

SOC-2020: SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: SOC-2020 : Sociology of the Family

Board of Trustees:

2100-01-01

Academic Term:

Spring 2021

Subject Code

SOC - Sociology

Course Number:

2020

Title:

Sociology of the Family

Catalog Description:

Historical, comparative, and contemporary analysis of marriages and families and their relationship to other social institutions. Sociological perspectives used to understand social, psychological and economic aspects of intimate interpersonal relations across the lifecourse and among a variety of lifestyles and cultures.

Credit Hour(s):

3

Lecture Hour(s):

3

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite

SOC-1010 Introductory Sociology, or SOC-101H Honors Introductory Sociology, or PSY-1010 General Psychology, or PSY-101H Honors General Psychology, or ANTH-1010 Cultural Anthropology.

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):

Analyze diversity in family form.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Objective(s):

1. Differentiate between US Census Bureau, cross-cultural, and social science categorizations of marriages and families.
2. Examine diversity in family form including single parent families, blended families, extended families, gay and lesbian families, and racial/ethnic minority group families.
3. Analyze the causes and consequences of relationship termination including the demographics of cohabitation, divorce, and remarriage.
4. Explain marriage and family changes over the life course including the early marriage, the middle aged marriage, married couples in later life, and death and dying.

Course Outcome(s):

Apply fundamental sociological theories to family research and public policy issues.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Information Literacy: Acquire, evaluate, and use information from credible sources in order to meet information needs for a specific research purpose.

Objective(s):

1. Differentiate between applications of Structural Functionalism, Conflict Theory, and Symbolic Interactionism.
 2. Examine how the family is affected by social institutions such as the economy, the government, and mass media.
 3. Analyze the role of social structure, governmental policy, and systems of inequality on family form and dynamics.
 4. Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using surveys, experiments, case studies, and field research for performing family research.
 5. Recognize interdisciplinary contributions to the study of the family.
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Course Outcome(s):

Analyze the causes and consequences of family violence

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Objective(s):

1. Explain the structural causes of abuse.
 2. Describe characteristics of abusive households.
 3. Recognize how abuse affects children.
 4. Analyze why intimate partners remain in abusive relationships.
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Course Outcome(s):

Differentiate among sex, gender, and sexual orientation.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Objective(s):

1. Explain the social construction of masculinity and femininity.
 2. Differentiate between the issues of biology and gender and biology and sexual orientation.
 3. Examine the lesbian and gay family experience.
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Course Outcome(s):

Analyze the role of the parent.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Objective(s):

1. Examine the benefits and costs of children.
 2. Explain the advantages and disadvantages of postponing parenting.
 3. Differentiate between authoritarian, authoritative, and permissive parenting styles.
 4. Analyze the impact of having children outside of marriage.
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Course Outcome(s):

Conduct a family-based research project.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Information Literacy: Acquire, evaluate, and use information from credible sources in order to meet information needs for a specific research purpose.

Objective(s):

1. Review existing literature.
2. Develop hypotheses.
3. Gather data using appropriate data collection methods.
4. Analyze data and report results.

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Tests and quizzes
2. Evaluation of student interaction
3. Online and classroom discussion
4. Participant observation reports
5. Case studies
6. Small and large group activities
7. Journals
8. Student-based independent research

Course Content Outline:

1. History of the family in the US
 - a. The colonial family
 - b. Early American families from non-European cultures
 - c. The slave family
 - d. The 1950s family
 - e. Contemporary family forms
2. Cross-cultural comparisons and perspectives
 - a. Family structures in industrialized nations
 - b. Pre-industrial family structures
3. Family structural diversity
 - a. Single parent families
 - b. Lesbian and gay families
 - c. Blended families
 - d. Extended family
 - e. Nuclear family
4. Racial and ethnic diversity among families
 - a. African American families
 - b. Hispanic families
 - c. Asian American families
 - d. Native American families
 - e. Recent European immigrant families
5. Gender roles
 - a. Biological and social definitions of sex, gender, and sexual orientation
 - b. Social learning theory and gender
 - c. Social construction of masculinity and femininity
 - d. The family, peer groups, schools and the media as agents of gender socialization
6. Sociological theory and the family
 - a. Structural-functionalism
 - b. Feminist theories
 - c. Conflict theory
 - d. Symbolic interactionism
7. Sociological research methods
 - a. Importance of the scientific method
 - b. Sampling
 - c. Survey research
 - d. Participant observation
 - e. Experiments
 - f. Case studies
 - g. Secondary analysis
 - h. Statistical analysis
8. Social psychological approach to the study of the family
 - a. The family ecology perspective
 - b. The social exchange perspective
 - c. The family systems theory
9. Pairing and mating

- a. The role of homogamy in mate selection
 - b. Cohabitation
 - c. Cyber dating
 - d. The marriage marketplace
 - e. Interracial dating
 - f. Dating in later life
10. Parenting
 - a. Contemporary parenting roles
 - b. Parenting styles and discipline
 - c. Parenting in lesbian and gay families
 11. Work and the family
 - a. Family adaptation to economic changes
 - b. Two-career families
 - c. Inequality in the workplace
 - d. Family friendly work policies
 12. Separation and divorce
 - a. Separation: process and outcome
 - b. Stations of divorce
 - c. Divorce and children
 - d. Interpersonal reasons for divorce
 - e. Macro-level reasons for divorce
 13. Remarriage
 - a. Remarriage as a process
 - b. The stepmother role
 - c. The stepfather role
 - d. Couple dynamics in stepfamilies
 14. Families in later life
 - a. Widowhood
 - b. Retirement
 - c. Grandparenting styles
 15. Family violence
 - a. Child abuse and child neglect
 - b. Marital and intimate partner violence
 - c. Elder abuse
 - d. Sibling abuse
 - e. Demographics of abusive households
 - f. Role of substance abuse and poverty
 - g. Role of patriarchy
 - h. Exchange theory and partner abuse
 - i. Social learning theory and child abuse

Resources

Benokraitis, Nijole V. *Marriages and Families: Changes, Choices, and Constraints*. 8th ed. Upper Saddle Ridge: Pearson, 2015.

Hanna, Sharon. *Person to Person: Positive Relationships Don't Just Happen*. 5th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2008.

Hines, Denise, Malley-Morrison, Kathleen, Leila B. Dutton. *Family Violence in the United States: Defining, Understanding, and Combating Abuse*. 2nd. Thousand Oak, CA: Sage, 2013.

Cherlin, Andrew J. *Public and Private Families: An Introduction*. 7th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2013.

Coontz, Stephanie. *The Way We Never Were: American Families and the Nostalgia Trap*. New York: BasicBooks, 2000.

Andersen, Margaret L, and Collins P. Hill. *Race, Class, and Gender: An Anthology*. 9th. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning, 2016.

Babbie, Earl. *The Practice of Social Research*. 14th. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning, 2016.

"American Journal of Sociology"

"Journal of Family Studies"

"Journal of Health and Social Behavior"

"Journal of Marriage and the Family"

"Journal of Interpersonal Violence"

"Journal of Divorce Remarriage"

"Sex Roles: A Journal of Research"

Instructional Services

OAN Number:

Ohio Transfer Module TMSBS and Transfer Assurance Guide OSS023

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Key: 4049