

Shepherd University
SOCI 303.01: The Family (3 credits), Online, Spring 2015

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Catalog Description: This course is an objective description and analysis of families. The course will examine the development and functions of traditional family forms as well as explore a variety of other family forms. Problems and issues facing contemporary families will be addressed. Diversity among American families will be emphasized.

Expanded Description: A study of the family and marriage, including various ethnic family structures of marriage, is addressed by dealing with topics starting with mate-selection and sex roles to marital dynamics, parenting, divorce and remarriage. Areas such as communication and family violence are addressed as are alternative lifestyles. Sociology of the Family examines the dynamics of marriage and family life. The role and influence of the family as both a powerful primary group and as a social institution in society will be examined. The portrayals of family in the media will also be examined in depth. We will address the current status of families in the United States, as well as cross-cultural and historical patterns.

Shepherd University has adopted four goals from the American Association of Universities and Colleges Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) Initiative (<http://www.aacu.org/leap/index.cfm>).

LEAP Goal: This course addresses LEAP Goal No. 1: *Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World.*

Learning Outcomes: This course addresses the following competencies:

Life-Long Learning
Critical Thinking
Multiculturalism and Diversity

Required Textbook and Materials:

Andrew J. Cherlin (2013). *Public and Private Families*. Boston: McGraw Hill 7th ed. (ISBN 978-0-07-8026676).

Four mini-workbooks to be completed and submitted on SAKAI (listed under "Assignments")

Grading: Your grade is based upon the total number of points you earn in the course. Points are based on four exams, a paper, and mini- assignments. There will be no opportunities for extra credit.

4 Exams	400	Points: 537-600	A
4 Workbooks (50 points each)	<u>200</u>	477-536	B
Total	600	417-476	C
		357-416	D
		356 and below	F

Exams: Four exams covering selected textbook chapters, power points, and workbook content are given during the semester. Each exam is worth 100 points. A 12-hour window will be open for the completion of each exam (8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.). No study guides will be provided since you will be able to use your notes and book for the exam; however, since the exam will be timed (i.e., one hour and fifteen minutes) you will need to be prepared so you do not waste time shuffling through papers. There will be no make-up exams for missed exams except under dire and documented circumstances (and at the instructor's discretion). Make-up exams will be considerably more challenging than the scheduled exams.

Assignments: Note on the schedule (below) when workbooks are due. Each workbook represents a collection of activities that need to be completed and submitted prior to the exam. It is recommended that you read the corresponding chapter and then listen to that chapter's Power Point presentation. The Power Points will guide you through the completion of each assignment in the workbook.

Academic Integrity: Students in this course are expected to abide by the university's Academic Integrity Procedures found in the *Shepherd University Student Handbook* (<http://www.shepherd.edu/students/studenthandbook.pdf>). Cheating in any form (including giving/receiving help on examinations and submitting someone else's work as your own) will result in an "F" in the course and referral to the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs/Judicial Coordinator Manager for disciplinary action.

Disability Support Services: Disability Support Services at Shepherd University believes that every student should succeed, and works closely with students to meet their needs. Students requesting any disability related accommodation should contact the Disability Coordinator at 304-876-5453. This includes students with learning disabilities needing course accommodations, students requesting specific housing accommodations for health-related reasons, and all other disability accommodations. Accommodations need to be documented and provided to instructors. Please see <http://www.shepherd.edu/mcssweb/dss/default.html> for more information.

Recommended Schedule of Topics and Reading Assignments

	Watch the Syllabus Power Point
Jan 11-15	Read Cpt 1; Watch Cpt 1 Power Point; Complete Assmts. 1, 2, and 3
Jan 18-22	Read Cpt 2; Watch Cpt 2 Power Point; Complete Assmts. 4
Jan 25-29	Read Cpt 3; Watch Cpt 3 Power Point; Complete Assmts. 5
Fri., Jan 29	Submit completed Workbook 1 before 11:59 p.m.
Mon., Feb 1	Test 1
Feb 2-5	Read Cpt 4; Watch Cpt 4 Power Point; Complete Assmts.
Feb 8-11	Read Cpt 5; Watch Cpt 5 Power Point; Complete Assmts.
Feb 12-17	Read Cpt 6; Watch Cpt 6 Power Point; Complete Assmts.
Feb 18-24	Read Cpt 7; Watch Cpt 7 Power Point; Complete Assmts.
Wed., Feb 24	Submit completed Workbook 2 before 11:59 p.m.
Fri., Feb 26	Test 2
Feb 27-Mar 3	Read Cpt 8; Watch Cpt 8 Power Point; Complete Assmts.
Mar 4-9	Read Cpt 9; Watch Cpt 9 Power Point; Complete Assmts.
Mar 10-11, 21-23	Read Cpt 10; Watch Cpt 10 Power Point; Complete Assmts.
Mar 12-20	Spring Break
Mar 24-31	Read Cpt 11; Watch Cpt 11 Power Point; Complete Assmts.
Fri., Apr 1	Submit completed Workbook 2 before 11:59 p.m.
Mon., Apr 4	Test 3
Apr 5-8	Read Cpt 12; Watch Cpt 12 Power Point; Complete Assmts.
Apr 11-13	Read Cpt 13; Watch Cpt 13 Power Point; Complete Assmts.
Apr 14-15	Spring Recess
Apr 18-20	Read Cpt 14; Watch Cpt 14 Power Point; Complete Assmts.
Fri., Apr 22	Submit completed Workbook 2 before 11:59 p.m.
Mon., Apr 25	Test 4