

**SOC 3343.501 SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY  
FALL SEMESTER 2005**

**SYLLABUS**

Professor: April Barclay-Fehler, Ph.D.

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Class Time: Tuesdays 7-9:45pm

Office Hours: Tuesdays, after class

Objective: This class is intended to investigate what family is, to identify the social influences that affect the development of family, and how family has evolved and continues to evolve over time given these influences. These social influences include: the changing definition of gender roles, class structure, ethnic background, sexuality, perceptions of love, challenges of marriage/divorce, domestic violence, aging, parenting choices, and changes in social policy.

Final Grade: The final grade will be determined by a combination of **exam grades and class participation**. There will be three exams, each worth 30% of your final grade. Each exam may contain multiple choice, matching and/or true false questions. Class participation may include in-class assignments, group activities, contributions to class discussion, and/or class attendance. **Class participation is worth 10% (a significant portion) of your final grade.**

Text Book: Cherlin, Andrew J. (2005) *Public & Private Families: An Introduction (4<sup>th</sup> Edition)*, McGraw-Hill Publishers.

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

- Aug 23:** Chapter 1: Defining the Family  
Chapter 2: Evolution of the Family
- Aug 30:** Chapter 3: Gender Role Determination within the Family
- Sept 6:** Chapter 4: Socio-economic Influences on Family Structure  
Chapter 5: Ethnic Influences on Family Structure  
Review for Exam #1
- Sept 13:** EXAM #1 [Chapters 1-5]
- Sept 20:** Chapter 6: Romantic Love as Emotional Property
- Sept 27:** Chapter 7: Cohabitation vs. Marriage
- Oct 4:** Chapter 8: The Effect on Work on Family Development
- Oct 11:** Chapter 9: The Careful Art of Parenting
- Oct 18:** Chapter 10: Getting Old and What To Do About It  
Review for Exam #2
- Oct 25:** EXAM #2 [Chapter 6-10]
- Nov 1:** Chapter 11: Domestic Violence
- Nov 8:** Chapter 12: Divorce  
Chapter 13: Remarriage and Combining Families
- Nov 15:** Chapter 14/15: Family and Social Policy  
Review for Final Exam
- Nov 22:** FINAL EXAM [Chapter 11-15]