

South Plains College: General Course Syllabus

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: Sociology

Course Number: Sociology 2301

Course Name: Marriage and Family

Credit Hours: Semester credit: 3, Lecture: 3, Lab: 0

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement: No – satisfies an elective requirement for Behavioral Science

Prerequisites: TSI reading for INET

Campuses: INET

Textbook: M & F 4rd Edition, Knox, Cengage Publishing, 2018

Course Specific Instructions: INET classes go Blackboard link on SPC homepage

Course Description: Sociological and theoretical analysis of the structures and functions of the family, the varied cultural patterns of the American family, and the relationships that exist among the individuals within the family, as well as the relationships that exist between the family and other institutions in society.

Course Purpose: This course is designed to provide students with an understanding how the definition of family is changing and how family experiences are influenced from within and also from external social forces.

Course Requirements: Students should regularly log into the course and complete assignments, quizzes, discussion postings, and any other work included in the course.

Supplies: Computer and Internet access for Internet courses and campus classes.

Course Evaluation: Refer to specific COURSE INFORMATION SHEET for specifics on assigned work and testing.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of

time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have “Never Attended” by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student’s responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

See instructor’s Course Information Sheet for additions to the attendance policy.

Disability Services Policy: Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland Student Health & Wellness Center 806-716-2577, Reese Center (also covers ATC) Building 8: 806-716-4675, Plainview Center Main Office: 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611, or the Health and Wellness main number at 806-716-2529. See *South Plains College General Catalog* for more information.

Academic Integrity Policy: It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

- **Cheating:** Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the text- book or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of what- ever length, as well as to final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.

- **Plagiarism:** Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identifiable expression of material taken from books, Internet resources, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

See *South Plains College Student Guide* and *South Plains College General Catalog* for more information.

See instructor's course information sheet for more information.

Student Conduct Policy:

- **Classroom Conduct:** Failure to comply with lawful direction of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class may result in the student being dropped from that course.
- See *South Plains College Student Guide* for full policy covering other areas of conduct including penalties for misconduct and procedures for disciplinary action.

Grade and Academic Discipline Appeals: South Plains College provides two procedures which allow students the opportunity to address grievances of an academic nature.

- **Appeal Restrictions:** Only final grades or dismissal resulting from academic discipline will be considered. The instructor's teaching ability or expertise will not be considered during the hearing. No grade or disciplinary action can be formally appealed after a period of six (6) months from the date that the student is informed
- **Informal Appeal**
 - The student should schedule an appointment with the instructor of the course to discuss the final grade or disciplinary action.
 - 2. If the student is still not satisfied, she should schedule an appointment with the appropriate departmental chairperson to discuss the situation. The chairperson may request that the instructor also be present.
 - 3. If the student is still not satisfied, he she should schedule an appointment with the Divisional Dean to discuss the situation. The dean may request that the chairperson also be present.
 - 4. If the student is still not satisfied, he she should be advised of the formal appeal process.
- **Formal Appeal:** If the student is not satisfied with the results of the informal appeal, s/he should provide the following information, in writing, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs:
 - A request for a formal appeals hearing.
 - 2. A brief statement of what is being appealed.
 - 3. The basis for the appeal.
 - 4. Pertinent facts relating to the appeal.
- The agenda of the appeals hearing will include only those factors documented in the student's appeal request letter. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will determine the date, time and place of the hearing, and notify the student accordingly.
- **The Hearing**
 - Composition of the appeals committee:

- Vice President for Academic Affairs will preside over the hearing.
- Faculty member of the student's choice.
- Faculty member and student selected by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- President of Student Government Association.
- Dean of Students.
- Other persons who should be available at the hearing:
 - The student who requested the hearing.
 - The faculty member involved.
 - Anyone the student or faculty member wishes to be present to substantiate the case.
 - Chairperson and Divisional Dean.
- Hearing procedure:
- The committee will hear the student's appeal during which the parties to the controversy and such representatives as desired will present all facts relating to the case. By majority vote, the committee will decide to sustain, amend or reverse the previous decision.
- The decision of the committee is final and completes the academic appeals procedure.

See *South Plains College Student Guide* for more information.

Equal Rights Policy: All students are entitled to equal rights under the affirmative action and equal opportunity laws. Students are also protected against unjust or biased academic evaluation, but at the same time, they are responsible for maintaining standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled. See *South Plains College Student Guide 2015-2016* for more information.

Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the family and marriage as social institutions through theoretical perspectives.
2. Examine the diversity and complexity of contemporary families.
3. Explore changing cultural attitudes about marriage and alternatives to marriage.
4. Critically evaluate such issues as sexuality, partner choice, resolving marital issues, having and raising children, and combining work with family.
5. Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between theories and research methods used in the scientific study of marriage and family.
6. Describe some of the historical changes and current trends regarding the structural nature of the American family including the role of gender in relationships.
7. Identify causes and consequences of relevant problems within contemporary families.

Learning Outcomes:

Communication and Collaboration

- Demonstrate an ability to read, write and speak clearly and concisely
- Value of diversity and differences in people

Critical Thinking

- Explore relationships of ideas and see their similarities and differences
- Synthesize diverse concepts to create new ideas
- Ability to integrate ideas across the disciplines and personal life

Leadership

- Exhibit personal responsibility and ethical judgment
- Demonstrate professionalism, honesty and integrity

SPC Mission Statement: "In order to accomplish its mission, South Plains College is committed to the following purposes: To provide Student the opportunity to learn as a lifelong endeavor; to acquire skills for communications, critical thinking and problem solving; to explore the use of technology; to express creativity; to experience; and to grow socially."

Coordinating Board Academic Approval: Number 45.1101.54 25

Course Information Sheet

Fall 2018 – Internet course

Instructor: Wanda Clark, Ph.D.

Office Location & Hours: AD 134 Levelland campus.

Office Hours: Monday-Thurs. 11:00-12:00, Mon. 1-2:00, Fri. 8:30-11:30, email & by appointment

Email address: wclark@southplainscollege.edu

Telephone: (806) 716-2458

Thank You: I consider it an honor that you have chosen to be in my course. I want to thank you in advance for the time and hard work that you will put into this learning experience. One of the keys to being successful in college is to maintain communication with your instructor. Feel free to call, e-mail, or come by during office hours if I can help you be successful in this course. I wish you all the luck this semester and hope that the grade that you achieve in this course will reflect the effort you put into it.

Attendance Policy: See College Catalog. Since this course is a virtual classroom, attendance will be taken according to the following:

- Participating in class discussion by posting to the discussion board.
- Taking chapter quizzes on or before the midnight due dates.
- Turning in assignments on or before the midnight due date.

Late work: All work must be posted or emailed by the due dates on the syllabus calendar to receive full credit. Any late work submitted may receive no more than ½ credit at the discretion of the instructor. Excuses such as "The network was down," or "I could not figure out how to send the assignment through the assignments function" are not acceptable. In short, plan ahead and do not wait

until the last minute to submit assignments. It is always okay to turn in assignments early although discussion board postings should be done with the calendar schedule. For Quizzes and discussions you may use the "Get out of jail free" card option twice during the semester. You may use this for two quizzes or two discussions or one of each. You will receive full credit for these assignments if you submit your "jail card" request within one week of the missed assignment. These may also be used to replace a low score but again must be used within one week of the original due date for that assignment. In other words, the requests will not be honored at the end of the semester to "fill in the blanks" in your gradebook. Pay attention to your grades as the course goes along and use this option for emergency situations such as illness, technology problems, accidents, deaths in the family etc.

Administrative Drop Policy: Due to Financial Aid and South Plains College requirements for participation/attendance a student who fails to turn in 4 assignments or participate in any 4 discussions or fails to log into the course for 2 consecutive weeks during the semester may be dropped with a grade of "X" or "F" from the course. If missed assignments occur after the final drop date the grade will be the grade earned.

Blackboard is the computer software used to deliver this course

<http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/> It is essential that you have reliable access to the Internet. It is not necessary to purchase or own your own computer but you should have a backup plan in place should you encounter computer problems. There are open computer labs available to all enrolled SPC students on all campuses. It is also the student's responsibility to have the required computer skills to complete this course. Should you encounter technical difficulties contact the SPC technical support call (806) 716-2180 and/or blackboard@southplainscollege.edu. **Be sure to include course and section number information** when contacting technical support. Also, inform your instructor of any technical issues you may have. A note, contact your instructor for any questions you have about course content as technical support is only for issues to do with computer issues or Blackboard performance.

If you are new to the online course environment, use the Student Orientation course and the Student Tutorials in MySPC. Check out the resources above before you contact technical support or the instructor. You will find links to the Student Tutorials and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) in the Start Here area of your course under the Technical and Student Support link.

Web Browser – Mozilla Firefox – free download at <http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/new/> or do a search for Firefox.

Internet Explorer/Edge is **NOT** recommended for this version of Blackboard. We cannot guarantee that all course features will function properly for unsupported browsers.

Since this course are entirely online, participants are expected to have at least an elementary knowledge of their microcomputer operating system and basic knowledge of software and tools such as a word processor, e-mail, an Internet browser, and search engines.

Course work: See the course calendar for deadlines.

There are three types of assignments required for this course: quizzes – including chapter quizzes, brief written assignments, and class participation/discussion postings.

Chapter Quizzes: There is a twenty-five question multiple choice quiz for each of the 15 chapters in the text book that the course will cover. These are located in the Quizzes area and are available to you from the beginning of the semester. The 15 chapter quizzes are 30 minute timed quizzes. These are "open book" quizzes but you will probably not have enough time to look up all the answers without reading and studying the material prior to taking the quiz. Do not click on the link until you are ready to take the test as once you enter the quiz and get out of it, you cannot re-enter the quiz. Quizzes will not be accepted after you surpass the time limit or after the deadline so plan ahead. There are 15 quizzes at 25 points each for up to 375 points. Late quizzes are not accepted. You may take each quiz twice and the higher of the two scores will be recorded.

- There is also an Orientation Quiz in the Introduction Module that has 20 questions from all of the documents contained in the Start Here area of the course. It is worth up to **20 points**. See the quiz for more information
- Chapter Practice Quizzes: I have included a practice quiz for each of the 15 chapters. These quizzes are not timed and you may take them multiple times. However, the correct answers will not be given on the practice quizzes. You will see a grade for each attempt at a quiz but none of those grades will count towards your final course grade. These quizzes are provided as a study tool. Taking them will not help or harm your grade except taking them will most likely help you score higher on your Chapter quizzes.

Essay Assignments: The specific assignments with options for each chapter are located under the Assignments area. Textbook citations should include the page number and all outside sources should be documented using APA documentation style (see the resources page or the SPC library home page for more information on how to do this). See more details and grading standards in the Assignment section of the syllabus. Also, be sure to use the sociological perspective as described later in the syllabus. There is an Introduction Assignment in the Introduction Module worth up to **30 points** and there are 7 assignments at 50 points each for up to **350 points** equaling a total of **380 points**. Drop policy applies if you miss submitting any 4 assignments or fail to participate in discussions for any 4 weeks or fail to log into the course for 2 consecutive weeks. There is also a final assignment titled "Letter to Future Students" that is worth **25 points**.

Class Participation/Discussion Board postings: For the first deadline you will have an Introduction post to introduce yourself and replies to 2 other students. After the first deadline you will have an original discussion and 2 replies for each grading period. For each of the Chapter Discussions you will have will have a video to watch which is related to the textbook material. The original postings are due the first week of the module assignment and will need to discuss the connection between the video and text material and may include individual thoughts or comments. See further instructions in the Discussion Board tool of Blackboard and below in the Discussion section of the syllabus. Also, be sure to use the sociological perspective as described later in the syllabus. Then, you are to respond to at least two classmates comments. The primary goal for this portion of the course is to "talk" about what you are learning so it is more appropriate to be informal and conversational in these assignments and spend more time polishing the weekly written assignments. These reply posts are due the following week. In the initial postings your goal is to link the examples from the video to the theories and concepts presented in the textbook. This is also the place to include personal experiences and/or reactions. For the reply postings you should ask questions to encourage other students to think more deeply,

constructively disagree at times, apply textbook/course information to others comments, and share your own experiences that relate to the topic of discussion. If you repeat yourself in your reply messages you will only receive partial credit. Also, simply stating "I agree" is not detailed or complex enough to earn points. See more details and rubric in the Discussion section of this syllabus.

All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. (This means no "texting" abbreviations or shortcuts!)

Writing Tips:

1. All written work should be typed or computer generated, double spaced, with one inch margins in a standard 12 pt. font. Please use Word for attachments.
2. Any references used should be listed at the end of the paper using APA style and within the body of the text according to APA procedure. Using reference material without proper documentation constitutes plagiarism which is a serious academic offense. Wikipedia is not considered a valid academic source. Do not use it!
3. For the assignments in this class, it is better to write using first or third person pronouns. Therefore it is appropriate to use "I, me, mine" or "he, she, their, we." It is not appropriate to use "you" or "your." Please avoid writing in 2nd person.
4. Be sure to proofread your work for grammatical and spelling errors. Use the "Test editor is ON" button within the email, assignments, and discussion functions to run a spell check.

However, the editor will not find all types of errors so it is your responsibility to proofread your work. Also remember that "healthy" paragraphs are usually comprised of at least three sentences organized around a central idea.

Academic Integrity: See College catalog "Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgement, is "plagiarism." Students found guilty of plagiarism will fail the work in question for the first offense and will be dropped from the course with an "F" should a second offense occur. For further information and examples please see <http://employees.csbsju.edu/proske/nursing/APA.htm> or http://www.vanguard.edu/faculty/ddegelman/index.aspx?doc_id=796 or <http://tlt.its.psu.edu/plagiarism/tutorial>

Student Appeals: See College catalog "The student should schedule an appointment with the instructor of the course to discuss the final grade or disciplinary action. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should schedule an appointment with the appropriate departmental chairperson to discuss the situation. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should schedule an appointment with the Divisional Dean to discuss the situation. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should be advised of the formal appeal process."

Student Conduct: "Failure to comply with lawful directions of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class will result in the student being dropped from the course" (Student Guide). Please note

that this is an online environment and others will see your comments posted to the discussion board area and/or in e-mail communications. Do not post any pictures, comments or data that others may find offensive. Since this is an on-line classroom, any e-mails or correspondence sent by the instructor to a student or students are considered lawful directions.

Equal Opportunity: In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

South Plains College strives to accommodate the individual needs of all students in order to enhance their opportunities for success in the context of a comprehensive community college setting. It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability or age. In addition, this instructor will not tolerate remarks nor gestures that can be construed to be sexist, racist, heterosexist or in any way disparaging to another person in this classroom. Students who exhibit such behavior will be dropped from the class with a semester grade of "F" regardless of race, ethnicity, sex, religion, or sexual orientation. . In short, "Bigotry will not be tolerated." (Student Guide)

Sociological perspective: Students will use what is termed the Sociological Perspective since you are now students of Sociology. This perspective stresses the social context in which people live and steps away from what is termed "person blaming." Sociologists look beyond individuals and individual experiences. This perspective strives to understand human behavior by placing it within its broader social context. Depending on a person's characteristics, gender, age, race, sexual orientation and religion among others, we each have different experiences. Sociologists using this perspective (and that includes you, the student) evaluate people and behaviors in terms of what is typical or atypical (or not typical) by studying society and finding general patterns of behavior. They do NOT judge others or their behaviors with terms such as good/bad, moral/immoral or right/wrong. Do NOT use these terms in your assignments or discussion posts or you will lose points.

OTHER INFORMATION:

Open Computer Lab: There is an Open Computer Lab located on the Levelland campus in the Technology Center. It is available to all students, with priority given to those students enrolled in computer classes. Computers are also available on the Reese Center, Lubbock, and Plainview campuses. Check with libraries and labs for hours.

Technical Problems/Support: If you are having computer problems, you have to let me know. I will try to help you in any way that I can. Please remember that it is your responsibility to have a backup plan if your computer goes down. Please have this plan in place now and do not wait until it is a crisis situation.

PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO TURN ASSIGNMENTS IN OR YOU MAY HAVE PROBLEMS! Remember the saying "TECHNOLOGY HAPPENS"!

Grading Scale

Grades: It is possible to earn up to 1200 points in this course.

Your grade will be calculated on a cumulative point total based on the following scale:

A=1200-1080, B=1079-960, C=959-840, D=839-720, F=below 719.

Point Distribution:

Introductions discussion and 7 Chapter Discussions (1 original and 2 replies per discussion) @ 50 = 400

Orientation Quiz @20 points and 15 chapter quizzes @ 25 points = 395

Introduction Assignment @30 points and 7 Chapter Assignments @ 50 points = 380

Letter to Future Students = 25

Total points possible = 1200

Marriage and Family

Online Coursework Calendar, Checklist, and Grade Calculator Fall 2018

All course work activities listed below are REQUIRED.

It is recommended that you begin the coursework immediately as the work takes several hours per week to complete. Students are strongly urged to work ahead of the deadline as work is not accepted after the deadline passes. Deadlines are every Sunday at MIDNIGHT unless otherwise noted in the calendar.

Students are encouraged to print this checklist and use it throughout the semester.

Must be completed with a score of 100% before counting on in the course.			Online Participation Agreement Quiz			20
Module	Due date	Chapter	Coursework Activity	Check when complete	Points earned	Possible points
Introduction Module	Sep. 2		Original introduction post plus two replies			50
			Syllabus Quiz			30
				Semester subtotal		
Module 1	Prior to deadlines below	Chapters 1 & 2	Read the chapters			
	"		Watch the video			
	Sept. 9 - midnight	Chapter 1	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 1 & 2	Original discussion post			20
	Sept. 16 - midnight	Chapter 2	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 1 & 2	2 reply posts			30
	"	Chapters 1 & 2	Assignment			50
	Prior to deadlines below	Chapters 3 & 4	Read the chapters			
	"		Watch the video			
	Sept. 23 - midnight	Chapter 3	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 3 & 4	Original discussion post			20
	Sept. 30 - midnight	Chapter 4	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 3 & 4	2 reply posts			30
	"	Chapters 3 & 4	Assignment			50
			Semester subtotal			400
Module 2	Prior to deadlines below	Chapters 5 & 6	Read the chapters			
	"		Watch the video			
	Oct. 7 - midnight	Chapter 5	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 5 & 6	Original post			20
	Oct. 14 - midnight	Chapter 6	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 5 & 6	2 reply posts			30
	"	Chapters 5 & 6	Assignment			50
	Prior to deadlines below	Chapters 7 & 8	Read the chapters			
	"		Watch the video			
	Oct. 21 - midnight	Chapter 7	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 7 & 8	Original post			20
	Oct. 28 - midnight	Chapter 8	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 7 & 8	2 reply posts			30
	"	Chapters 7 & 8	Assignment			50
			Semester subtotal			700
Module 3	Prior to deadlines below	Chapters 9, 10, & 11	Read the chapters			
	"		Watch the video			
	Nov. 4 - midnight	Chapter 9	Quiz			25
	"	Chapter 10	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 9, 10, & 11	Original post			20
	Nov. 11 - midnight	Chapter 11	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 9, 10, & 11	2 reply posts			30
	"	Chapters 9, 10, & 11	Assignment			50
	Prior to deadlines below	Chapters 12 & 13	Read the chapters			
	"		Watch the video			
	Nov. 15	<i>Last day to drop a class</i>				
	Nov. 18 - midnight	Chapter 12	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 12 & 13	Original post			20
	Nov. 25 - midnight (Note:	Chapter 13	Quiz			25
"	Chapters 12 & 13	2 reply posts			30	
"	Chapters 12 & 13	Assignment			50	
			Semester subtotal			1025
Module 4	Prior to deadlines below	Chapters 14 & 15	Read the chapters			
	"		Watch the video			
	Dec. 2 - midnight	Chapter 14	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 14 & 15	Original post			20
	Dec. 9 - midnight	Chapter 15	Quiz			25
	"	Chapters 14 & 15	2 reply posts			30
	"	Chapters 14 & 15	Assignment			50
		Final assignment	Reflections on Course			25
			Semester Total			1200

Intructions for using the worksheet: Print off the worksheet. As you progress through the semester, record the points you earn on each activity in the course. At the end of each module add up your points for ALL of the activities at that point in the semester. Then divide the points earned by the total points available through that time period. Example: at the end of Module 1 you have earned 383 points. Divide that by 400 and you have .957 or 95.7% for an A average AT THAT POINT. Complete your calculations at the end of each module and you will have your average as you progress through the course. You can use the same calculation at the end of the semester for an average or you can check the total points you have earned against the grade scale in the syllabus.

Notice: This checklist is subject to change. Students will be notified of any changes through course e-mail and/or an announcement.

