

Course Information



Marriage & Family Relatns (SS)

FHS 2400-501

Fall 2025

Course Section Information

Days: N/A

Time: N/A

Campus: Online

Classroom: Online

Course Description

Introduction to marriage and the family. Personality, interpersonal relations, and society are examined within the context of the family life cycle. Emphasis is placed on the impact of societal and personal choices on the family.

Semester: All

Textbooks, Readings, and Course Materials

Authors: Olson, DeFrain, and Skogrand

Publication Date: 2022

Title: Marriages and Families: Intimacy, Diversity and Strengths

Edition: 10

Publisher: McGraw Hill

For more information on textbook accessibility, contact Accessibility & Disability Services at ads@slcc.edu.

Marriage & Family Relations (SS)

FHS - 2400 501

Overview

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This course is an introduction to marriage and family life. Some of the topics discussed are: Family Diversity, Gender Roles, Communication, Parenthood, Divorce, and Blended Families.

Regardless of your major, General Education courses build a foundation of broad knowledge and skills that help you in your further career and life:

<http://www.slcc.edu/genedLinks> to an external site.. This course fulfills the Social Science requirement for the General Education Program at Salt Lake Community College. It is designed not only to teach the information and skills required by the discipline, but also to develop vital workplace skills and to teach strategies and skills that can be used for life-long learning. General Education courses teach basic skills as well as broaden a student's knowledge of a wide range of subjects. Education is much more than the acquisition of facts; it is being able to use information in meaningful ways in order to enrich one's life.

While the subject of each course is important and useful, we become truly educated through making connections of such varied information with the different methods of organizing human experience that are practiced by different disciplines. This course, when combined with other General Education courses, will enable you to develop broader perspectives and deeper understandings of your community and the world, as well as challenge previously held assumptions about the world and its inhabitants.

Engagement Plan

Example language:

I will respond to email within one business day.

I will offer feedback on major assignments within 3-4 business days.

The best way to contact me is via the Canvas Inbox, as I will prioritize this email over other modes of communication.

How to Navigate to Canvas

This course uses the Canvas course management system. All students must use Canvas to retrieve course readings, access web pages, upload assignments, receive course announcements, and review the class section's syllabus.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Describe the historical and theoretical aspects of marriage and family relations.
- Be able identify many of the common myths concerning mate-selection, courtship, marriage, cohabitation, same-sex relationships, divorce, remarriage, and step-families.
- Describe the historical, social, cultural and ethnic contexts which influence the family system.
- Identify and utilize the major theoretical perspectives that are used to describe family systems.
- Describe the key variables contributing to long term satisfactory relationships.
- Describe the key variables contributing to conflict, violence and divorce.
- Be able to describe the impact of verbal and non-verbal communication on families and interpersonal relations.

- Explain how personal and cultural beliefs, values and attitudes can influence individual and societal perceptions of the family.
- Describe the components of effective communication as they relate to sending and receiving messages.
- Evaluate their interpersonal communications with their own family members.
- Use and interpret data relevant to social science research methods.
- Be able to critique the research design and analysis of research discussed in class.
- Compare and contrast the types of research designs traditionally used in family studies.
- Describe the difference between correlation and causation and other basic concepts in social science research methods.
- Systematically analyze, synthesize, and/or evaluate personal and societal issues relevant to family dynamics and interpersonal relationships.
- Be able to critically review their thoughts, opinions, biases and beliefs regarding marriage, cohabitation and family issues.
- Examine personal, cultural and societal beliefs regarding marriage, dating, mate selection, sexuality, and divorce.
- Examine the role of societal and cultural rules, laws and norms on the family.
- Compare and contrast three prominent models of "love": Sternberg, Lee, and Hatfield and Sprecher.
- Objectively evaluate societal reactions to non-traditional relationships.
- Engage in reasoned dialog concerning issues related to love, mate selection, marriage, violence, sex and divorce in a pluralistic and secularized society.
- Compare and contrast ideas communicated from society with scientific information from various disciplines by evaluating claims, arguments and widely held beliefs about marriage and the family.
- Be able to explain their views of human relationships and how those views influence their intra-and interpersonal relationships.
- Explain how societal and cultural norms and mores influence family behaviors.
- Describe the impact of current legislation and court rulings on marriage, family, societal attitudes, sexuality and diversity.

General Education Information

SS

This course fulfills the above requirement for the General Education Program at Salt Lake Community College. It is designed not only to teach the information and skills required by the discipline, but also to develop vital workplace skills and to teach strategies and skills that can be used for life-long learning.

General Education courses teach basic skills as well as broaden a student's knowledge of a wide range of subjects. Education is much more than the acquisition of facts; it is being able to use information in meaningful ways in order to enrich one's life.

While the subject of each course is important and useful, we become truly educated through making connections of such varied information with the different methods of organizing human experience that are practiced by different disciplines. Therefore, this course, when combined with other General Education courses, will enable you to develop broader perspectives and deeper understandings of your community and the world, as well as challenge previously held assumptions about the world and its inhabitants.

Assignment Schedule

| Due Date | Assignment Name | Assignment Type | Points |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| | Ch01PQ (Chapter 1 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch02PQ (Chapter 2 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch03PQ (Chapter 3 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch04PQ (Chapter 4 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |

| Due Date | Assignment Name | Assignment Type | Points |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| | Ch05PQ (Chapter 5 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch06PQ (Chapter 6 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch07PQ (Chapter 7 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch08PQ (Chapter 8 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch09PQ (Chapter 9 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch10PQ (Chapter 10 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch11PQ (Chapter 11 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch12PQ (Chapter 12 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch13PQ (Chapter 13 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch14PQ (Chapter 14 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch15PQ (Chapter 15 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Ch16PQ (Chapter 16 Practice Quiz) | Quiz | 10 |
| | Introduce Yourself | Discussion | 0 |
| | Introduce Yourself | Discussion | 0 |
| | Modified Curve | Assignment | 100 |

| Due Date | Assignment Name | Assignment Type | Points |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| 8/29/25 | Background Info | Quiz | 5 |
| 8/29/25 | Introduce Yourself | Discussion | 5 |
| 8/29/25 | Plagiarism and Citation Quiz | Quiz | 6 |
| 8/29/25 | Practice Uploading | Assignment | 5 |
| 9/3/25 | U1D (Unit 1 Discussion) | Discussion | 5 |
| 9/8/25 | U1E (Unit 1 Essay) | Assignment | 20 |
| 9/12/25 | U1GQ (Unit 1 Graded Quiz -- Chapters 1-3) | Quiz | 30 |
| 9/17/25 | U2D (Unit 2 Discussion) | Discussion | 5 |
| 9/22/25 | U2E (Unit 2 Essay) | Assignment | 20 |
| 9/26/25 | U2GQ (Unit 2 Graded Quiz -- Chapters 4-5) | Quiz | 20 |
| 10/1/25 | U3D (Unit 3 Discussion) | Discussion | 5 |
| 10/6/25 | U3E (Unit 3 Essay) | Assignment | 20 |
| 10/15/25 | U3GQ (Unit 3 Graded Quiz -- Chapters 6-8) | Quiz | 30 |
| 10/22/25 | U4D (Unit 4 Discussion) | Discussion | 5 |
| 10/27/25 | U4E (Unit 4 Essay) | Assignment | 20 |
| 10/31/25 | U4GQ (Unit 4 Graded Quiz -- Chapters 9-10) | Quiz | 20 |

| Due Date | Assignment Name | Assignment Type | Points |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| 11/5/25 | U5D (Unit 5 Discussion). | Discussion | 5 |
| 11/10/25 | U5E (Unit 5 Essay). | Assignment | 20 |
| 11/17/25 | GE Reflection | Assignment | 6 |
| 11/17/25 | GE Signature Assignment (Marriage/Family Interview). | Assignment | 16 |
| 11/21/25 | U5GQ (Unit 5 Graded Quiz -- Chapters 11-13). | Quiz | 30 |
| 12/3/25 | U6D (Unit 6 Discussion). | Discussion | 5 |
| 12/8/25 | U6E (Unit 6 Essay). | Assignment | 20 |
| 12/11/25 | Bonus Point | Assignment | 1 |
| 12/17/25 | U6GQ (Unit 6 Graded Quiz -- Chapters 14-16) -- FINAL | Quiz | 30 |

Grading Scale

This class uses the standard grading scale at the College:

| | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 94% - 100% = A | 87% - 89% = B+ | 77% - 79% = C+ | 67% - 69% = D+ | 59% or less = E |
| 90% - 93% = A- | 83% - 86% = B | 73% - 76% = C | 63% - 66% = D | |
| | 80% - 82% = B- | 70% - 72% = C- | 60% - 62% = D- | |

A grade of 60% constitutes a passing grade for receiving credit. However, you may need a higher grade for your program, a transfer institution, financial aid, etc.

Your grade will be based on the following components:

47% of your grade: Quizzes

There will be six equally weighted unit quizzes during the semester. The quizzes may include multiplechoice, true/false, and short answer questions. You will not be able to retake quizzes or make up missed quizzes.

LIFELINE: Canvas will automatically drop lowest quiz score, so if you miss a quiz or are unhappy with a low grade, don't worry: it doesn't have to affect your grade AT ALL.

The first two quizzes will be open-book quizzes, so you can get a feel for the software and the class. For the open-book quizzes, you may use your book, your notes, and any other resource except another person. The remaining quizzes will be closed-book quizzes, where you may not use any resource (other than your memory).

Quizzes will require the LockDown Browser software. Instructions for downloading/installing the software are posted on the Technology and Software page in the Getting Started section of Canvas. The software allows you to take quizzes off-campus and uses your device's webcam and microphone to proctor your quizzes, which can then be reviewed by your professor. Like Canvas, the LockDown Browser complies with federal privacy laws to protect your information. IMPORTANT: Please take note of the following:

Equipment: If you do not have the necessary equipment to use the LockDown Browser, you must notify me within the first week of class to make other arrangements.

Ebooks: If you are using an ebook for the class, you will need to use TWO devices for open-book quizzes: one device to take the quiz with the LockDown Browser and a separate device to access the ebook. For example, you could take the quiz on a laptop and access the ebook on your phone.

43% of your grade: Essays

Essays will be an important component of your learning experience. While quizzes typically capture knowledge/understanding of a given concept, writing assignments will push you to APPLY those concepts. See the ESSAYS document on Canvas for instructions, grading criteria, etc.

LIFELINE: As with the quizzes, Canvas will automatically drop your lowest essay score, so a missed essay or unusually low score will not hurt you.

Use Microsoft Word for your assignments. All SLCC students have access to Microsoft Office 365. Login here: <http://www.slcc.edu/Office365> (<http://www.slcc.edu/Office365>) with your Bruinmail email address (username@bruinmail.slcc.edu) and password.

5% of your grade: Discussions

Because this class will not meet in person, class time will be replaced with online class discussions. Like writing assignments, they will help you apply what you are learning; they will also help you learn from each other. See the DISCUSSIONS document on Canvas for instructions, grading criteria, etc.

5% of your grade: Signature Assignment (Interview)

As part of SLCC's General Education program, this assignment helps you demonstrate key General Education learning outcomes: Critical Thinking and Effective Communication. This assignment builds on the skills you'll develop in your essays, especially your ability to connect real-world experiences to the concepts that you are learning in this course. You will conduct a respectful, recorded interview with someone about issues that you have studied in this class. You will then analyze the interview using course concepts.

___% of your grade: Extra Credit

There are three types of Extra Credit in this class. Together, they can significantly help you. The Extra Credit consists of:

Lifelines: See above.

Bonus Point: A 1% Bonus Point boost will be given to students who submit an anonymous Course

Evaluation at the end of the semester. Instructions are posted on the Bonus Point assignment page. Modified Curve: Final grades will be based on a "modified curve." The top grade in the class will be boosted up to 100%, and every student in the class will receive the same number of "curve" points. For example, if the top grade at the end of the semester is 98.3%, then every student will receive a 1.7% adjustment to their grade.

Course Content Advisory

Please be advised that this course may include discussions, readings, and other content that some students might find distressing or triggering. Specifically, the course may cover topics such as:

- Sensitive social and political issues
- Marriage and family relationship issues and challenges

Our aim is to explore these topics thoughtfully and respectfully, understanding their importance in our field of study. However, we recognize that such material can be challenging. If you have concerns about your ability to engage with certain course materials due to past experiences or personal reasons, please feel free to discuss this with me privately. We can explore alternative ways for you to engage with the material while ensuring your educational experience is not compromised.

Your well-being is important, and support services are available through the college's counseling support services should you need them.

Advising and Counseling Support Services

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any

questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

Online Tutoring

Students at SLCC have access to online tutoring through Canvas. From your Canvas course click Online Tutoring in the course navigation and follow the steps to set up an appointment. If this is your first time using the Online Tutoring we recommend you click "Take a Tour" to familiarize yourself with the service.

Note that students only receive 480 minutes of tutoring time each semester. After that we encourage you to use the resources found through this link:

<https://www.slcc.edu/tutoring/index.aspx>

If you have any additional questions reach out to elarningsupport@slcc.edu.

Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

For more information, navigate to the Institutional Policies tab on the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page.

Student Academic Calendar

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

[SLCC Student Academic Calendar](#)

Due Dates and Deadlines

Due Dates and Deadlines

Deadlines will be at 11:59 p.m. on the due date. All assignments must be submitted through the assignment page on Canvas (not emailed). If you are outside of Mountain Time Zone for any reason during the semester, make sure to submit your work before the Mountain Time Zone deadline.

Late work: Late work will be accepted with a deduction of 10% per day (0.04% per hour), but please note that Canvas is a computer so it is very strict about the 11:59 p.m. deadline and will round up to the next whole hour block. In other words, if an assignment is due at 11:59 on Tuesday and you turn it in at 12:05 a.m. on Wednesday, Canvas will count that as one hour late. I will score the assignment just like any other student's work, and then Canvas will reduce the score by 0.04% per hour.

Please do NOT make the mistake of waiting until late in the day, when an unexpected technology glitch could prevent you from getting your work turned in on time. Prepare your assignments ahead of time so that if you encounter a problem, you will still have time to go to a neighbor's house, to the library, or to an SLCC campus to submit your work.

Do not schedule events/travel/etc. during Finals Week. You will not be able to take the Final early.

Time Commitment

Time Commitment

This is a 3-credit hour course. A "credit hour" is the amount of time (including classroom time, if applicable) that each class at the College is expected to take. Each credit hour should take 45 hours during the semester (<http://www.slcc.edu/policies/docs/c4s02-10.pdf>Links to an external site., p. 4), so a 3-cred hour class like this should take you a total of 135 total hours this semester.

You can use this table to know how to break down any 3-credit hour class (for any semester) into a weekly time commitment:

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 15-week semesters | 12-week semesters | 8-week semesters |
| 9 hours/week | 11.25 hours/week | 16.9 hours/week |

Here's a simple Weekly Schedule spreadsheet that you can use to plan out your time: [Schedule, Weekly \(blank\).xlsx](#)

Plagiarism

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious issue at all colleges/universities and is a violation of the SLCC Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities ("CSRR"). See pp. 15-16 of the CSRR. (Link below.) Plagiarism occurs when you include another person's work (their words or even their ideas) within your own work without giving them proper credit. To avoid plagiarism, you must properly cite any source you use in your work (other than sources of common knowledge). A plagiarism-checking system has been integrated into Canvas and will check ALL assignments. Papers containing plagiarized material will receive a score of 0 for a first offense. A student who plagiarizes a second time may fail the course.

Institutional Syllabus (Important Information for SLCC Students)

In the left sidebar of any Canvas page (web version), you can find a link to the college's Institutional Syllabus. Click on that link to find information about:

- Learning Support and Tutoring Services
- The Disability Resource Center
- Advising and Counseling Support Services
- Title IX (sex discrimination)
- Out-of-State Licensure

- The Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities (NOTE: All students are expected to follow the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities ("CSRR"), available the SLCC website at: http://www.slcc.edu/policies/docs/Student_Code_of_Conduct.pdfLinks to an external site..)

Utah Licensure

The Family and Human Studies program (AS & AAS) alone does not lead to professional licensure in the State of Utah. Professional licensure requirements vary from state-to-state. Here is one suggested website for researching state licensure requirements:

<https://www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-licenses.aspx?newsearch=true>

sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor. If you have difficulty finding the licensure requirements for your state or intended profession, please contact your academic advisor or SLCC's state authorization coordinator for help.

Incomplete Grade/Extreme Circumstances

Extreme Circumstances: Incomplete Grade

In very rare circumstances, students may be awarded a grade of "Incomplete" ("I") at the end of the semester, giving them additional time to complete the course. Students must meet ALL THREE of the following criteria in order to receive an Incomplete:

The student provides documentation of circumstances beyond their control (such as serious illness, death in the family, or change of employment) that prevent them from completing the course; the student is passing the course at the time of the request; and the student has completed a substantial portion (at least 3/4) of the course.