SOC 110: Marriage and Family (8 Week Course)

IMPORTANT REMINDER:
Please do not forget to complete the Letter of Agreement.

REQUIRED TEXT BOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS:


Check out the course lessons for other supplementary readings/audio/video

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

One of the issues of concern in contemporary American politics and society is the "disappearing" family values. At the center of this discussion are the changing ideals of family and marriage. This course examines the historical and social origins of marriage and family in the western world and provides a cross-cultural analysis of marriage and family as social institutions shaped by various economic, political, and cultural forces. It surveys the changing notions of family and gender relations and deconstructs common ideas of pre-modern and modern families, love, courtship, sexuality, and interpersonal communication. The challenge of the course is to learn how to understand institutions, decisions, and relations that are at one level intimate, but on the other hand formed and influenced by the larger social context.

FIVE MAIN THEMES:

- Understanding the family: historical look
- Contemporary families
- Marriages and reproduction
- Children and household structures
- Divorce, aging, and the future

COURSE GOALS and LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Apply the theories and empirical examples discussed in class to the understanding of current events and policies.
• Identify the economic and political conditions responsible for certain personal, marital, and familial decisions and outcomes.
• Compare and contrast the changing nature of family, love, and marriage from a historical, racial and cultural perspective.
• Interpret and explain family values objectively.
• Analyze how families, concepts of gender, and love change as a result of exogenous pressures.

Due Dates:
The due dates for the class are fairly flexible. Use the Course Schedule to pace yourself, but you can certainly work ahead or behind schedule. The course lasts for 8 weeks, and you have the freedom to work within your schedule given than time frame. If you do decide to submit work AFTER the due date, this means that the grading will take more time than usual. This is the only drawback. Other than that, points stay the same. Here are some guidelines:

1. Late discussions: If you post late on the discussion board, your grade will post after the class has ended. Your grade will be included in the final tally, but I grade these after I have graded all the other required work.

2. Late exams: You should have access to the exams as long as the class is in session.

3. Late papers/memos: Even if you submit a late paper, you still need to follow the steps regarding creating a Turnitin account (see below for instructions). However, Turnitin will not allow you to submit the paper after the deadline. You will need to email me your paper and confirm that you created a Turnitin account.

Requirements

TWO MEMOS

• (40 points each) for Defining Marriage and Family and Contemporary American Family.

Memos test knowledge of the readings and the ability to integrate and analyze the arguments presented in lecture and the readings. I will be providing specific questions for students to answer in their memos. However, if a student wants to answer a specific question in mind, the student can email me with the proposed question for approval.

Guidelines:
• 1-2 pages; double-spaced, 11-point font.
• Submission: Turnitin.com
The user name and password for the course are:
• class ID: 9761695
• enrollment password: Spring15B

How to Use Turnitin

Creating a Turnitin account:
1. Go to www.turnitin.com
2. Look on the upper right hand and there is an option to create an account.
3. CREATE AN ACCOUNT following the steps stipulated by Turnitin.

Adding the class to your account:
1. Go to the syllabus and you will see the user name and password for the course.
2. Go to Turnitin and ADD the class to your account. Use the class ID and enrollment password provided.
3. After the class has been added, submit the paper accordingly.

FIVE Discussions (including self-introduction):
90 points total
• Introduce Yourself
• Defining Marriage and Family
• Contemporary American Family
• Parenting
• Domestic Violence

TWO Quizzes
• First Quiz: multiple choice and true or false questions on the reading by Cherlin, Marriage Go Round. There are 20 questions worth 2 points each.
• Second Quiz: You will be presented with ONE essay question. You will be tested on you knowledge of the readings on divorce.

Course paper
100 points

Guidelines:
• Length: 3-4 pages, double-spaced, 11-12 pt. font
• Submission: Turnitin (see instructions in the syllabus)
• Sources: You need to properly reference and cite. Use either MLA or other legitimate citations formats such as ASA, Chicago, or APA.
• Use the required readings for the course and TWO scholarly source. To show that you did the readings, reference the ideas presented.

If you're unsure about what scholarly sources are, this site explain the difference between popular magazine and scholarly journals.

Remember that this paper tests whether or not you did the readings, and your ability to synthesize argument and write academic papers. Please stay away from personal stories, since these are subjective to grade.

Grading Criteria

a. Letter Grade: A (90% and above)
   • Presents a clear and concise response incorporating lecture and reading material.
   • Proposes unique topic or unique treatment of topic and takes risks with content providing a fresh approach
   • Confidence in use of Standard English, language reflects a practiced and/or refined understanding of syntax and usage
   • Very few, if any grammatical errors.

b. Letter Grade: B (80% and above)
   • Provides a clear response incorporating some reading and lecture
   • Student engages in a conversation with other students. Comments and critiques other postings.
   • Commendable achievement, exceeds standards for course
   • Significance of content is clearly conveyed
   • Good use of examples; sufficient support exists in all key areas.
   • May have a few minor mechanical errors (misplaced commas, pronoun disagreement, etc.), but no serious mechanical errors (fragments, run-ons, comma-splices, etc.)

c. Letter Grade: C (70% and above)
   • Acceptable achievement, meets standards for course, but does not show mastery of the reading and lecture
Occasional minor mechanical errors may occur, but do not impede clear understanding of material
Structure is solid, but an occasional sentence or paragraph may lack focus
d. Letter Grade: D (60% and above)

Marginal achievement; only meets minimum standards
Failure to incorporate lesson from the text and lecture
Significance of content is unclear
Some ideas may lack support, elaboration
Lacks sufficient examples or relevance of examples may be unclear
Support material may not be clearly incorporated into argument

f. Letter Grade: F (59% and below)

Ignores assignment
Lacks significance and coherence
Includes plagiarized material (intentional or unintentional)
Lacks focus
Difficult to follow due to awkward sentence or paragraph development
Mechanical errors impede understanding
Problems with writing at the college level

PLAGIARISM:
Students are also reminded that all work must be generated independently and solely for this course. Any act of plagiarism or academic dishonesty (intentional or unintentional borrowing of another person’s published or unpublished material without proper attribution, having someone fix writing or other errors, or any other attempt to defraud the academic process) will meet with reprimand and possible failure of the course. To avoid plagiarism, students should do their own work and submit work that is original to this course. Students are required to cite the use of materials written by others in all written communications for courses. Remember, the use of ideas, words, or phrasing without proper attribution constitutes plagiarism. The burden of proof rests on the student, not the instructor; in other words, the student will be required to prove that plagiarism has not occurred. Please use the APA or MLA guidelines/procedures for citing work. Use the standard you choose consistently.

Academic Honesty

College, Faculty, and Student Responsibilities

Coastline has the responsibility to ensure that grades assigned are indicative of the knowledge and skill level of each student. Acts of academic dishonesty make it impossible to fulfill this responsibility and weaken our society. Administrators, faculty
and classified staff at Coastline all support this policy. Faculty have the primary responsibility to ensure that academic honesty is maintained in their classes. Students share that responsibility and are expected to refrain from all acts of academic dishonesty. The Coast Community College District Student Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures shall be applied to any violation of academic honesty.

An instructor who has evidence that an act of academic dishonesty has occurred may, after speaking with the student, take one or more of the following disciplinary actions:

- Issue an oral reprimand.
- Give the student an "F" grade or zero points or a reduced number of points on all or part of a particular paper, project or examination; lower the overall class grade; assign an "F" grade for the course.

**NOTE:** A grade of "F" assigned to a student for academic dishonesty is final and shall be placed on the transcript. If the student withdraws from the course, a "W" will not replace an "F" assigned for academic dishonesty.

**Examples of Violations of Academic Honesty**
Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following:

**Cheating**
- Obtaining answers from another student before or during an examination.
- Communicating answers to another student during an examination.
- Knowingly allowing another student to copy one's work.
- Taking an examination for another student or having someone take an examination for oneself.
- Using unauthorized material during an examination.
- Sharing answers for a take-home examination unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- Altering a graded examination or assignment and returning it for additional credit.
- Receiving help in creating a speech, essay, report, project or paper unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- Turning in a speech, essay, report, project or paper done for one class to another class unless specifically authorized by the instructor of the second class.
- Misreporting or altering the data in laboratory or research projects.

**Plagiarizing**
- Offering another person's work as one's own: copying a speech, essay, report, project or paper from another person or from books or other sources.
- Allowing another person or company to do the researching and/or writing or creating of an assigned speech, essay, report, project or paper for oneself.
- Writing or creating a speech, essay, report, project or paper for another student. Doing research for another student's project or report.
- Using outside sources (books, periodicals or other written or spoken sources) without giving proper credit (by naming the person and putting any exact words in quotation marks).
Comitting Other Acts of Dishonest Conduct

- Stealing or attempting to steal an examination or answer key.
- Stealing or attempting to change official academic records.
- Forging or altering grade change cards.
- Submitting all or part of the same work for credit in more than one course without consulting all instructors involved.
- Intentionally impairing the performance of other students and/or a faculty member, for example, by adulterating laboratory samples or reagents, by altering musical or athletic equipment or by creating a distraction meant to impair performance.
- Forging or altering attendance records.

Engaging in Collusion
Collusion occurs when any student knowingly or intentionally helps another student perform an act of academic dishonesty. Collusion in an act of academic dishonesty will be disciplined in the same manner as the act itself.

Procedures for Dealing with Violations of Academic Dishonesty

Action by the Instructor
An instructor who has evidence that an act of academic dishonesty has occurred shall, after speaking with the student, take one or more of the following actions:

- Issue a reprimand.
- Give the student an "F" grade, zero points, or a reduced number of points on all or part of a particular paper, project, or examination.*
- Assign an "F" grade for the course. NOTE: A grade of "F" assigned to a student for academic dishonesty is final and shall be placed on the transcript. If the student withdraws from the course, a "W" grade will not replace an "F" assigned for academic dishonesty.*

*For any incident of academic dishonesty that is sufficiently serious for the instructor to take disciplinary action that can lower the student's grade (for example, an "F" given for all or part of an assignment), the instructor shall report the incident to the dean of student services on an "Academic Dishonesty Report" form.

Action by the Administration
Upon receipt of the first "Academic Dishonesty Report" form concerning a student, or upon satisfactory investigation of allegations brought by other staff or students, the dean of student services shall send a letter of reprimand to the student, which will inform the student that he/she will be on disciplinary probation for the remainder of his/her career at Coastline.

Upon receipt of a second reported incident of cheating by the student, the dean of student services shall suspend the student for one calendar year. If, after the student returns from a suspension for academic dishonesty, the dean of student services receives yet another "Academic Dishonesty Report" form, he/she shall recommend to the College president and the CCCD Board of Trustees that the student be expelled from the District.
For more serious incidents of academic dishonesty, the student shall be suspended from the College on the first offense and could be recommended for expulsion by the CCCD Board of Trustees. Offenses warranting suspension or expulsion on the first offense include, but are not limited to, the following:

• Taking an examination for another student or having someone take an examination for oneself.
• Altering a graded examination or assignment and returning it for additional credit.
• Having another person or a company do the research and/or writing of an assigned paper or report.
• Stealing or attempting to steal an examination or answer key.
• Stealing or attempting to change official academic records.
• Forging or altering grades.

Portions of this policy are adapted from the academic honesty policies of the University of California Irvine, Cypress College, California State University Long Beach and Golden West College as published in their catalogs.