



MORAVIAN COLLEGE

COURSE TITLE: Marriage and Family

Course and section numbers: SOC 125

Course meeting day and time: Fri 8:55 am – 11:30 am

Room number: COMEN 309

Current semester: Spring 2016

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

Instructor's name: Professor Andrew McIntosh

Office hours: Fri 1 pm – 2 pm or by appointment

Office location: PPHAC 310

E-mail address: mcintosha@moravian.edu

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Marriage, Families and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society, 12th edition, Mary Ann Lamanna, Agnes Riedman, and Susan Stewart. Cengage, 2015. ISBN: 978-1-285-73697-6

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Customs and trends in courtship, marriage, and family life in the United States and worldwide. Analysis of family structures with particular attention devoted to roles, relationships, and problems within as well as between families.

OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE:

One of the most personal and emotional social institutions to study is the family. You will be challenged to use your “**sociological imagination**” as we analyze the complexities of this familiar, yet diverse and multifaceted social institution. Our **life experiences** have given each of us a certain amount of “**expertise**” in understanding families and family dynamics, yet **no two families are the same**. How are **personal “troubles” of the family** impacted by **structural inequalities of the larger society**? Historically, **changes in the family have increased over the past century** as our society has rapidly grown, challenging us to understand the **contemporary function** of the family and **possible future trends**. You will be encouraged to examine your “**blindness of personal experience**” that will provide you with new awareness and insight. As you investigate the diversity and complexity of families, you will discover the various **paradoxes of this powerful social institution** and understand how your **personal experiences fit into the larger social context**.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, students 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

INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN:

What to expect in the classroom and what is expected of you:

The curriculum for this course revolves around the assigned text book, class discussion and activities. There is no way around it: reading the assignments is critical to your work in the classroom, on assignments, and on exams. Furthermore, your participation in discussion and presentation is a must for the good of the class and your final grade.

Work in the classroom will be informal, emphasizing our personal stake and subjective connection to subject of marriage and family in society. Objective quizzes and exams will measure your familiarity with the terminology and major ideas of the textbook. The responsibility of covering the material is both the professors and the student.

How Final Grades will be Determined:

| Assessments | Points toward Final Grade |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| First Day In Class Assignment | 1% |
| 4 Critical Thinking Assignments | 44% |
| 4 Quizzes | 20% |
| Final exam | 20% |
| Class Participation | 15% |

Grade Scale: Final Average Range

Final averages rounded down and up. For example, 82.4 = 82, B- ... 82.7 = 83, B

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| A: 100-93 | B+: 89-88 | C+: 79-78 | D+: 69-68 |
| A-: 92-90 | B: 87-83 | C: 77-73 | D: 67-60 |
| | B-: 82-80 | C-: 72-70 | F: 59-0 |

Subjective Assessments:

First Day In Class Assignment (1%): Class time will be taken to write a brief biography of your family

Critical Thinking Assignments (44%): Critical thinking assignments help you to process and apply material you are learning to your own family and to better understand the diversity in contemporary families. These assignments challenge you to “take a step back” and reflect about what we are learning, instead of just going through the motions.

Objective Assessments:

The **Quizzes and Final Exam** will be taken on Blackboard totaling **40%** of your grade. They will be multiple choice and true/false type questions.

Class Participation (15%) is required and will be measured by **class discussion, in class presentations and in class activities**. Students will receive **100%** credit for this requirement by **their regular participation in class discussions, written work for classroom activities and participation in-group work**. A student who does not receive full class participation credit will have *not* frequently joined class discussions, *not* given an honest effort to class activities or offered helpful contributions to the group activity. They are likely to have spotty class attendance.

RELATED POLICIES:

- **Plagiarism / Cheating:** Student's will receive a **“0” for Class Participation** if a written assignment is **plagiarized** or if a student is caught **cheating** during testing. A second offense of this type will result in dismissal from the course and an **“F”** for a final grade. *If unsure of this policy, ask the professor!!!*

- **Consequence of Lateness to Class:** Students' **Class Participation** grade will be **penalized by 10 points** each time they arrive after **12:30 pm three or more times**. Class attendance is taken by a sign in sheet.
- **Consequences of Late Work, Missed Exams, Make-Up Work:** Students must make direct communication with the professor in person or by email if they miss an exam or want to be formally excused from class.
 - **If a student misses a class, they are responsible to study covered material themselves or with another student.** "What did I miss?" or "What do I need to know?" emails will not be answered by the professor. Specific questions about content and comprehension of missed material will.
 - ***If an exam or essential assignment is missed, arrangements must be made for a make-up date ASAP by email.*** If a student does not contact the professor within 24 hours of a missed exam or project, they will receive a failing grade for that assignment. An excused absence for these assignments by proof a doctor's note, employer verification or dean letter may be necessary.

Classroom Management (cell phone use, leaving class, disruptive behavior):

Put cell phones away with ringers off, their use is not permitted during class.

- If a student is awaiting an EMERGENCY CALL, please discuss with the professor before class starts
- Casual use is not permitted and **repeat "Text Offenders" will be penalized.** *Caught once texting, you will receive a warning; caught twice you will receive a failing participation grade.*

Leaving class to use the bathroom or for some other reason is permitted if absolutely necessary

- Excuse yourself without disrupting others. **Do not make this a habit**

Class will be dismissed when class is dismissed

- *Packing up to leave early and making a disturbance will adversely affect your class participation grade*
- *A short break will be built into each class period*

Class subject matter can sometimes be of an adult nature

- Material covered in this course may be unsettling for some students. All attempts will be made to discuss any controversial material in an objective fashion to create a safe space for dialogue and understanding. Any student with an objection to material presented is encouraged to discuss the matter with the instructor publically or privately.

Respect shown to the Professor will be given to fellow students as well


- We are all here by the choices we have made in our lives. Each one of us has something to contribute to the class discussions and flow of ideas.
- For some, speaking in class comes quickly and easily. Others will be finding their voice as they sort their thoughts. Your Professor will embody both of these traits at times.
- Rude interrupting and careless talking will not go unchecked.

These expectations will be STRICTLY ENFORCED

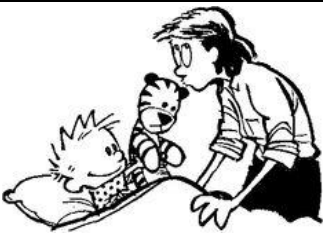
OTHER RELEVANT PROCEDURES OR POLICIES:


Moravian College's Academic & Disability Support Office is responsible for serving otherwise qualified students with disabilities, as one of its many functions. Moravian College adheres to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 in ensuring accessibility of its programs and services. The Assistant Director of Academic & Disability Support is responsible for assisting the College in providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities enrolled in the College's courses, and serves as a resource for other College departments in regards to serving individuals with disabilities as needed. If you require any information in an alternative format, please contact us: **Phone: 610-861-1401 / disabilitysupport@moravian.edu**

Course Calendar (dates, topics and assignments for each class meeting):

| JANUARY 2016 | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|---|----|
| S | M | T | W | R | FRIDAY | |
|  | | | | | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | <u>CHAPTER 1</u> <i>Marriage, Relationships, and Family Commitments: Making Choices in a Changing Society</i> | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | <u>CHAPTER 2</u> <i>Exploring Relationships and Families</i> | |

| FEBRUARY 2016 | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|---|
| S | M | T | W | R | FRIDAY |
| 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | <u>CHAPTER 3</u> <i>Our Gendered Identities</i> *TAKE QUIZ 1* |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | <u>CHAPTER 5</u> <i>Love and Choosing a Life Partner</i> *CRITICAL THINKING #1 DUE* |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | <u>CHAPTER 6</u> <i>Living Alone, Cohabiting, Same-Sex Unions, and Other Intimate Relationships</i> |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | <u>CHAPTER 7</u> <i>Marriage: From Social Institution to Private Relationship</i> |

| MARCH 2016 | | | | | |
|------------|----------------------------|----|----|----|---|
| S | M | T | W | R | FRIDAY |
| 28 | 29 | 1 | 2 | 3 | CHAPTER 8 <i>Deciding About Parenting</i> *TAKE QUIZ 2* |
| 6 | <u>SPRING BREAK</u> | | | | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | CHAPTER 10 <i>Work and Family</i> *CRITICAL THINKING #2 DUE* |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | <u>EASTER RECESS</u> |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |

| APRIL 2016 | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|--|
| S | M | T | W | R | FRIDAY |
|  | | | | | <u>CHAPTER 11</u> <i>Communication in Relationships, Marriages and Families</i> *CRITICAL THINKING #3 DUE* |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | <u>CHAPTER 12</u> <i>Power and Violence in Families</i> |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | <u>CHAPTER 13</u> <i>Family Stress, Crisis and Resilience</i> *TAKE QUIZ 3* *CRITICAL THINKING #4 DUE* |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | <u>CHAPTER 13 & 14</u> <i>Divorce and Remarriage</i> *TAKE QUIZ 4* |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | <u>THE GLOBAL FAMILY</u> <i>An Anthropological Exploration of Family</i> |