

Sociology 2710 [A4]
THE FAMILY

Spring Semester [May 5 – 29] 2008
Grande Prairie Regional College
Monday *thru* Thursday, 09:00-11:50 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

Test #1 (25%).....	May 15th
Test #2 (25%).....	May 29th
Daily media article analysis (20%; each student does 3).....	TBA
Genogram project and accompanying essay (30%).....	May 28 th

REQUIRED TEXT(S)

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

Maureen Baker, 2007, Choices and Constraints in Family Life. Oxford University Press: Don Mills.

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

Tests (50%) may consist of multiple choice questions, true-and-false, and/or glossary terms/concepts -- based on all lecture and text materials. Details on the **assignments (50%)** 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. **Missed tests and 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 weeks 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, Tuesday, May 5th

Test #1, Thursday, May 15th

Victoria Day, May 19th – no classes

Test #2, Thursday, May 29th

Classes end, Thursday May 29th

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**