

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>SOC 125 Marriage and the Family</b> Moravian College
<b>Semester</b>	Spring 2012
<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	T/TH 10:20 to 11:30 a.m.
<b>Location</b>	Rm 232, PPH Complex
<b>Instructor</b>	Melanie J. Davis, PhD, CSE
<b>Office Hours</b>	After class, by appointment; flexible appts. by phone
<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. Class participation includes active engagement with the course material during class, taking part in discussions with peers and the instructor, asking and responding to questions/comments, and helping to maintain a classroom environment that is safe, positive and constructive. After graded assignments and exams have been returned, you will have one week to discuss the results with me; thereafter, the results will stand. Quantitative and qualitative standards apply in determining grades.

### Grading Scale

A = 100 – 94	B+ = 89 – 88	C+ = 79 – 78	D = 60 – 69
A- = 93 – 90	B = 87 – 83	C = 77 – 73	F = 59 – 0
	B- = 82 – 80	C- = 72 – 70	
Attendance and participation	8%*		
Genogram	15%		
Letter to a Loved One	5%		
Midterm Exam	20%		
Family Issues Presentation/Paper	10%		
Peer Evaluation	2%		
Family in the Media Paper	20%		
Final Exam	20%		

## 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 need 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.