

You hear a lot of dialogue on the death of the American family. Families aren't dying. They're merging into big conglomerates." ~ Erma Bombeck ~

Nashville State Community College
Social & Behavioral Sciences
Course Syllabus
SOCI 2010 Marriage and Family

Course Information:

Course Title: Marriage and Family

Section and CRN:

Credits: 3 credit hours

Class Hours: Online

Course Description: A study of the social, cultural, and personal factors relating to mate selection and family life. Assists students in understanding the values, marriages, and families of contemporary America. Topics include human intimacy, family relations through the life cycle, kinship, child rearing, sources of strain and violence, and sources of bonding in family life. **Prerequisite(s):** [Level 2 placement in English and Reading](#). **Note:** SOCI 2010 meets the requirement for a Social Sciences elective.

Instructor Information

Name:

Email:

Office Phone:

Cell Phone:

Office

Virtual office (Zoom):

Office (Student) Hours:

Required Textbook(s) & Other Materials:

Textbook(s): *Diversity in Families* 10th ed or the 10th updated. Baca Zinn and Eitzen.

ISBN: 13: 978-0-13-402803-3 Digital: 9780205936540

This course is part of the NSCC Digital Course Materials (DCM) program. The required digital textbook for this course is delivered to you in digital format through NS Online to ensure the lowest possible cost. The required digital textbook will automatically be charged to your student account and you will have access to the digital textbook via NS Online on the first day of class. **DCM Fee:** Approximately **\$48.75** (Fall 2020)

Reference Materials: Recommended for students who have not had SOCI 1010: *Essentials Sociology* Research & Education Assoc. (Little Green book) ISBN 0-87891-966- http://www.rea.com

Once enrolled, all students should verify that they have the correct textbook and materials information by consulting the D2L/NS Online shell for the course. If you are registered with the Access Center and require an alternate format for the textbook and other course materials, please contact the Access Center at 615-353-3721, 615-353-3741, or accesscenter@nsc.edu.

General Education Objectives:

- Write clear, well-organized documents.
 - Discussions and Assignments
- Know how to locate, evaluate, and use information sources.
 - Checking the Facts assignment
- Prepare and deliver well-organized oral presentations.
- Apply mathematical concepts to problems and situations.
 - We won't do math but we have a lot of sociological concepts that you will learn how to use/apply
- Use critical thinking skills.
 - Discussions, Assignments, Quizzes and Final
- Apply scientific thought processes to a range of situations.
 - Discussions, Assignments, Quizzes and Final

Course Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students should know:

1. how society and culture affect gender relationships, forms of marriage, and family organization by applying the sociological perspectives to case studies.
2. that social issues such as health and wellness, rates of divorce, domestic violence are connected to family organization and gender relations by reviewing literature and case studies in the field
3. about issues specifically affecting the modern American family by reviewing the current research and literature in the field.

Course Competencies:

The following are detailed course competencies intended to support the course outcomes:

1. To understand the evolving nature of the American Family.
2. To appreciate diversity in all families
3. To show the connections between theoretical, empirical, material and life's experiences

Topics to Be Covered:

- Family as a social institution: images, ideals and myths
- Research and theories of family
- Historical development over time and place: movement from pre-modern to modern with emphasis on diversification
- Economic and demographic changes
- Class, race, and gender in family
- Balancing work and family
- Mate selection and marriage
- Parenting
- Violence
- Divorce and remarriage
- New family forms
- Family policy

Course Goals:

The lectures, class discussions, and readings will expose you to the terms and ideas that represent sociological principles, concepts, and perspectives. It is expected that you will learn the meaning of these

terms and ideas as well as how they apply to "real life." I will devote class time, as well as "office time," to explaining the material thoroughly. You will be required to demonstrate your understanding of these terms and ideas on the quizzes and in papers.

My responses to and feedback for students:

I will respond to your emails within a 24 hour period during the week and I will check email periodically over the weekends and school breaks. The quizzes and assignments will be grade within a week of when they are due.

Please READ all the comments I make on quizzes and assignments, this will aid in your understanding of what aspects you need to improve upon. Feedback on the quizzes are found on the quizzes under each question. I will provide written feedback on each assignment.

Readings:

The assigned readings are indicated in the course schedule. The readings are important to develop an understanding of the terms and ideas that you are expected to learn. The lectures and discussion questions will benefit you more if you have the chapters read before you look at those and certainly before you take the quiz.

NS ONLINE use:

Since this is an online course- everything you need is contained within. Lectures are posted on NS ONLINE for Chapters 1-14 under the CONTENT section. These lectures are created in PowerPoint and you will need a PowerPoint reader to view these. [PowerPoint Viewer](#) Once you are on the site you will have to use your a-number and password to access. You may download and print the lectures by using the pure black and white handouts option when printing to help you prepare for answering the discussion questions and for the quizzes. It is the student's responsibility to check D2L (NS Online) and MyNSCC email on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and students. Students are responsible for the information communicated through those channels. D2L (NS Online) contains specific course information and MyNSCC contains information important for other purposes.

Course Assessments:

The following performance assessments will be used to demonstrate students' understanding, knowledge, and skills:

- 2 General education assessments
- 10 chapter quizzes with 14 practice quizzes
- 11 class participation assignments (discussion questions)
- 3 written assignments

Quizzes:

There is one procedural quiz that ensures the student has read and understands the syllabus. Students will earn 10 points of extra credit if they get 100% on this quiz. Students have an unlimited amounts of attempts.

There are 2 General Education assessments. These are all multiple choice questions and will be given at the beginning of the course and then the second at the end. There are 14 practice quizzes that are worth 5 points per chapter for completion. These quizzes are meant as study tools and will allow students a chance to test themselves.

There are 10 quizzes that are comprised of multiple choice, matching and short answer questions. There is 2 hour limit for each quiz- Do not open the quiz until you are ready to take it and once you begin the quiz you must complete it.

Discussion Questions (DQs)- Participation Activity

All students enrolled in this class are required to check in with me at **least once per WEEK via completing a discussion question (s) or by sending me an email** (Please note: there are 14 chapters and 11 discussion questions in a 1 week semester). **Failure to answer a discussion question or send me an email once a week will result in a FA or F grade.** To check in, you will make a list of concepts and their definitions and then write a brief answer to *each* of the chapters' questions listed in the Discussion section of NS ONLINE. These postings are used to count for attendance and are worth up to 15 points each.

Chapters are associated with discussion questions. Make a list of the concepts that are in the textbook with the definitions. The concepts are bold within the text and listed at the end of each chapter. This is worth up to 5 points. Then use the concepts and theoretical frames that are you reading about in each chapter to answer the questions. As you respond, you need to **bold** the concepts/ theoretical frames, using them to answer the questions. Use as many concepts (key terms) as you can to create a solid, in-depth answer. This part is worth up to 10 points.

The answers should be in paragraph form ranging from **300 to 500 words**. After you read the assigned chapters and reviewed the corresponding PowerPoint lecture, answer the question using as many concepts (key terms) as you can. After you post make sure you are responding to at least ONE of your fellow students' posts. Be constructive and professional in the **150 to 350** word response. Indicate what you agree or disagree with and really explain why in detail.

Tips for writing quality discussion question answers:

In academia you need to address each part of a question specifically and explicitly. If there are 5 parts to this particular question, you should have at least 1 solid paragraph (5 to 7 sentences) for each part to really convey what you are trying to say- that is explain what you are thinking and why you think that way). Be explicit and detailed in your answers. Do not be afraid to write.

Please remember that this course is centered on critical thought and is designed to enhance your abilities to analysis, evaluate, and to reason (both to infer and to deduce). To accomplish this, use as many concepts from the chapter as you can to formulate your answer.

Grading rubric for DQ posts is in the Discussion section

Homework assignments:

There will be 3 homework assignments. Homework assignments will entail work outside the classroom.

READ ALL DIRECTIONS in each of the Assignment drop boxes. ASK QUESTIONS via the discussion board if you do not understand the requirements.

Assignment One: TV Families and Myths about families (Chapter 1 Objective and Critical thinking- Please see Course and Chapter Objectives under content in NS Online for details). (70 total points).

Purpose: To do an analysis of a TV show that you watched as a child. This assignment fulfills Chapter 1 Objective and the General education outcome of critical thinking, and writing clear, well-organized documents..

Skills: You will use your analytical and writing skills to complete this assignment

Knowledge: Develop the critical thinking skill of analysis and to see how social and cultural ideas (i.e. myths) are perpetuated and how they influence perception.

Tasks:To write a college level essay answering the following questions. Parts 2 through 5 should have a 5 to 7 sentence paragraph for each question. Upload completed file into the Assignment Dropbox.

***I highly recommend that you label each part of the assignment and you **MUST BOLD** the concepts (the bold words in the directions) and make sure you address each concept separately. Make sure you have at least five to seven sentences for each (paragraph) part of this assignment- be explicit and very detailed in your answers.*

Assignment 2 "Big Fat Greek Wedding" (Chapter 8 Objective. Please see Course and Chapter Objectives under content in NS Online for details)

Purpose: To use a set of concepts to do an analysis of the courtship of Toula and Ian in the movie "My Big Fat Greek Wedding." This assignment fulfills Chapter 8 Objective as well as the General education outcome of critical thinking and writing clear, well-organized documents.

Skills: You will use your analytical and writing skills to complete this assignment using concepts to explain how the couple was either pushed

together or could have been pulled apart by their families' interactions/reactions to the couple and to each other.

Knowledge: Develop the ability to use (apply) concepts to explain a social phenomenon (i.e. courtship) as well as enhancement of the skill of analysis and writing.

Tasks: To write a college level essay addressing each of the concepts (factors) presented. Each concept should have a 5 to 7 sentence paragraph to fully explain how each influenced the couple. Please visit the Assignment Dropbox to submit the assignment

*All concepts (specific micro and macro factors) must be **bold** and used in explaining the development and the continuation of the relationship. Do not describe the movie- this is an analysis- so you are to use the concepts to explain. Again I strongly suggest that you label each part of the assignment and each concept has it's own 5-7 sentence paragraph- be explicit and very detailed in your answers.*

***** I have placed a copy of the movie in the library of the main campus. If you cannot view in the library, you will have to rent it or check with your local public libraries.

Assignment 3: Check your facts on family issues: (General Ed Objective: Critical thinking. Please see Course and Chapter Objectives under content in NS Online for details).

Purpose: To evaluate the validity and legitimacy of 4 different types of sources and to think about why "facts" are presented the ways they are in each type of source. It's important to develop the critical thinking skill of evaluation so we can differentiate between credible and non-credible sources of information. This assignment also covers the General Ed Objective of: critical thinking, knowing how to locate, evaluate, and use information sources and to write clear, well-organized documents.

Skills: You will use your evaluative, writing, and research skills to complete this assignment. REALLY THINK ABOUT THE WORDS/images each source is using and WHY they are using them.

Knowledge: Develop the ability to examine sources and to evaluate the legitimacy, accuracy and validity of different types of information, as well as enhancement of academic writing skills.

Task: Complete the attached worksheet. Please go to the Assignment dropbox and then to Assignment 3 for a blank worksheet. Complete and then upload completed file. The following site may be helpful in writing this paper:

<https://thesocietypages.org/socimages/2017/04/05/information-scientists-releases-worrisome-new-data-on-the-dynamics-of-fake-news/>

Extra credit:

Throughout the semester you will have an opportunity to complete 3 In-class surveys for 5 points of extra credit each. You may access these surveys during specific periods during the semester. To access the surveys you may click on the link entitled “In-class survey” under the Content page or you may click on Surveys on the top right of the course home page.

Please see Content

Love type: [Love Type](#)

Copy and paste the results and write a paragraph indicating if the results surprised or didn’t surprise you and explain why. (2 points)

Romantic approach: [Romantic Approach](#)

Copy and paste the results and write a paragraph indicating if the results surprised or didn’t surprise you and explain why. (2 points)

Grading Policy:

"Students will be graded based on their ability to accurately apply information presented in this course in various assessment contexts. At no point will students be required to adopt a personal belief in any information presented but may be required to answer questions from the perspective presented by course material". There will be no “curve.” Your final grade will be the percentage of your total accumulated points:

11 Discussion questions 10 points each	110
10 Concept lists submitted with the DQs	50
10 quizzes 30-point multiple choice and short answer	300
14 Practice quizzes (5pts each)	70
2 General Education Assessments	40
Assignment 1 TV Families	50
Assignment 2 Big Fat Greek Analysis	80

Assignment 3 Checking the FACTS	150
Total	870

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage Range
A	90-100% (783-870)
B	80-89% (696-782)
C	70-79% (609-696)
D	60-69% (522-608)
F	59% & below (0-491)

FA

According to NSCC policy, if a student fails a course, but has not officially withdrawn from the course, and her/his last date of attendance is before the last date to withdraw (*use date appropriate to your section*), the student will receive a grade of FA (i.e., “Failure for Attendance Reasons”).

FN

An FN is awarded to students who never attended class.

My expectations of students:

- Complete assigned readings (including the PowerPoint Lectures) *before* you answer the discussion questions, quizzes, and writing assignments prior to the due date.
- Ask meaningful questions and make substantive comments. We must also remember that since the issues of family, politics, religion, prejudice, and inequality can be emotionally laden, it is essential that we are respectful and supportive to *all* our classmates’ opinions and ideas. Discriminatory and inflammatory remarks will not be tolerated and will result in students being asked to leave the course.
- Be active. Active participation is extremely encouraged, and will, at a minimum, help you complete all the assignments on time. Being active includes ASKING questions about the instructions as well as feedback. It is **your responsibility** to ask questions about things you do not understand. You may email or post the question on the

discussion board. Feedback on discussion questions can be found in the grade section. Feedback on the quizzes is found on the quizzes at the top of each quiz. I will provide feedback within each assignment and upload the document in the assignment section, so that you can download to see my comments or I will provide feedback in the grade section of the assignment dropbox. This feedback will aid in your understanding of what aspects you need to improve upon.

- Be responsible for all that is mentioned in class or in the required readings. This means READ EVERYTHING that is posted and all feedback on your individual assignments. Since this is a 3 credit course, it is expected that students put in 2 to 3 hours for every credit hour (9 hours per week, since there is no "classroom" it may take more than 12 hours).

Class attendance and participation:

Because of the design of the course, regular, productive attendance (that means you log in on a regular basis) is the best way to learn well. I will not force anyone to be "outgoing," but I hope that some productive class discussions develop and you get involved with questions and comments.

If you have a habit of not actively participating in the discussions, you will likely receive a FA or F grade at the end of the course for the lack of attendance if you stop participating before the withdrawal date. If you stop posting after the withdrawal date you will receive an F, so it is important that you stay on track.

*****I will be taking attendance on Mondays- so make sure that you are completing your discussion questions no later than Sunday nights at 11:55 pm. I strongly suggest that you do your work on a weekly basis. If you have completed ALL the discussion questions later in the semester, you need to send me an email at least once a week.

My responses to and feedback for students:

I will respond to your emails within a 24 hour period during the work week (M-F) and I will check email periodically over the weekends and school breaks. The discussion questions will be graded with a day of when they are due, which is each Sunday by 11:55pm. The quizzes will

be grade within a week of when you submit them. The assignments will be graded within a week of their due dates.

Policies

Late Work Policy & Make-up Procedures for Missed Assignments and Work:

If students think that they will miss a due date, they should notify the instructor before the due date. If there is a last minute emergency, please notify the instructor as soon as possible to make arrangements. All assignments and assessments should be submitted in the fashion and form that the instructor requires.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and laboratories. Absences in a course may affect a student's final grade. The student is responsible for all assigned work in the course regardless of excused or unexcused absences. Tardiness may also affect a student's final grade.

In online courses, attendance is signaled by logging on to the D2L/NS Online shell, participating as prompted (e.g., responding to an instructor's email, posting to a discussion board) and/or completing and submitting assignments. Campus closures do not affect attendance and assignment completion in online courses.

Because of the design of the course, regular, productive attendance (that means you log in on a regular basis) is the best way to learn well. I will not force anyone to be "outgoing," but I hope that some productive class discussions develop and you get involved with questions and comments.

If you have a habit of not actively participating in the discussions, you will likely receive a FA or F grade at the end of the course for the lack of attendance if you stop participating before the withdrawal date. If you stop posting after the withdrawal date you will receive an F, so it is important that you stay on track. A FA will be issued after a student misses 2 posts and does not contact the instructor if it's before the withdraw date (See academic calendar)

*****I will be taking attendance on Mondays- so make sure that you are completing your discussion questions no later than Sunday nights at 11:55 pm. I strongly suggest that you do your work on a weekly basis. If you have completed ALL the discussion questions later in the semester, you need to send me an email at least once a week.

Classroom Misconduct

Nashville State Community College has a zero-tolerance policy for disruptive conduct in the classroom. Students whose behavior disrupts the classroom will be subject to disciplinary measures. Please review the [Nashville State Student Code of Conduct policy](#). Please be aware that children are not allowed in class or to be left unattended on campus.

Academic Misconduct

Any form of academic dishonesty, cheating, plagiarizing, or other academic misconduct is prohibited. Students are responsible for understanding and abiding by the [Academic Misconduct Policy](#) in the Nashville State Student Code of Conduct. In addition to other possible disciplinary measures that may be applied through regular college procedures as a result of academic dishonesty, the instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a “zero” for the exercise, paper, or examination, or to assign an “F” for the course. Students may appeal through the appropriate college grade appeal procedures.

In this course, the first violation of this policy earns an F for the assignment, if there are any other violations, the student will earn an F for the course.

RAVE Emergency Alert System

Emergency events can happen at any time and Nashville State Community College wants to be able to notify students if and when they occur. For this reason, all students have been enrolled in the free RAVE alert system. If you have not already done so, please log in at <https://www.getrave.com/login/nscc> to confirm and update your contact information and notification preferences. It is critical that your information be correct so that you will receive any emergency notifications. Your RAVE Username is your NSCC email address. If you've never received an email from RAVE with your password, or if you need to reset your

password, select “Forgot your password?” and a new password will be emailed to you. Should the RAVE system indicate “user not found”, select Register and create your own RAVE account.

Inclement Weather Policy-Does not apply since we are online

Nashville State will use the RAVE alert system (to send a text message to students, staff, and faculty about adjusted hours of operation and/or closings at individual campuses. All students should check the Nashville State web site home page at www.nsc.edu for announcements on campus closures, which may vary from campus to campus. Campus closures will also be announced on local television stations.

Even when campuses are closed, students are still responsible for completing all assigned work. When classes are cancelled, faculty will post online assignments and any additional instructions in the D2L/NS Online course shell. Check D2L/NS Online for a message from your instructor regarding your online assignment requirements. Faculty have discretion over adjusting deadlines or due date for assignments, but students are responsible for completing all assigned work by the due date established by the instructor.

Since this is an online course, it will not be canceled for bad weather, however, please contact your instructor if weather is interfering with your access to the internet. Please save the professor's contact information offline in case of emergencies.

Class Cancellation Policy-

However, if there is a weather related issue (i.e. power outage) students should use their phones to contact the instructor to arrange for any work that maybe missed. Please save my contact information offline and download the Pulse App so that you have a direct connection to D2L (NSOnline).

Technology Statement

Nashville State's classes are considered to be web-enhanced. Faculty have an expectation that students will use a computer and the Internet to complete assignments, engage in online discussions, and access various course materials through D2L/NS Online course shells.

Computers are available for student use at each campus during campus open hours.

D2L/NS Online and myNSCC

It is students' responsibility to check D2L/NS Online course shells for all enrolled courses and myNSCC, including student email, on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and students, who are responsible for the information communicated through those channels. D2L/NS Online contains specific course information and myNSCC contains information important for other purposes.

The easiest way to stay connected to D2L/NSOnline is through the Pulse App. Please visit:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.ncr.hsr.pulse> to download the app to your phone, Ipad or computer. This directly links to D2L and send notifications of news items, due dates and grades. Please be aware that the system will send percentages for the grade and the few the points an assessment is worth, the more each missing point will weigh and the lower the percentage will be.

ADA Compliance Statement

Nashville State complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you require accommodations for any courses in which you are enrolled, contact the Access Center at 615.353.3741 or 615.353.3721, or e-mail accesscenter@nscc.edu. If you are registered with the Access Center and require an alternate format for the textbook and other course materials, please contact the Access Center.

Academic Early Alert System

Nashville State Community College uses an Early Alert System to let students know of a faculty member's concern in one or more of these academic areas: lack of attendance, lack of classroom participation, late or missing assignments, and/or poor performance on assignments/tests. *Please note that Early Alerts do not affect a student's academic standing. If you receive an Early Alert email, please see your instructor and your academic advisor as soon as possible. Check you MyNSCC emails on a regular basis, so that you get important information about your grades, financial aid and other important NSCC information.

Personal statement:

I would like to add that, in this class, we come from different backgrounds, and we have different attitudes, beliefs and practices. Although we do not have to agree with others, I ask that we show respect to each other in our differences and disagreements. We can learn from each other and our experiences and it's OK that we are different and that we may not see eye-to-eye.

Feel free to email me to make an appointment come see me in my virtual office for help in the course outside of class or call me. I can help you learn better if I also work with you individually. I can make appointments with you in addition to my scheduled office hours. One last note, if you have extenuating circumstances in your life or a learning disability, please let me know so we can work together to overcome any barriers that you have that may influence your educational goals.

And remember, it is your job to learn the material and to ASK QUESTIONS!!!!!!

Acknowledgement

(Copy and paste into an email, sign it and send it)

This acknowledgement assures that I, _____
(type your name) have read and clearly understand the ALL course expectations and grading rubrics set forth in the syllabus. By signing this acknowledgement I agree to the following terms:

1. I will be fully responsible for my own learning and will ask questions about what is unclear to me
2. I understand that it is my job/role to learn and the instructor's job/role to teach and that these jobs/roles compliment each other.
3. I understand since this is a 3 credit course that I am to put in at least 2 (if not 3) hours for each credit hour per week outside of the classroom (6-9 hours), and since this is an online course and we do not have a classroom it may take up to 12 hours per week.
4. I will complete all assignments and tests according to the instructor's directions and will **ASK** for clarification if I do not understand the directions
5. I will read ALL feedback on quizzes, discussions and assignments- It is my responsibility to ask questions in feedback that I do not understand
6. I will adhere to the attendance, late work, and academic honesty policies as set forth in the syllabus
7. I will respect and tolerate other people's opinions, perspectives, and perceptions
8. I will take full responsibility for knowing the total number of points I have accumulated.
9. It is my responsibility to make sure the instructor receives all of my discussion questions, assignment and quiz submissions.
10. I will share information with the instructor in a timely manner about any issues that will impede my ability to learn course material or to fully participate in the course

11. I will share information with the instructor about any issue that will cause me to breach any portion of this acknowledgement

Signed _____ (Type your name) Date _____

If the instructor does not receive your signed acknowledgement by the end of the first week, it will be assumed that you have withdrawn from the course.