Hibbing Community College

SOC 1400: Marriage and the Family

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 3
Lab Hours/Week: None
Prerequisites: None

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
The family is one of the most powerful sources of socialization, or the process that makes us human. In this course, we will study the history, racial and ethnic differences, and humanizing forces of family. We will explore love, sexuality, marriage, and parenting. Divorce and families in later life will be dissected. This course emphasizes the sociological perspective and the effects of social structure and socialization. Marriage and Family meets the Minnesota State Sociology Transfer Pathway Elective A requirements. MNTE Goal Area(s): (05) History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences and (07) Human Diversity.

COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:

OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. The changing family
   A. Traditional and contemporary
   B. Family functions and marriage rules
   C. Macro-level constraints and micro-level choices
   D. Multicultural, cross-cultural, and global perspectives

2. Studying the family
   A. Theory and research
   B. Theoretical perspectives, macro and micro
   C. Data-collection methods
   D. Ethical standards

3. Historical perspective of family
   A. Colonial America through the present
   B. Experiences of early Native Americans, African Americans, and Mexican Americans
   C. Impacts of industrialization, urbanization, and immigration on the American family

4. Racial and ethnic families
   A. Racial-ethnic diversity
   B. Characteristics of and variations among:
      i. African American families
      ii. Native American families
      iii. Latino families
      iv. Asian American families
v. Middle Eastern American families
   C. Change in interracial and interethnic relationships in American marriages and families

5. Socialization and gender roles
   A. Sex, gender, gender identity, gender roles, and gender stereotypes.
   B. Theoretical perspectives
   C. Sources of learning gender roles
   D. Gender inequality across cultures

6. Love and loving relationships
   A. Theoretical perspectives that explain love
   B. Functions of love
   C. Variation across cultures

7. Sexuality and sexual expression
   A. Sexuality as a product of our sexual identity, sexual orientation, and sexual scripts
   B. Primary sources that influence our sexual behavior
   C. Types of sexual behaviors

8. Dating and mate selection
   A. Manifest and latent functions of dating
   B. Traditional and contemporary dating patterns
   C. Mate-selection theories
   D. Mate-selection differences across cultures

9. Singlehood
   A. Who lives alone and why
   B. Racial and ethnic singles
   C. Cohabitation

10. Marriage and communication in intimate relationships
    A. Interrelation of marital happiness, marital success, and health
    B. Establishing, negotiating, and learning marital roles
    C. Change of marriages throughout the life course

11. Parenting
    A. Benefits, costs, and effects of parenthood
    B. Parenting options

12. Raising children
    A. Rewards and difficulties
    B. Child development theories
    C. Parenting

13. The economy
    A. Economy impact on families
    B. Labor force participation of men and women
    C. Workplace policies
14. Domestic violence
   A. Types of intimate partner violence
   B. Child and elder maltreatment
   C. Theoretical explanations of family abuse and violence

15. Separation, divorce, remarriage, and stepfamilies
   A. Micro- and macro-level reasons for divorce
   B. Effects of divorce
   C. Rate and process of remarriage

16. Families in later life
   A. Effects of physical and mental health and ageism
   B. Work patterns and retirement income
   C. Grand-parenting
   D. Family caregiving

**LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

1. Students will articulate the processes by which social forces affect individuals through families and families through individuals.
2. Students will apply founding sociological theoretical traditions to family, socialization, love, mate-selection.
3. Students will explain how social structure affects individuals and families at the micro, meso, and macro levels.
4. Students will articulate the processes through which groups, formal organizations, and social networks influence human thought and action as they pertain to marriage and family.
5. Students will explain how hierarchy, power and authority operate within and upon families.
6. Students will explain the relationship between the self and society, our expectations and understandings of marriage and family.
7. Students will articulate how the self is socially constructed, maintained and transformed at multiple levels through family.

**Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

Human Diversity

**HCC COMPETENCIES:**

Social/Civic Responsibility

Thinking Creatively and Critically

**STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS:**

Students will be expected to

1. attend class regularly and communicate absences in advance.
2. exhibit appropriate classroom behavior including no cell phone use and respectful discourse.
3. read all assigned material on a timely basis.
4. complete quizzes/tests on scheduled dates.
5. complete all writing assignments.
METHODS FOR EVALUATING STUDENT LEARNING:
Student assessment shall take place using instruments selected/developed by the course instructor.

Curriculum Committee Approval Date: December 3, 2018

AASC APPROVAL DATE: December 19, 2018
REVIEW DATE: December 2023