

# **SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY**

**SOC 1200-40**  
**Online**  
**3 Credits**  
**(CRN 25692)**

**Spring 2015**  
**January 12 – May 4**

**INSTRUCTOR**

Dr. Craig M. Allen  
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Phone: 435-673-2529

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## PREREQUISITES; GENERAL EDUCATION STATUS

No prerequisites; fulfills General Education Social & Behavioral Sciences requirement.

## DESCRIPTION

Teaches what sociology is and how sociology is applied to the study of families, covering many different aspects of including families through history, gender roles, love, sexuality, courtship, marriage, parenting, children, racial-ethnic families, families and work, family violence, separation and divorce, and aging in the family through lectures, guest speakers, film, writing assignments, and exams.

## OBJECTIVES

Students completing Sociology of the Family will:

1. demonstrate an ability to identify the ideas, people, and events that are generally thought to be important by family sociologists;
2. demonstrate an understanding of the study of the family as a scientific endeavor (i.e. the gathering and analyzing of empirical data in a systematic fashion);
3. demonstrate an understanding the family from the perspectives of the three major sociological perspectives (structural-functional theory, symbolic interaction theory, conflict theory, and others);
4. demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of family types and experiences across the family life course from a sociological perspective.

## IMPORTANT S2015 SEMESTER DATES TO REMEMBER

**Course Assignments and Assessments:** See expanded syllabus below.

**Instructor policy on late discussion, assignments, observations, and missed exams/quizzes:** See expanded syllabus below.

**Course Outline:** See expanded syllabus below.

**Final Exam:** Apr 27 – May 4

**Final Grades will be posted by Monday, May 11, 2015**

**Grade Scale:** See expanded syllabus below.

## IMPORTANT LINKS:

As a student at Dixie State University, you have access to several helpful resources:

- [Library](#)
- Computer Lab (located at the [Smith Computer Center](#) and the [Library](#))
- [Disability Resource Center](#) - Provides services and accommodations to students with disabilities.
- [IT Student Help Desk](#) - We provide support for the following: Blackboard Vista, Dmail, wireless, software resources for students, and student laptop lease program.
- [Online Writing Lab](#) - Many writing classes utilize this site. Among other things, students can use the Online Writing Lab to submit papers electronically to the Writing Center.
- [Testing Center](#)
- [Tutoring Center](#) - Free and open to all students. Improve your study skills and clarify concepts and class material.
- [Writing Center](#) - "Our mission is to help you become a better writer by approaching your assignments as a process of invention, writing, and revision."

See [Campus Map](#) for the location of these and other resources.

## Policies and Statements

- Disability Statement:

If you suspect or are aware that you have a disability that may affect your success in the course you are strongly encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) located at the North Plaza Building. The disability will be evaluated and eligible students will receive assistance in obtaining reasonable accommodations. Phone # 435-652-7516.

- [Academic dishonesty / Academic integrity policy](#)
- [Policy for Absences Related to College Functions](#)
- [Disruptive behavior policy / classroom expectations](#)

- Dmail:

You are required to frequently check your Dmail account. Important class and university information will be sent to your Dmail account, including DSU bills, financial aid/scholarship notices, notices of cancelled classes, reminders of important dates and deadlines, and other information critical to your success at DSU and in your courses. To access your Dmail account, visit [go.dixie.edu/dmail](http://go.dixie.edu/dmail). If you do not know your Dmail username or you have forgotten your PIN, visit [go.dixie.edu/mydixie](http://go.dixie.edu/mydixie) and follow the respective instructions.



## AVAILABLE RESOURCES

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See [Campus Map](#) for the location of these and other resources.

## POLICIES AND STATEMENTS

- [Academic dishonesty / Academic integrity policy](#) Failure to comply with academic integrity, honesty, and behavior standards may result in course failure or administrative withdrawal from class. Make sure all assignments are your own original writing. All written assignments will be processed through the **Turnitin Plagiarism-Checker** program. Assignments with duplication scores above 10% may be returned with no credit.
- [Disruptive behavior policy](#)
- [Absences related to college functions](#)
- Reasonable Accommodation:

Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring reasonable academic adjustments, accommodations, or auxiliary aids to be successful in their program of study should contact the Disability Resource Center within the first two weeks of the beginning of classes for eligibility determination.

Proper documentation of impairment is required in order to receive services. DRC is located on the ground floor of the [Financial Aid Office](#). You may call 652-7516 to schedule an appointment for further information regarding the process to receive accommodations. DRC Coordinator determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

## DMAIL

You are required to frequently check your Dmail account. Important class and university information will be sent to your Dmail account, including DSU bills, financial aid/scholarship notices, notices of cancelled classes, reminders of important dates and deadlines, and other information critical to your success at DSU and in your courses. To access your Dmail

account, visit [go.dixie.edu/dmail](https://go.dixie.edu/dmail). If you do not know your Dmail username or you have forgotten your PIN, visit [go.dixie.edu/mydixie](https://go.dixie.edu/mydixie) and follow the respective instructions.

## **CONTACTING THE INSTRUCTOR**

You can post emails to me inside of CANVAS or to my outside of CANVAS address ([callen@dixie.edu](mailto:callen@dixie.edu)) with any questions or concerns about the class and expect a reply within 48 hours (usually much quicker). I am away from my office on Sundays, so the turn-around may be longer over the weekend.

# SPECIFIC INFORMATION

## COURSE STRUCTURE: WEEKLY MODULES

The course is organized into weekly modules. Each module corresponds to a topic presented in a chapter of our text. Each module includes preparation materials for the module (number of chapter being covered in the module, lecture notes, study guide), and the activities for the module (discussion, assignment, quiz or exam).

A module becomes available each week, on Monday, Day 1, beginning on Jan 12, 2015. The module will remain open until the following Monday, Day 8 (you will note that the last day of the previous module overlaps the first day of the following module).

The preparation materials and activities open when their module opens, and are to be completed by the time their module closes (Day 8). Missed exams, quizzes, and assignments cannot be made up, and credit will not be given for discussion posts submitted past the module close date. However, the lowest two quizzes and lowest two discussions will be dropped from final grade calculations.

## COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements will be posted as needed, to let you know when scores on class activities have been posted (see below), to remind you of important due dates, and to alert you to any updates and changes needed in the course as posted each week we move along.

Please send me an email if you run into any aspects of the course that aren't working, so I can fix them and let everyone know in an announcement.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### DISCUSSIONS (10 pts each, 25% of Course Grade)

There are 14 discussions, one for each learning module of the course except Module 15. Each discussion opens when its module opens, and closes when its module closes. The lowest two scoring discussions will be dropped from final grade calculations.

**Purpose of Discussions.** The weekly discussions are designed to give you opportunity to share your opinions about a number of controversial issues related to their respective module topics. There are no right or wrong answers. You are simply asked to share your position on the discussion topic and post comments to the opinions of your peers.

**Evaluation of Discussion Participation.** Because there are no right or wrong answers, evaluation of your discussion participation will be based simply on meeting the basic expectations for each discussion:

- 2 pts - posting your response to the discussion question by Day 3 (Wednesday) so that others will have time to read and post comments to your response before the module closes,
- 2 pts - posting a 200+ word response,
- 2 pts - posting your position and the number representing your position in the first sentence (if requested), and for addressing all the prompts of the question,
- 4 pts for posting 50+ word comments on two different days to the discussion question responses of your peers.

**To Enter a Discussion.** To enter a discussion, click the Module button in the side bar and then click the discussion link under the respective module. Instructions for responding to each discussion are included with the discussion question, and the scoring guide is posted at the bottom of the question.

### **ASSIGNMENTS (30 pts each, 25% of Course Grade)**

You will complete four assignments during the course. Each assignment will become available when its module opens, and is due by the close of its module. Instructions are included with each assignment.

**Accessing and Submitting Assignments.** Each assignment consists of a 2-3 page report based on one of the two assignment options (your choice). Assignments are accessed by clicking the Module button in the side menu and clicking the Assignment link under the respective module.

Upload your assignment as follows: click "Module" in side menu, click "Submit Assignment" button (little round button with a plus sign, towards upper right of page), click "Browse" and locate the saved assignment on your computer, click "Open", and finally click blue "Submit Assignment" button. Then (and this is very important) exit and come back into the assignment box to make certain that your assignment actually loaded into the assignment box as you intended.

**NOTE: LATE ASSIGNMENTS NOT ACCEPTED!** Late assignments will not be accepted except under extenuating circumstances (death in family, medical emergency, etc.), and **ONLY IF** documentation is provided to verify. Submit your assignments a day or two early to make certain that any computer difficulties can be resolved before the assignment is due. Contact the DSU Computer Help Desk if you do run into computer-related submission problems to make sure these problems are resolved so that you can have your assignments in before the deadlines. Computer problems will not be considered an acceptable reason for a late assignment

### **QUIZZES/EXAMS (240 pts, 50% of Course Grade)**

**QUIZZES (10 pts each, 25% of Course Grade).** There are 12 quizzes in the course, one for each learning module except those modules in which there is an exam. Quizzes consist of 10 questions worth 1 pt each, based on the text chapter for their respective modules. Quizzes open when their module opens, and close when their module closes. Quizzes cannot be made up.

To take a quiz, click the Module button in the side bar menu, then click the quiz link and follow instructions. You will have 30 minutes to complete the quiz. You may take each quiz

twice, with the highest score being recorded. These quizzes are open book/open notes (you may use your text and notes while taking a quiz).

NOTE: Be sure to save each answer, one by one by one, and then save the whole quiz when you finished. Otherwise, you may lose your answers, or the whole quiz.

**EXAMS (40 pts each, 25% of Course Grade).** There are three exams scheduled during the term, in Module 5, Module 11, and Module 15. Each exam consists of 40 questions worth 1 pt each and covers 5-6 chapters, including the chapter(s) of the module in which the exam is scheduled. There is no comprehensive exam for the course.

You must take the first two exams in the Testing Center, or at a proctored location arranged for you by the Testing Center (contact me if you plan to take the first two exams at a proctored location rather than at the DSU Testing Center). You may take the third exam at home—it will not be available in the testing center.

To take an exam, whether at the Testing Center or a proctored location (first two exams) or at home (the third exam), follow the same steps for taking a quiz. You will have 120 minutes to complete each exam. All exams are open book/open notes. Exams cannot be made up.

## GRADING SUMMARY

<u>Summary of Requirements</u>	<u>EnlGrd%</u>	<u>Due Dates</u>
Discussions (10 pts each) (lowest 2 Ds will be dropped)	25%	Mondays, close of module (Day 8)
Assignments (30 pts each)	25%	Mondays, close of module (Day 8)
Quizzes (10 pts each) (lowest 1 Q will be dropped)	25%	Mondays, close of module (Day 8)
<u>Exams (40 pts each)</u>	<u>25%</u>	<u>Mondays, close of module (Day 8)</u>
<b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>	<b>100%</b>	

### Grading Scale

A    93% - 100%	C    73% - 76%
A-   90% - 93%	C-   70% - 73%
B+   87% - 89%	D+   67% - 69%
B    83% - 86%	D    63% - 66%
B-   80% - 82%	D-   60% - 62%
C+   77% - 79%	F    0% - 59%

## SOC 1200-40 COURSE CALENDAR

MODULE	WEEK	TOPIC/CHAPTER	GRADED ACTIVITY DUE DATES
<b>1</b>	1/11-1/19	Introduction to Marriage and Family (Ch. 1)	1/19 M1 Discussion 1/19 M1 Quiz
<b>2</b>	1/19-1/26	How to Study Marriage and the Family (Ch. 2)	1/26 M2 Discussion 1/26 M2 Quiz
<b>3</b>	1/26-2/2	Communication, Power, and Conflict (Ch. 3)	2/2 M3 Discussion 2/2 M3 Quiz 2/2 (A1) Assignment
<b>4</b>	2/2-2/9	The Role of Gender (Ch. 4)	2/9 M4 Discussion 2/9 M4 Quiz
<b>5</b>	2/9-2/16	Friendship, Affection, Love, and Intimacy (Ch. 5)	2/16 M5 Discussion 2/16 EXAM 1 (Chs. 1-5) – Testing Center
<b>6</b>	2/16-2/23	Sex and Fertility (Ch. 6)	2/23 M6 Discussion 2/23 M6 Quiz
<b>7</b>	2/23-3/2	Choosing a Partner (Ch. 7)	3/2 M7 Discussion 3/2 M7 Quiz 3/2 (A2) Assignment
<b>8</b>	3/2-3/9	Preparing for Children and Parenting (Ch. 8)	3/9 M8 Discussion 3/9 M8 Quiz
<b>BREAK</b>	3/9-3/16	SPRING BREAK	
<b>9</b>	3/16-3/23	Family Variation (Ch. 9)	3/23 M9 Discussion 3/23 M9 Quiz
<b>10</b>	3/23-3/30	Middle-aged and Aging Families (Ch. 10)	3/30 M10 Discussion 3/30 M10 Quiz 3/30 (A3) Assignment
<b>11</b>	3/30-4/6	The Effects of Work and the Economy (Ch. 11)	4/6 M11 Discussion 4/6 EXAM 2 (Chs. 6–11) – Testing Center
<b>12</b>	4/6-4/13	Family and Social Institutions: Education, Religion, Politics, and the Legal System (Ch. 12)	4/13 M12 Discussion 4/13 M12 Quiz
<b>13</b>	4/13-4/20	Stress, Violence, and Abuse in Marriages and Families (Ch. 13)	4/20 M13 Discussion 4/20 M13 Quiz 4/20 (A4) Assignment
<b>14</b>	4/20-4/27	Separation and Divorce (Ch. 14)	4/27 M14 Discussion 4/27 M14 Quiz
<b>15</b>	4/27-5/4	Single-Parent Families, Remarriage, and Stepfamilies (Ch. 15) Enduring Families: Successful Patterns of Commitment (Ch. 16)	5/4 EXAM 3 (Chs 12 – 16) Take at home (not Testing Center)