

Montgomery County Community College
 SOC 230
 Sociology of Families
 3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the historical development of families; class, ethnic and sexual variations of family structure in contemporary societies; social issues that impact contemporary families; the division of labor and power in families; and current trends in American family patterns.

REQUISITES:

Previous Course Requirements

None

Concurrent Course Requirements

None

| LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to: | LEARNING ACTIVITIES | EVALUATION METHODS |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Discuss cultural variations of marriage and family patterns. | Assigned Readings NBC Content Research Resources Discussion Board AV/Multimedia Materials | Written Assignments Written Exams |
| 2. Discuss the main conceptual issues of marriage and family relationships. | Assigned Readings NBC Content Research Resources Discussion Board AV/Multimedia Materials | Written Assignments Written Exams |
| 3. Compare and contrast traditional and modern forms of marriage and family life. | Assigned Readings NBC Content Research Resources Discussion Board AV/Multimedia Materials | Written Assignments Written Exams |
| 4. Explain contemporary trends in marriage and family relationships from a sociological perspective. | Assigned Readings NBC Content Research Resources Discussion Board AV/Multimedia Materials | Written Assignments Written Exams |

| LEARNING OUTCOMES | LEARNING ACTIVITIES | EVALUATION METHODS |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| 5. Discuss diversity in marriage and family patterns including racial, ethnic, social class and age cohorts. | Assigned Readings NBC Content Research Resources Discussion Board AV/Multimedia Materials | Written Assignments Written Exams |

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Sociological Theories applied to Family Systems
2. Variety and Change in Family Patterns Historically and Globally
3. Diversity in Families including Racial, Ethnic, Sexual, Religious and Social Class
4. Changing Gender Roles and Sexuality
5. Social Patterns in Dating, Cohabitation and Life Partner Selection
6. Types of Marriages in the U.S. and Other Cultures
7. The Challenge of Communication
8. Power, Conflict and Adjustment in Marriage and Family Relationships
9. Work and Money Management
10. Dynamics of Parenthood
11. Family Crises and Marital Dissolution
12. Remarriage and Stepfamilies
13. Family Patterns in Mid-Life
14. Aging and Family Issues

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Lauer, R., and Lauer, J. (2012). *Marriage and Family: The Quest for Intimacy* (8th ed.).

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries.

COURSE APPROVAL:

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| Prepared by: D. Goldberg | Date: 4/1998 |
| Revised by: Sophia Demasi and Elsa Rapp | Date: 2002 |
| Revised by: Lee Wood | Date: 3/2013 |
| Revised by: Lee Wood | Date: 4/2013 |
| VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D. | Date: 4/18/2013 |
| Revised by: Mary Lou Whitehill | Date: 2/26/2018 |
| VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: | Date: 2/27/2018 |



This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.