

SYG2430: Marriages and Families

3 Credit Hours

This course expires 16 weeks from the date of your enrollment.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Instructor: Dr. Jeanne Holcomb
holcombj@ufl.edu

Course Website: elearning.ufl.edu

Course Communications

Email through the course management system is the best way to get in touch with me. I try to respond to all questions within 24 hours on work days and within 48 hours on weekends.

Required Textbooks

Cohen. 2014. The Family: Diversity, Inequality, and Social Change. Norton. 978-0-393-93395-6

Purpose of Course

This course is an introductory course related to family life experiences. We will explore the social science data relating to major trends in family life experiences, but the class is designed to encourage questioning and critical thinking. I'm hoping the course will help you to develop a new way of seeing your surroundings. Ideally, much of the learning that takes place during the course will be carried with you beyond the classroom – I hope you develop skills that include being able to acknowledge different perspectives, to evaluate arguments presented to you, and to develop well-thought responses.

Course Goals and/or Objectives

By the end of this course, students will:

1. Describe family diversity in the U.S.
2. Interpret family life experiences using the sociological imagination, making connections between macro-level issues and family life.
3. Develop personal, well-thought responses to current family issues.

Instructional Methods

This class is divided into thirteen modules. Each module is centered around a chapter from the textbook, with a supplemental reading or video, an assignment, and a quiz.

COURSE POLICIES

Performance Policy

This Flexible Learning course has been developed with the same rigorous standards of content as a campus course. Expectations for your performance as a Flexible Learning student are as high as they would be if you were taking this course in a classroom.

Participation Policy

Students are required to participate in all course activities and submit all assignments posted on the website.

Assignment Policy

The course expires 16 weeks after your enrollment. Complete all modules in the order they are presented on the course website; do not skip modules.

Course Technology

Students must use their Gatorlink email account for this course. Students are recommended to check their email account DAILY for the duration of the course. Access to and on-going use of a computer with Internet access is required for all students. Competency in the basic use of a computer is required. At times, computers crash and Internet connections fail. It is in your best interest NOT to wait until the last minute to complete assignments.

For help with e-Learning, contact the Help Desk at <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu> or (352) 392HELP - select option 2.

Online Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations provided in the course modules (med-term and end-of term evaluations).

Course Deadline and Extension Policy

Students are allowed *16 weeks, from their date of enrollment*, to complete and submit their coursework. If the student has not submitted at least 50% of their coursework and have an extenuating circumstance preventing them from submitting the coursework, a failing grade of "E", "E0" or "E1" will be issued and recorded to the UF Registrar.

If the student has made sufficient academic progress, which is defined as completing and submitting at least 50% of the coursework and have an extenuating circumstance, the student may petition the instructor for a course extension before the course expires. Each course extension request will be administratively evaluated. Instructors are not required to allow extensions. If a student does receive an extension, an incomplete grade of an "I" will be assigned as an interim grade. When the course is completed, the instructor will initiate the change of grade. After that, the "I" grade will be changed to the student's final course grade on their transcript.

Course Cancels and Course Drops

A Course Cancel

A tuition refund may be granted after a student submits a written request within 30 days of enrollment to the Flexible Learning Office. This request must be in writing by learn@dce.ufl.edu or sent by fax, 352-392-6950. Refunds will be the amount of tuition, less \$25.00 per course. If a credit card was used, the refund will be credited back to the card. No refunds are granted after 30 days.

Dropping a Course

To drop a course, you need to email the Flexible Learning office at learn@dce.ufl.edu with a request to drop within 14 weeks of the date of enrollment. In addition to their own request by email, *UF students* must have advisor approval to drop a flexible learning course. An advisor can email learn@dce.ufl.edu with the student's name, the course that they want to drop, and confirmation of permission to do so. It is the student's responsibility to verify that all drop requests have been received by the Flexible Learning office within the allotted time. The course grade will appear as "W" on a UF transcript.

Students with disabilities who need to drop a course due to disability-related reasons are permitted to petition for additional drops. Find more information by contacting the [Disability Resource Center](#).

How to Request a UF Transcript

The student can view their grades by logging into [MyUFL](#) with their Gatorlink login and by selecting Student Admin. To receive an official transcript, the student must complete a [transcript request form through the Registrar](#). The University of Florida assures the confidentiality of all your educational records in accordance with State University System Rules, State Statutes, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Grades are not given over the telephone.

Grading Policies

For more information about the current UF grading policies for assignments and grade points go to the [UF Grades and Grading Policies web page](#).

Type of Assignment	Total Points
Assignments	13 x 30 points each = 390
Quizzes	13 x 25 points each = 325
Type of Assignment	Total Points
Discussion Postings	13 x 15 = 195
Final Assignment	90 points
TOTAL	1000 points

Grading Scale

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
93 or above	A	4.00
90 – 92	A-	3.67
87 – 89	B+	3.33
83 – 86	B	3.00
80 – 82	B-	2.67
77 – 79	C+	2.33
73 – 76	C	2.00
70 – 72	C-	1.67
67 – 69	D+	1.33
63 – 66	D	1.00
60 – 62	D-	0.67
59 or below	E	0.00

COURSE SCHEDULE

Weekly Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Module	Topic	Readings/Activities	Assignments
Start Here			
Module 1	A Sociology of the Family	Chapter 1; Reading: Decline of the Family	Assignment 1 Discussion 1 Quiz 1
Module 2	The Family in History	Chapter 2; Assignment: Orphan Trains	Assignment 2 Discussion 2 Quiz 2
Module 3	Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration	Chapter 3; Reading: Immigration	Assignment 3 Discussion 3 Quiz 3
Module 4	Families and Social Class	Chapter 4; Film: Growing Up Poor	Assignment 4 Discussion 4 Quiz 4
Module 5	Gender	Chapter 5; Film: Growing Up	Assignment 5
Module	Topic	Readings/Activities	Assignments
		Trans	Discussion 5 Quiz 5
Module 6	Sexuality	Chapter 6; Film: Let's Talk about Sex	Assignment 6 Discussion 6 Quiz 6
Module 7	Love and Romantic Relationships	Chapter 7; Activity: Love Test	Assignment 7 Discussion 7 Quiz 7
Module 8	Marriage and Cohabitation	Chapter 8; Reading: High Hopes But Even Higher Expectations	Assignment 8 Discussion 8 Quiz 8
Module 9	Families and Children	Chapter 9; Film: The Business of Being Born	Assignment 9 Discussion 9 Quiz 9

Module 10	Divorce, Remarriage, and Blended Families	Chapter 10; Reading: Divorce and Remarriage	Assignment 10 Discussion 10 Quiz 10
Module 11	Work and Families	Chapter 11; Readings: Work and Childcare	Assignment 11 Discussion 11 Quiz 11
Module 12	Family Violence and Abuse	Chapter 12; Assignment: College Sexual Assault	Assignment 12 Discussion 12 Quiz 12
Module 13	The Future of the Family	Chapter 13; Assignment: Working with what We've Got	Assignment 13 Discussion 13 Quiz 13

UF POLICIES

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

The Flexible Learning office should be notified of any special accommodations required by the student when they begin their course.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." [The Honor Code](#) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Netiquette

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Please read the [Netiquette Guide for Online Courses](#).

GETTING HELP

Technical Help

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk:

- Location: HUB 132
- Email: helpdesk@ufl.edu
- Phone: (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- Website: <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Questions about Flexible Learning

If you have any questions about the course, please contact the instructor. If you have administrative concerns (e.g., paying for the course, receiving the textbook, etc.), please contact the Flexible Learning Office.

UF Flex Learning Office Contact Information

Email: learn@dce.ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 294-3896

Fax: (352) 392-6950

Website: <http://flexible.dce.ufl.edu/>

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, except Holidays

8:00am-5:00pm EST

Other Resources

Other resources are available at the [UF Distance Learning website](#) for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources

- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please [email the Distance Learning office](#) or visit the [UF Distance Learning website](#) to submit a complaint.

Disclaimer: This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.