



**EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2004**  
**CURRICULUM GUIDELINES**

**A:** Division: **INSTRUCTIONAL** Effective Date: **SEPTEMBER 2004**

**B:** Department / **SOCIOLOGY** Revision  New Course   
 Program Area: **FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES**

If Revision, Section(s) Revised: **C, H**  
 Date of Previous Revision: **FEBRUARY 1999**  
 Date of Current Revision: **APRIL 2004**

**C:** **SOCI 2250** **Ds**

and communities, their life cycle, and evolution since the Industrial Revolution. It also examines the relations between the family as an institution and the economic and political institutions of the society; and raises a number of issues concerning the supposed centrality of the family in modern society.

**G:** Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings **H:** Course Prerequisites:  
**SOCI 1125 or SOCI 114**

Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:

**Lecture**

Number of Contact Hours: (per week /semester for each descriptor)

**r k t**

Number of Weeks per Semester: **15**

**K:** Maximum Class Size:  
**35**

**L:** PLEASE INDICATE:

Non-Credit  
 College Credit Non-Transfer  
 College Credit Transfer:

**M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. A basic understanding of the special features of families as social groupings.
2. An ability to handle and use key sociological concepts employed in sociological research on the role of the family in society
3. A basic appreciation of the influences on family life from other main social institutions and from the general values of the culture
4. A familiarity with the main topical research themes being currently pursued by sociologists of the family, and with some of their principal conclusions to date.

**N: Course Content:**

1. Introduction
  - the Residential Family
  - the Family and Wider Kin Groupings
  - the Family of Orientation and of Procreation
  - Nuclear and Extended Families
  - the Incest Taboo
  - the Family Enclosed in a Neighbourhood and in Various Sub-cultures
2. Main Theoretical Approaches
  - Structural-functionalism and the "Familistic Package"
  - Life Cycle and Developmental Approaches
  - Internal Dynamics; the Micro-interactionist Approach
  - Political-Economy and other Critical Perspectives
  - Feminist Perspectives
3. The Modern Family and the Traditional Family
  - Continuity and Change in the Role of the Family from the Time of the Industrial Revolution
4. Family Processes and the Life Cycle of the family
  - a. Childhood Socialization:
    - The role of the family and other agents of socialization
    - The expectation to have children, and childless couples
  - b. Family Dynamics During Teen Years:
    - The process of dating and of courtship
    - Mate selection and pressures towards homogamy
  - c. The Marriage Contract, Formal and Informal Aspects
    - Marital satisfaction
    - Stage-theory in relation to the marriage process
  - d. Separation, Divorce, Annulment:
    - Theories and explanations of divorce rates and rates of remarriage



Essay assignment	30%
Class Participation	15%
Final Examination	<u>25%</u>
	100%

**R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR**

No.