

Sociology 2710 [A4]  
**THE FAMILY**

Spring Semester [May 4 – 28] 2009  
Grande Prairie Regional College  
Monday *thru* Thursday, 13:00-15:50 hrs.

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This course introduces students to the study of the sociology of family relationships. The course begins with an overview of marriage and family structures and a review of family theoretical frameworks and research techniques. The formation of intimate relationships, the development of marital roles and the transition to parenthood, gender roles, division of labor, and socialization are examined next. In the final part of the course we will look at families under stress; this includes the study of marital tensions and divorce – as well as remarriage, transitions and family/relationship innovations in the context of technological change.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING**

Mid-Point Exam (25 points).....	May 14
Exit Exam (25 points).....	May 28
Daily Group Current Events Presentations (20 points).....	<i>starts</i> May 6
<u>Semester Work</u> (50 points):	
(1) Proposal & Annotated Bibliography (20 points).....	<i>before</i> May 14
(2) Film Analysis (20 points).....	<i>before</i> May 20
(3) Family policies since World War One, <b>OR</b> , Discussion of Bill C-38 (2005) legislation (20 points).....	<i>before</i> May 27

**(Note:** With the exception of the two term exams, *all work will be done by groups of 2 students each*. Total points are 130; your total points will be converted to a percent (%) grade to determine your letter grade. For example,  $100/130 = 77\% = B+$  )

**REQUIRED TEXT(S)**

**[other course material will be distributed on an as-needed basis]**

Susan McDaniel & Lorne Tepperman 2007 (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.), **Close Relations: An Introduction to the Sociology of Families**. Pearson: Toronto.

*You are of course encouraged to read beyond the assigned course book(s). Check out popular magazines, academic books and journals and other sources for coverage of topics discussed in this course: such materials are available in the GPRC library, on the world wide web, through inter-library loans, and elsewhere.*

## SEMESTER EXAMS AND ASSIGNMENTS

*Examss (50 points)* may consist of multiple choice questions, true-and-false, and/or glossary terms/concepts -- based on all lecture and text materials. Details on the *semsester work (80 points)* will be discussed on the first day of classes. We're here for a good time - not a long time!!

Attendance at lectures is strong advised; the same applies to your active participation during class. **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS FOR THIS COURSE FOR THIS SEMESTER – NO EXCEPTIONS.** Applicable assignments will result in a loss of 10 marks (of the value of the work) **PER DAY**, up to and including the day of the make-up exam or a late submission, unless prior arrangements have been made or there is an emergency you can document.

## WEEKLY TEXT/LECTURE SCHEDULE

We will refer to the table of contents of the Text(s) for the chapter title and chapter content for the topic(s) for each week in the semester. Lectures may not strictly follow the book(s) sequence, but you will still be responsible for the contents of the chapters for each particular week: specific chapter(s) will be announced daily. Also, the chapters and days will overlap, giving you the chance to get 'caught up' or to read ahead, as the case may be. PLEASE CHECK BLACKBOARD FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS, etc., ON A REGULAR BASIS.

### Important dates:

Classes begin, Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> **Mid-Point Exam**, Thursday, May 14th

**Victoria Day, May 18<sup>th</sup> – no classes** **Exit Exam**, Thursday, May 28th

**Assignment #1** – Research proposal/annotated bibliography – **anytime before May 14**

**Assignment #2** – Film analysis – **anytime before May 20**

**Assignment #3** – Choice of: Trace family government policies since WWI; or,  
Discussion of Bill C-38 (2005)  
-- **anytime before May 27**

Classes end, Thursday May 28th

## GRADING SYSTEM

Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Percentage Range	Description
A+	4.0	95 - 100	<i>Outstanding</i>
A	4.0	85 - 94	<i>Excellent</i>
A-	3.7	80 - 84	
B+	3.3	76 - 79	
B	3.0	73 - 75	<i>Good</i>
B-	2.7	70 - 72	
C+	2.3	67 - 69	
C	2.0	64 - 66	<i>Satisfactory</i>
C-	1.7	60 - 63	
D+	1.3	55 - 59	
D	1.0	50 - 54	<i>Minimal Pass</i>
F	0.0	0 - 49	<i>Fail</i>

### ***Six Ways To Make This Course More Valuable:***

- 1. Participate, to engage your learning**
- 2. Question, to enhance your learning**
- 3. Read, to expand your learning**
- 4. Reflect, to measure your learning**
- 5. Apply, to transfer your learning**
- 6. Innovate, to adapt your learning**