

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>SOC 125 Marriage and the Family</b> Moravian College
<b>Semester</b>	Spring 2011
<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	T/TH 8:55-10:10 a.m.
<b>Location</b>	Rm 232, PPH Complex
<b>Instructor</b>	Melanie J. Davis, EdD, CSE
<b>Office Hours</b>	Before class, by appointment
<b>Office Location</b>	Rm 310, Sociology Department, PPH Academic Complex
<b>Phone</b>	908-722-1632 (off campus)
<b>E-mail</b>	memjd01@moravian.edu

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will examine the family and marriage/commitment, both as a social institution and as a set of intimate relationships in the context of historical change and development. Students will explore familial relationships they have experienced and those they may encounter in the future. The course will examine this subject from a scholarly and personal perspective.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

By the end of this course, you will have

- An understanding of basic family forms, functions, and dynamics;
- Familiarity with the historical, cultural, economic and political factors that shape family structure;
- An ability to discuss controversial and emotionally charged issues, respecting others’ experiences and perspectives;
- Experience in data collection and analysis through a research project;
- An ability to use sociological principles to analyze contemporary family issues.

**Disclaimer** - This syllabus is subject to change. Updates will be posted on Blackboard.

**REQUIRED TEXT**

*Marriages and Families: Making Choices in a Diverse Society*, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition. Lamanna & Riedmann. A less expensive electronic copy is available from: <http://www.cengagebrain.com>

**EVALUATION**

Your grade for this course is based upon the level of scholarship, self-assessment and reflection as demonstrated in completed assignments, coupled with your active participation in class.

Attendance and participation	5%
Genogram	15%
Letter to a Loved One	5%
Midterm Exam	20%
Created Family Presentation	5%
Created Family Research Paper	30%
Final Exam	20%

**ASSIGNMENTS**

- Assignment #1 – Letter to a Significant Other**
- Assignment #2 -- Genogram**
- Assignment #3 -- Created Family Project (Group)**
- Assignment #4 -- Created Family Paper (Individual)**

**Exams**

You will be expected to complete a mid-term exam and a final exam. Either or both may be in take-home format.

**POLICIES**

**Academic Honesty**

It is your responsibility to follow the college’s standards of academic honesty as published on page 8 of your Student Handbook. Plagiarism and cheating are grounds for course failure.

**Accommodations**

If you wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability, contact Joe Kempfer, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support, 1307 Main Street (extension 1510). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Office of Learning Services.

**Attendance**

You are allowed 2 unexcused absences. 2 additional absences will automatically lower your course grade by ½ letter, with each additional absence lowering your grade by ½ letter. Chronic lateness and early departures will factor into your attendance grade.

**Courtesy**

Personal electronics (phones, iPods, Blackberries, etc.) is prohibited during class.