

# COURSE SYLLABUS

## MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

Moravian College

Spring 2006

Dr. D. Wetcher-Hendricks

### CONTACTING THE PROFESSOR

office: PPHAC 314  
hours: Monday 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.  
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Newman, David M. and Elizabeth  
Grauerholz. *Sociology of Families*,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Pine Forge Press, 2002.

### COURSE READING MATERIAL

Assorted handouts and websites

### COURSE OUTCOMES

Through this course, students should

1. obtain an understanding of basic family forms and functions
2. become familiar with and develop an appreciation for the historical foundation of the American family structure as well as the cultural, economic, and political factors that currently shape the structure of families.
3. learn to recognize and understand patterns of interaction within families and the social aspects that affect such interaction.
4. gain the ability to sociologically analyze contemporary family issues.

### **Evaluation**

Three examinations are given during the semester. All of these examinations are non-cumulative. They include objective and subjective questions that address the concepts discussed in class and in assigned readings.

In addition to the examinations, students must complete two papers. These assignments require students to apply sociological concepts to their own and others' families and family relationships. Specific information about the papers, including topics and due dates, can be found in the Paper Guidelines and Topics handouts. Each student also receives

a class participation/activity grades. The participation portion of the grade reflects a student's interaction in class. Each class period during which an individual provides substantive class discussion or contributions to group work increases this grade. Conversely, disruption (such as consistently arriving to class late), a lack of effort, or obvious inactivity (including sleeping) lowers the grade. The class activities portion of the grade reflects a student's efforts toward and completion of in-class assignments as well as performance on periodic "pop" quizzes.

To provide each student with a grade at the end of the semester, the preceding factors are combined in the following manner.

exams	60% (20% each)
papers	30% (15% each)
class participation/activities	10%

Course grades follow the letter-grade system. Please consult the Moravian College Student Handbook for description of the requirements for attaining each grade. The numerical ranges used in assigning each letter grade in this course are as follows.

A	92%-100%	B-	80%-81.9%	D+	68%-69.9%
A-	90%-91.9%	C+	78%-79.9%	D	62%-67.9%
B+	88%-89.9%	C	72%-77.9%	D-	60%-61.9%
B	82%-87.9%	C-	70%-71.9%	F	0%-59.9%

All policies listed in the college catalog that deal with attendance, withdrawal, cheating, plagiarism, and any other pertinent issues apply to this class.

Please make every possible effort to take exams on the scheduled dates (see course schedule). All missed exams will be taken at the end of the term. Late papers will be accepted with a five point penalty for each day that they are late (including weekends and holidays).

Attendance, itself, does not directly affect students' grades in this course. However, attendance is indirectly reflected in class participation/activities grades. Class participation grades rely, in part, upon presence in class. Also, students may not make up class activities that take place during classes for which they are absent. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain information and distributed materials from any class that he or she misses.



NOTE: THE COURSE SCHEDULE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE PROVIDES AN ANTICIPATED AGENDA OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED UPON THE PROGRESSION OF THE TERM.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

assignment for this week	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Buy the book Read Issue 1	<b>1/16</b>	<b>1/17</b> Introductions	<b>1/18</b>	<b>1/19</b> Defining Families	<b>1/20</b>
Read Chapter 1 (pages 88-99 only) Read Chapter 2	<b>1/23</b>	<b>1/24</b> Sociological Perspectives of Family	<b>1/25</b>	<b>1/26</b> Gender Issues	<b>1/27</b>
Read Chapter 2	<b>1/30</b>	<b>1/31</b> Gender Issues/ Racial and Ethnic Issues	<b>2/1</b>	<b>2/3</b> Racial and Ethnic Issues	<b>2/3</b>
Read Chapter 4	<b>2/6</b>	<b>2/7</b> Economic Issues	<b>2/8</b>	<b>2/9</b> Economic Issues	<b>2/10</b>
STUDY!!!	<b>2/13</b>	<b>2/14</b> <b>EXAM 1</b>	<b>2/15</b>	<b>2/16</b> <b>gather data</b>	<b>2/17</b>
Read Chapter 5 Skim Chapter 6	<b>2/20</b>	<b>2/21</b> Intimate Relationships	<b>2/22</b>	<b>2/23</b> Intimate Relationships	<b>2/24</b>
Read handouts Read Chapter 8 Write paper	<b>2/27</b>	<b>2/28</b> Intimate Relationships	<b>3/1</b>	<b>3/2</b> <b>PAPER 1 DUE</b> Parenthood	<b>3/3</b>
Rest and relax	<b>3/6</b>	<b>3/7</b>	<b>3/8</b>	<b>3/9</b>	<b>3/10</b>
Read Issue 3 (pages 47-49 only) Begin reading Chapter 9	<b>3/13</b>	<b>3/14</b> Parenthood	<b>3/15</b>	<b>3/16</b> Parenthood/ Childhood	<b>3/17</b>

Finish reading Chapter 9 STUDY!!!	<b>3/20</b>	<b>3/21</b> Childhood	<b>3/22</b>	<b>3/23</b> <b>EXAM 2</b>	<b>3/24</b>
Skim Chapter 12	<b>3/27</b>	<b>3/28</b> Adulthood	<b>3/29</b>	<b>3/30</b> <b>GATHER DATA</b>	<b>3/31</b>
Read Chapter 10	<b>4/3</b>	<b>4/4</b> <b>SERVICE DAY</b>	<b>4/5</b>	<b>4/6</b> Family Violence	<b>4/7</b>
Read Chapter 11	<b>4/10</b>	<b>4/11</b> Family Violence	<b>4/12</b>	<b>4/13</b> Divorce	<b>4/14</b>
Read handout Write paper	<b>4/17</b>	<b>4/18</b> <b>PAPER 2 DUE</b> Divorce	<b>4/19</b>	<b>4/20</b> Media Portrayals of Families	<b>4/21</b>
Read Issue 2 (pages 20-32 only) Read Chapter 13 (pages 523- 347 only)	<b>4/24</b>	<b>4/25</b> The Future of Families	<b>4/26</b>	<b>4/27</b> make-up/review day	<b>4/28</b>
	<b>5/1</b>	<b>5/2</b>	<b>5/3</b>	<b>5/4</b>	<b>5/5</b>