Literacy

Required Language: Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>

Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

Please note this syllabus is a general outline of the course content and schedule, and is subject to change and revision. If changes are made, students will be notified in a timely fashion.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE

August 19, 2014

Introduction and Chapter 1- Marriage and Family in America: Needs, Myths, and Dreams

WEEK TWO

August 26, 2014

Chapter 2- Diversity in Families

August 27, 2014: Last day to register for full-term courses

WEEK THREE

September 2, 2014

Chapters 3 and 4- Gender Roles: Foundation for Intimacy and Sexuality

September 1, 2014: Last Day to Withdraw from Classes without a “W” being recorded.

WEEK FOUR

September 9, 2014

Chapter 5- Getting Involved

WEEK FIVE

September 16, 2014

Chapters 6 and 7- Falling in Love and Selecting a Life Partner

1st Response Paper DUE

WEEK SIX

September 23, 2014

1st Exam (Chapters 1-7)

WEEK SEVEN

September 30, 2014

Chapter 8- Getting Married

WEEK EIGHT

October 7, 2014

Chapter 9- The Challenge of Communication

WEEK NINE

October 14, 2014

Chapter 10- Power and Conflict in Marriage

WEEK TEN

October 21, 2014

Chapters 11 and 12- Work and Home and Becoming a Parent

WEEK ELEVEN

October 28, 2014

2nd Exam (Chapters 8-12)

WEEK TWELVE

November 4, 2014

Chapters 13 and 14- Family Crisis and Separation and Divorce

November 8, 2014: Last day to drop full-term courses

WEEK THIRTEEN

November 11, 2014

**November 11 Veterans Day
(Campus Closed)**

WEEK FOURTEEN

November 18, 2014

Chapters 15 and 16- Remarriage and Stepfamilies and Intimacy in the Later Years

2nd Response Paper DUE

November 24-26 No classes (Campus Open)

November 27-29 Thanksgiving (Campus Closed)

WEEK FIFTEEN

December 2, 2014

Oral Presentations

WEEK SIXTEEN

December 9, 2014

3rd Exam (Chapters 13-16)

Have a great break!!!!