

**Lakehead University
Department of Sociology
Sociology 2501YA
Family Sociology**

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Fall and Winter Semesters: 2013-2014
Class Times: Monday and Wednesday 11.30-1.00
Classes are held in: UC 2011
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 9.30-10.30

Course Description

Families are shaped by historical and cultural change and it is through examining the social, political, and cultural milieu of Canadian society that a full understanding of the family in Canada can be achieved. Family is not static and recognizing the complexity of family provides a starting point for sociological analysis of family. This course will examine the family in Canada by challenging traditional approaches to the study of family. A critical approach will provide a means to engage in discourse on family in a historical context and what this means for family in Canada today. Several substantive areas will be discussed in detail: what family is, family histories, family forms, ethnicity and families, divorce, socialization and youth, economics and poverty, violence, intimacy, work, theoretical perspectives, law and public policy, and aging and families. Central to our discussion are the structured inequalities that shape the form of family life.

Texts

Mandell, Nancy and Ann Duffy, Eds. 2011. *Canadian Families Diversity, Conflict, and Change*. Toronto: Thomson Nelson.

Fox, Bonnie J., Ed. 2009. *Family Patterns Gender Relations*. Don Mills: Oxford University Press.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to attend class regularly and actively participate in class discussions. As well, reading assignments are to be completed for the date they are assigned. The reading list is attached to this syllabus. It is your responsibility to ensure you know the dates and times of all examinations. The in-class mid-term examination is listed below. The December and Final examinations are posted by the registrar and the schedule for these can be found online.

Late papers and rescheduling of examinations must be accompanied by a note from a medical doctor or counsellor.

| <u>Evaluation</u> | <u>Marks</u> | <u>Due Dates</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Mid-Term Examination | 15% | Oct. 16, 2013 |
| December Examination | 25% | Set by the Registrar |
| Assignment | 25% | March 10, 2014 |
| Final Examination | 25% | Set by the Registrar |
| Participation | <u>10%</u> | Throughout the course |
| | 100% | |

Examinations

The examinations will incorporate lectures, class discussions, films and assigned readings.

Participation

Your participation mark is based on your contribution to class discussions.

Assignment

You are to choose a decade, prior to 2000, and examine family within that decade. Your paper is to focus on how macro structures impact upon family. You are to include political, economic, and social issues within the decade that affected family life. For example, did the economy facilitate or restrict family formation, the number of children families had, etc.

For each quotation or paraphrasing used, you must provide a photocopy of the source.

Your assignment is to be 8 to 10 typed pages in length, Times New Roman style, 12 font, and double-spaced.

You are to use the American Sociological Association (ASA) style guide when formatting your paper.

The Assignment is due, March 10, 2014 at the beginning of class. Late assignments are penalized at the rate of 5% per day late.

NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE HANDED IN ELECTRONICALLY.

American Sociological Association (ASA)

All assignments in the Department of Sociology are to follow the ASA style guide.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is unacceptable and subject to various sanctions. Please see the university regulations section on academic dishonesty in the [Lakehead University Calendar](#).

Grades

Midterms and your assignment will be returned in class. You have two weeks, after the day midterms and the assignment are handed back in class, to come and discuss your grade.

Please Note: I do try to answer email in a timely fashion. I do guarantee a response during my regularly scheduled office hours. I do not discuss marks through email.

Tentative Lecture and Reading Schedule Fall Semester 2013

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| 1. Mon. Sept. 09: | Welcome to Family Sociology Introductions Course Outline |
| 2. Wed. Sept. 11: | Lecture: Introduction to Family Sociology Portraying Canadian Families Reading: Mandell and Duffy – Chapter 1 |
| 3. Mon. Sept. 16: | Lecture: Family Forms Reading: Fox – Chapters 1 and 2 |
| 4. Wed. Sept. 18: | Lecture: Family Forms Reading: Fox – Chapter 3 |
| 5. Mon. Sept. 23: | Lecture: Theoretical Perspectives Reading: No Assigned Reading |

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| 6. Wed. Sept. 25: | Lecture: Family Histories Reading: Fox – Chapter 4 |
| 7. Mon. Sept. 30: | Lecture: Family Histories Reading: Fox – Chapter 5 |
| 8. Wed. Oct. 02: | Lecture: Family Histories Reading: Fox – Chapters 6 and 7 |
| 9. Mon. Oct.07: | Lecture: Canadian Youth Culture: Consumption, Resistance, and Rave Reading: Mandell and Duffy – Chapter 3 |
| 10. Wed. Oct. 09: | Lecture: Canadian Youth Culture: Consumption, Resistance, and Rave Reading: Fox – Chapter 19 |
| 11. Mon. Oct. 14: | Thanksgiving No Class |
| 12. Wed. Oct. 16: | Mid-term Examination |
| 13. Mon. Oct. 21: | Lecture: Immigrant and Racialized Families Reading: Mandell and Duffy – Chapter 4 |
| 14. Wed. Oct. 23: | Lecture: Immigrant and Racialized Families Reading: Fox – Chapter 28 |
| 15. Mon. Oct. 28: | Lecture: Immigrant and Racialized Families Reading: Fox – Chapter 29 |
| 16. Wed. Oct. 30: | Lecture: Immigrant and Racialized Families Reading: Fox – Chapter 26 |
| 17. Mon. Nov.04: | Lecture: Intimacy as Discourse Reading: Mandell and Duffy – Chapter 2 |
| 18. Wed. Nov. 06: | Lecture: Intimacy as Discourse Reading: Fox – Chapters 15 and 16 |
| 19. Mon. Nov. 11: | Lecture: Intimacy as Discourse Reading: Fox – Chapter 14 |
| 20. Wed. Nov. 13: | Lecture: Violence in Canadian Families Across the Life Course Reading: Mandell and Duffy – Chapter 9 |
| 21. Mon. Nov. 18: | Lecture: Violence in Canadian Families Across the Life Course Reading: No reading assigned |
| 22. Wed. Nov. 20: | Lecture: Violence in Canadian Families Across the Life Course Reading: Fox – Chapter 31 |

23. Mon. Nov. 25: Lecture: Violence in Canadian Families Across the Life Course
Reading: No reading assigned
24. Wed. Nov.27: Lecture: Violence in Canadian Families Across the Life Course
Reading: No reading assigned
25. Mon. Dec.02: This is a regularly scheduled class and will be a catch-up class

Tentative Lecture and Reading Schedule Winter Semester 2014

1. Mon. Jan. 06: Happy New Year and Welcome Back to Family Sociology
Review Winter Reading Schedule
Lecture: Begin LGBTQ Families in Canada: Private Lives and Public Discourse
Reading: No reading assigned
2. Wed. Jan. 08: Lecture: LGBTQ Families in Canada: Private Lives and Public Discourse
Reading: Mandell and Duffy – Chapter 5
3. Mon. Jan 13: Lecture: LGBTQ Families in Canada: Private Lives and Public Discourse
Reading: Fox – Chapters 22 and 24
4. Wed. Jan. 15: Lecture: Marriage-Go-Round: Divorce and Remarriage in Canada
Reading: Mandell and Duffy – Chapter 8
5. Mon. Jan. 20 : Lecture: Marriage-Go-Round: Divorce and Remarriage in Canada
Reading: Fox – Chapter 9
6. Wed. Jan. 22: Lecture: Marriage-Go-Round: Divorce and Remarriage in Canada
Reading: Fox – Chapter 32
7. Mon. Jan. 27 : Film TBA
8. Wed. Jan. 29: Lecture: Families in Tough Times: The Impact of Economic Crises
Reading: Mandell and Duffy – Chapter 6
9. Mon. Feb. 03: Lecture: Families in Tough Times: The Impact of Economic Crises
Reading: Fox – Chapter 33
10. Wed. Feb. 05: Lecture: Family Life in 1950s
Reading: Fox – Chapter 10
11. Mon. Feb. 10: Lecture: “Politicizing the Personal”: Feminism, Law, and Public Policy
Reading: Fox – Chapter 8
12. Wed. Feb. 12: Lecture: “Politicizing the Personal”: Feminism, Law, and Public Policy
Reading: Fox – Chapter 20
13. Mon. Feb. 17: **Reading Week – No Class**

14. Wed. Feb. 19: **Reading Week – No Class**
15. Mon. Feb. 24: Lecture: “Politicizing the Personal”: Feminism, Law, and Public Policy
Reading: No Reading Assigned
16. Wed. Feb. 26: Lecture: Aging Families
Reading: Mandell and Duffy – Chapter 10
17. Mon. Mar. 03: Lecture: Aging Families
Reading: No reading assigned
18. Wed. Mar. 05: Lecture: Aging Families
Reading: No reading assigned
19. Mon. Mar. 10: Lecture: Adoption
Reading: No reading assigned
Assignment is Due
20. Wed. Mar. 12: Lecture: Polygamy
Reading: No reading assigned
21. Mon. Mar. 17: Lecture: Families at Work: Individual versus Collective Strategies ...
Reading: Mandell and Duffy – Chapter 7
22. Wed. Mar. 19: Lecture: Families at Work: Individual versus Collective Strategies ...
Reading: Fox – Chapters 11 and 18
23. Mon. Mar. 24: Lecture: Families at Work: Individual versus Collective Strategies ...
Reading: Fox – Chapters 21 and 17
24. Wed. Mar. 26: Lecture: Families at Work: Individual versus Collective Strategies ...
Reading: Fox – Chapters 23 and 25
25. Mon. Mar. 31: Lecture: Families at Work: Individual versus Collective Strategies ...
Reading: Fox – Chapter 27
26. Wed. Apr. 02: This is a regularly scheduled class and will be a Catch-up Class