SOC 213: SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY (3-0-3)
Instructor: Professor Yates
Spring 2012

Class Time: Friday 9:00-11:45 AM
Section: 201

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E-mail: yatest@clevelandcommunitycollege.edu
Office Location: Room 5129
Office Hours: Monday 2:30-5:00 PM/ Tuesday 12:00-2:30 PM

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course covers the institution of family and other intimate relationships. Emphasis is placed on mate selection, gender roles, sexuality, communication, power and conflict, parenthood, diverse lifestyles, divorce and remarriage and economic issues. Upon completion, students should be able to analyze the family as a social institution and the social forces which influence its development and change. This course as been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in social/behavioral sciences.

Course Prerequisites – ENG 095/095A or RED 090

II. REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS


Recommended Software - To access the online component of this course, students will need an internet connection. For best results, students should use the most updated browser version (FireFox, Internet Explorer). Although there are no absolute requirements, computers with faster internet connections, faster processors, and more memory will get better results. Keep in mind that if you have difficulties connecting to the class or experience a slow connection, the problem could be occurring at many levels.

For help, contact the Blackboard helpdesk located in the library or by calling 704-484-4133. You can also e-mail them at BBHelpDesk@cleveland.cc.nc.us. Help is also available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling 866-829-5056 or by visiting the following web address: http://supportcenteronline.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=4181.

III. COURSE GOALS/OBJECTIVES
A. To internalize and apply the sociological perspective with regard to the institution of family.
B. To be familiar with the sociological concepts and methods used to study, describe and explain families.
C. To appreciate the diversity of individual family experiences in American society, as well as other societies.
D. To understand your own family experience in today’s society.
E. To cultivate critical thinking skills.
F. To improve written communication skills.
G. To develop stronger oral communication skills.
IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION
   A. Lectures
   B. Group discussion
   C. Group Activities
   D. Writing Assignments
   E. Video presentations
   F. Objective and discussion tests

V. LEARNING ACTIVITIES
   A. Discuss the definition of family, its historical evolution, and theoretical frameworks used to analyze
   B. Discuss gender, love, communication and sexuality in relationships
   C. Discuss various family forms (singles, same-sex, cohabitation)
   D. Discuss mate selection and marriage relationships
   E. Discuss children and parenting
   F. Discuss balancing work and family life, stress and crisis, violence and abuse, and divorce

VI. CRITICAL/ANALYTICAL THINKING SKILLS
   A. Analyze the family as a social institution.
   B. Consider how social forces influence the family.
   C. Apply concepts to real-world examples.
   D. Illustrate application of concepts in group project/writing assignment.

VII. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
   Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
   A. Internalize and apply the sociological perspective with regard to the institution of family.
   B. Identify sociological concepts and methods used to study, describe and explain families.
   C. Appreciate the diversity of individual family experiences in American society, as well as other societies.
   D. Understand his/her own family experience in today’s society.
   E. Discuss relevant topics through discussion board/writing assignments.
   F. Apply sociological concepts in written analysis.
   G. Illustrate comprehension of material on examinations.

VIII. STUDENT REQUIREMENTS
   A. Purchase the textbook.
   B. Attend class on time (Absentee policy will be enforced).
   C. Complete all assignments.

IX. EVALUATION
   Your final grade will be determined as follows:
   A. Weekly Assignments 200 points
   B. Chapter Quizzes 200 points
   C. Exams (Midterm & Final) 200 points
   D. Final Group Project 200 points
   (Video Montage)
X. ATTENDANCE POLICY –

Two hundred (200) points of your final grade will be a reflection of not only your attendance of this class, but your active participation in it. Student attendance is required and expected. If you are not reading the assigned material and participating in discussion, you are not in class. In order to receive full credit, you must be familiar with the assigned reading material and participate in the weekly discussion, granting both the instructor and your fellow students respect at all times.

We must maintain an atmosphere for open discussion in order for the class to be successful. This class should be a safe place for learning to think about and openly discuss hard topics. Keep in mind that we are kicking around ideas – not people.

Promoting good discussions includes;

- Willingness to share personal experiences and thoughts
- Having an informed and supported opinion (factual information and sources)
- Willingness to admit uncertainties
- Openness to new ideas
- Ability to suspend one’s judgment of others
- Ability to listen carefully to other’s statements
- Tolerance of opposite points of view.

Some of the social issues we will discuss are of a sensitive nature. It is imperative that we be able to express our ideas freely and in a non-threatening environment. As adults, it is expected that we will be able to listen to ideas that are different from our own and respond to those ideas in a professional and civil manner. Regard and respect for others and the challenging of ideas in a way that is not demeaning to others is crucial.

Tardiness will not be tolerated. An instructor may refuse admission to class to any student who arrives more than ten minutes late to a class. One-half day’s absence will be counted if a student leaves thirty minutes or more early. (CCC Academic Bulletin & Student Handbook, 2009-2010)

NO FOOD OR DRINK IS ALLOWED IN CLASS.

CELL PHONE USE IS PROHIBITED.

SPECIAL NOTE: If you are absent from class more than three times and I have not heard from you, you will be dropped from the course. It is the student’s responsibility to complete the withdrawal paperwork; if not, he/she may receive an automatic grade of “F.”

Your grade will be lowered each time you do not complete any part of an assignment.

Please note: This portion of your grade is based on both the number of assignments completed and the quality of comments contributed.
INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY –
The College President will make the decision as to whether or not classes will be held during periods of inclement weather. Announcements will be made on local radio and television stations. You may also check the CCC website under “Campus News” for inclement weather cancellations. In addition, you will need to check the BlackBoard course for any announcement specific to this class. If the college is open but I am unable to attend, I will post an announcement on BlackBoard to let you know that information as soon as possible.

MAKE UP POLICY –
There are absolutely NO makeups in this course under any circumstances.

XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY
Cleveland Community College expects students to practice academic honesty at all times. Academic dishonesty refers to cheating on tests, examinations, projects, and other assigned work. Plagiarism, a very serious form of academic dishonesty, is work that has been written by someone other than the student submitting the work or work obtained from an undocumented or improperly documented resource. Students are responsible for documenting both direct quotations and paraphrased material. Direct quotations must appear within quotation marks and must be documented. Paraphrased material (written in the student’s own words but taken from another source) must also be documented completely and accurately.

See CCC Academic Bulletin & Student Handbook (pages 22-23) for the list of procedures taken when a breach of Academic Honesty occurs.

XII. COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Weekly Assignments
Each week, students are responsible for bringing ONE (1) discussion question to class. These questions will be typed and turned in at the beginning of class for grading. These “Conversation Starters” will often be used to initiate class discussion.

20 points each/ 200 points total

Chapter Quizzes
Approximately fifteen (15) 20-point quizzes will be administered during the semester. Quizzes will be administered on a weekly basis and will consist of multiple choice, true/false and possible short answer or essay questions. Students are responsible for knowing and understanding both the contents of the textbook as well as any additional reading material assigned by the instructor. Quizzes are available only on the dates stated in the course schedule. NO MAKEUPS!

20 points each/ 200 points total
Exams

Two (2) 100-point examinations, a midterm and a final, will be administered during the semester. Exams will be multiple choice, true/false and possible short answer or essay. Students are responsible for knowing and understanding both the contents of the textbook as well as any additional reading material assigned by the instructor. *Exams will be available only on the dates stated in the course schedule. NO MAKEUPS!*

100 points each/ 200 points total

Final Group Project

Students will work in groups to determine a topic of interest to further explore over the course of the semester. The results of this work will be presented in class at the conclusion of the semester. Details for this assignment will be distributed by the second week of class.

*Additional directions will be provided within the course.* See instructor for more information.

*LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR CREDIT.*

200 points total

Guidelines for Papers

1. Papers are to incorporate proper writing skills: 1) Introduction, body, and conclusion; 2) proper grammar and spelling; 3) proper sentence and paragraph structure. Please carefully proof read your work before turning it in. Points will be deducted for grammatical errors.

2. Papers are to be typed (double-spaced; 12 point font, black ink) using MICROSOFT WORD. *Microsoft Works files cannot be read on my computer and therefore WILL NOT be accepted.*

3. Papers should include a cover page with the following information: 1) Name; 2) Course name and number; 3) Instructor’s name; 4) Date; and 5) Title of paper.

4. Papers should also include a works cited page where appropriate and students should follow proper documentation procedures. *Both direct quotations and paraphrased material must be documented.*

5. Papers are due to the instructor by midnight on the date they are due.

6. *LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR CREDIT. NO EXCEPTIONS!*
Extra Credit

Extra credit opportunities are not guaranteed; therefore students should not plan to use these as a substitute for any of the required assignments in this course.

GRADING SCALE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>80-89</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>70-79</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>Below 59</td>
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<td>I</td>
<td>Incomplete</td>
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XIII. IMPORTANT DATES

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 13</td>
<td>Class begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>March 16</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>April 6</td>
<td>Easter Break</td>
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<td>April 10</td>
<td>Last day for withdrawal or change to audit</td>
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<td>May 4</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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XIV. WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>WEEKLY SCHEDULE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chapter One: Relationships, Marriages and Families Today</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Chapter Two: Gender</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Chapter Three: Singlehood, Hanging Out, Hooking Up, and Cohabitation</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Chapter Four: Communication</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Chapter Five: Love and Finding a Partner</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Chapter Six: Marriage Relationships</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Chapter Seven: Same-sex Couples and Families</td>
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<td><em><strong>MIDTERM EXAM</strong></em></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Chapter Eight: Sexuality in Relationships</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Chapter Nine: Planning to Have Children</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Chapter Ten: Parenting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Chapter Eleven: Family and the Economy</td>
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<td>WEEK</td>
<td>WEEKLY SCHEDULE</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Chapter Twelve: Violence and Abuse in Relationships</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Chapter Thirteen: Stress and Crisis in Relationships</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Chapter Fourteen: Divorce and Remarriage</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Chapter Fifteen: Relationships in the Later Years</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em><strong>FINAL EXAM</strong></em></td>
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