

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE

Course: SO 216: Sociology of the Family

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: EN 060, SO 201

Description: This course provides the student with an examination of the family as a social institution in U.S. society. Topics include the family's historical development and changing structure, child rearing practices, and marriage and divorce.

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Discuss the history and contemporary trends in intimate relationships
- Compare and contrast the six major theories on gender role and identify
- Discuss and evaluate the factors that contribute to attraction
- Evaluate the meaning, characteristics and effects of romantic love in relation to marriage
- Discuss the basic stages of the family life cycle
- Explain why people want power as it pertains to self-actualization, social expectations, family –of- origin influences, and psychological needs
- Outline reasons for family planning
- Identify how philosophies regarding family and family issues change over time
- Identify the sources of conflict in the family

Topical Outline:

- Intimate Relationships, Marriages, and Families in the Twenty-First Century
- Chapter 2: Gender: Identity and Roles
- Chapter 3: Being Single
- Chapter 4: Attraction and Dating
- Chapter 5: Love and Mate Selection
- Chapter 6: Qualities of a Successful Marriage
- Chapter 7: Marital Relationships over The Family Life Cycle
- Chapter 8: Work, Family Roles, and Material Resources
- Chapter 9: Power, Decision Making, and Communication
- Chapter 10: Sexual Relationships
- Chapter 11: Family Planning and Parenting

- Chapter 12: Pregnancy and Childbirth
- Chapter 13: Parent-Child Relationships
- Chapter 14: Parents and Extended Family Relationships
- Chapter 15: Conflict, Family Crises, and Crisis Management
- Chapter 16: The Family and Divorce
- Chapter 17: Coming Together: Remarriage and Step-parenting

Text: DeGenova, Mary K., Stinnett, Nancy, Stinnett, N. (2011). *Intimate Relationships, Marriages & Families* (8th ed.). McGraw-Hill.

Student Assessment: Assessment may be accomplished through projects, portfolios, exams, presentations and/or papers.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation. Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense. As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of **ZERO** and the student may receive a grade of **F** for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Note: If you are having difficulty with work in this class tutoring is available through the Center for Academic & Student Success. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600 x 1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

Before Withdrawing From This Course

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) **BEFORE** withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.