



SOC 316-01W SOCIOLOGY OF MARRIAGE & THE FAMILY

COURSE SYLLABUS: SUMMER I

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Julia Meszaros, Assistant Professor
Office Location: Ferguson 230
Office Hours: BY APPOINTMENT ONLINE M-F, 8-5
Office Fax: **903-886-5330**
University Email Address: Julia.Meszaros@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: **Email**
Communication Response Time: 48 hours, M-F 9 to 5 PM

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required: *Marriages, Families and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society* by Mary Ann Lamanna, Agnes Riedmann, Susan D. Stewart (may use earlier editions)
Software Required D2L

Course Description

This course is a general introduction to marriage and family relationships in the United States, along with comparative examples of other cultures for critical thinking. Topics covered include an overview of the institution of marriage and family, theoretical perspectives on the institution, research approaches in studying the institution, gendered identities, love and intimacy, human sexuality, dating and courtship, the single life, kinship responsibilities, cohabitation, communication, dual career marriages, conflict and divorce, aging process, and marital adjustment and enrichment.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will apply the Sociological imagination to topics surrounding marriage and family across different cultural and historical contexts.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

2. Students will apply critical thinking skills to examine family structures across cultures
3. Students will analyze different media representations of family structures by using sociological theories regarding marriage and the family.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To be successful in the course you must be able to use D2L, and using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint.

Instructional Methods

This course will be delivered entirely online. You must have access to D2L in order to complete the requirements for this course.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

You must log into D2L multiple times a week in order to be successful in this course. All course communications and assignments will be completed through D2L. If you have questions regarding access to D2L or technical requirements, information to reach out to Campus IT is provided below.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100% 900-1000 points

B = 80%-89% 800-899

C = 70%-79% 700-799

D = 60%-69% 600-699

F = 59% or Below 599

Assessments

Exams: 4 Exams (4@200 points each, 800 Total)

The exams will be non-cumulative and only cover each week's reading materials from the assigned chapters. Exams will be 50 questions long, and you will have a time limit of 60 minutes. Exams will include multiple choice, and fill in the blank. All exams will be taken on D2L.

Weekly Discussion Board Postings (4 @ 50 points: 200 points): Each week students will post to a discussion board analyzing two videos that highlight topics from the course in contemporary life examples. Each student will post a 250 word response to the prompt questions that relate to each video. Students will need to post responses to at least two of their classmates' post in order to engage with each other.

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Ice Breaker Board Posting (1 @ 10 points): The Ice Breaker will be good things come in threes.

Student Learning Outcome 1 will be assessed by assessed by through exams and weekly discussion posts.

Student Learning Outcome 2 will be assessed by through exams and discussion posts.

Student Learning Outcome 3 will be assessed through weekly discussion posts.

LATE WORK POLICY: Late work will be marked down by 10% for a week late, 30% off for two weeks late, and 50% for three weeks late. Beyond three weeks, late work WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

GRADING POLICY: Grades will not be changed after final submission nor do I round grades at the end of the semester.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support

Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words “[click here](#)” to submit an issue via email.



System Maintenance

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

I prefer communication via email. I rarely answer my office phone and am much more likely to respond to email. I will respond to email within 24 to 48 hours, between normal business hours of 8am to 5pm. Please be sure that when you email me, you use a proper greeting (Dr. Meszaros Professor Meszaros) an email body, and an appropriate closing. You should never send an email with just an attachment and no email body. Be sure you have an appropriate and informative subject line and include the name and section of the course you are enrolled in. See the attached page for some email expectations that would serve you well in all future communication with any professors or potential employers.

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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

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ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week One (6/3-6/9)

Read Chapters 1, 2 & 3,
Online Discussion Due: 6/8
Ice Breaker Due: 6/8

Week Two (6/10-6/16)

Read Chapters 4, 5, & 6
Online Discussion Due: 6/15
Exam One Due: 6/15

Week Three (6/17-6/23)

Read Chapters 7, 8, & 9
Online Discussions Due: 6/22
Exam Two: 6/22

Week Four (6/24-6/30)

Read Chapter 10, 11, 12
Online Discussion Due: 6/29
Exam Three Due: 6/29

Week Five (7/1-7/3)

Read Chapter 13, 14, 15
Online Discussion Due: 7/3
Exam Four Due: 7/3

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