



**Angelo State University
Department of Psychology, Sociology, and Social Work
SOC 3315 010: The Family**

Course Dates, Time, and Location

Fall Semester, 2009: August 24, 2009 to December 11, 2009
Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 am – 10:45 am
Academic Building, Room 219

Instructor Contact Information

David N. Sanders, Ph.D.
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Office Hours: TBA

Course Description

SOC 3315 The Family (3-0). The family as a social institution and its relationships to other institutions, with special emphasis on the American family through grand parenting in a time of rapid social change.

Course Introduction

This course will present an introduction to the family from a life span perspective in Sociology. Theoretical perspectives will be covered from major theorists in the discipline to application of Sociological paradigms to its applications in everyday life of families and the social circles around them.

Course Materials

Required Texts:

Cherlin (2008). *Public and private families: An introduction* (5th ed.). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Higher Education. ISBN: 978-0-07-352808-3

(The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus throughout the semester if necessary.)

Recommended Supplemental Text: NOTE: All assignments submitted in this course are to be written in strict accordance with the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.).

Internet Resources of Possible Interest:

- American Orthopsychiatric Association: <http://www.amerortho.org/>
- American Public Health Association: <http://www.apha.org/>
- American Society of Criminology: <http://www.asc41.com/>
- Gerontological Society of America: <http://www.geron.org/>
- National Association of Social Workers: <http://www.naswdc.org/>
- National Council on Family Relations: <http://ncfr.org/>
- School Social Work Association of America: <http://www.sswaa.org/>
- Society for Social Work and Research: <http://www.sswr.org/index.php>

Grading Information

Grading Scale:

90 – 100 = A
80 – 89 = B
70 – 79 = C
60 – 69 = D
59 or Below = F

Point Values and Description for Assignments and Examinations:

Class Participation 10%

This is relevant to attendance and engaging in class activities, including frequency and quality of participation.

Examinations 40%

There will be two (2) examinations in this course. Each of these examinations is worth 20% of your total course grade.

Research Paper 30%

Students will write a research paper containing the following elements:

- I. Cover Page

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- II. Abstract
- III. Introduction
- IV. Literature Review (brief; however, you may have more than one subsection here)
- V. Recommendations and Conclusions
- VI. References

The research paper will conform to the standards of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Edition* (2010). The length of the research proposal or program evaluation proposal may vary, but should be no less than 6 pages, not including the cover sheet and reference pages.

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's information as though it were your own. If you use the words or ideas of another person; or if you use material from any source--whether a book, journal, magazine, newspaper, business publication, broadcast, speech, electronic media, or any other source--you must acknowledge that source. Plagiarism on the research proposal or program evaluation proposal paper will result in the student not receiving credit for her/his paper.

Presentation of Assignment 20%

A 5 minute presentation will be given regarding the subject chosen for the research project. The presentation must cover the pertinent information of the research. Pros and cons of said research and recommendations should also be covered. More information regarding presentations will be given as the class progresses.

Course Policies

- Please do ask questions and feel free to contact me. I am here to help you and I want you to succeed.
- Classroom attendance and participation is necessary and expected. Students are responsible for understanding Angelo State University's Class Attendance Regulations, which is available on the web at: http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/2009-2010_Undergraduate_Catalog.pdf.
- Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at: <http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf>.
- Make-up examinations will be considered on a case by case basis and will only be allowed for university approved absences.
- Late assignments may be penalized 15% when submitted after the due date.

Persons with Disabilities

(The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus throughout the semester if necessary.)

Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to their being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Additional information can be found at: http://www.angelo.edu/services/student_life/disability.html.

General Course Objectives

Twelve possible learning objectives are listed below, not all of which will be relevant to this course. At the end of this course you, will be asked to evaluate the progress that you have made on each (even those that may not be relevant to this course) by using the following scale:

1. = *No apparent progress.*
2. = *Slight progress; I made small gains on this objective.*
3. = *Moderate progress; I made some gains on this objective.*
4. = *Substantial progress; I made large gains on this objective.*
5. = *Exceptional progress; I made outstanding gains on this objective.*

21. Gaining factual knowledge.
22. Learning fundamental principles.
23. Learning to apply course material.
24. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view by professionals in the field most closely related to this course.
25. Acquiring skills in working with others as a member of a team.
26. Developing creative capacities (e.g., writing for your term papers, article or chapter reviews, etc.).
27. Gaining a broader understanding and appreciation of intellectual/cultural activity (e.g., science, liberal and fine arts, etc.).
28. Developing my skills in expressing myself orally or in writing.
29. Learning how to find and use resources for answering questions or solving problems.
30. Developing a clearer understanding of, and commitment to, personal values.
31. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and

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points or view.

32. Acquiring and interest in learning more by asking my own questions and seeking answers.

Specific Course Competencies

Specific course competencies are listed below. At the end of this course, you will be asked to evaluate the progress that you have made on each of these specific course competencies by using the following scale:

- 1 = No Apparent Progress*
- 2 = Slight progress; I made small gains on this objective.*
- 3 = Moderate progress; I made some gains on this objective.*
- 4 = Substantial progress; I made large gains on this objective.*
- 5 = Exceptional progress; I made outstanding gains on this objective.*

48. Distinguish, appraise, and integrate multiple sources of knowledge, including research-based knowledge.
49. Use the process of scientific inquiry.
50. Identify ambiguous information.
51. Recognize and comprehend theoretical differences.
52. Critically evaluate and apply knowledge to understand human behavior in the social environment.

Calendar of Activities to Follow

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