

SYG2430 Marriage and Family Fall 2023

Location: McCarty Hall A G186

Time: MWF Period 7 (1:55 PM - 2:45 PM)

Course website: <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/488079>

Instructor: Won-tak Joo (3333 Turlington Hall / wjoo@ufl.edu)

Office hours: F 10:40 AM - 12:40 PM

TAs

Hannah Jacobs (3347 Turlington Hall / W 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM / jacobs.hannah@ufl.edu)

Jiahui Lyu (3349 Turlington Hall / W 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM / jiahuiyu@ufl.edu)

Yi Rong (3347 Turlington Hall / Th 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM / y.rong@ufl.edu)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to introduce students to some of the major issues related to families and relationships, with a focus on sociological perspectives, policy implications, and an emphasis on diversity and equity. This course will introduce you to the historical and contemporary contexts that have shaped the meanings and importance of families in society. We emphasize the diversity of people and families in the United States and other highly industrialized societies, while drawing insights from cross-cultural and historical comparisons.

This section of SYG 2430 fulfills General Education requirements (S, D), but does not fulfill the Writing Requirement.

General Education Objectives

Social and Behavioral Sciences (S): Social and behavioral science courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and underlying theory or methodologies used in the social and behavioral sciences. Students will learn to identify, describe and explain social institutions, structures or processes. These courses emphasize the effective application of accepted problem-solving techniques. Students will apply formal and informal qualitative or quantitative analysis to examine the processes and means by which individuals make personal and group decisions, as well as the evaluation of opinions, outcomes or human behavior. Students are expected to assess and analyze ethical perspectives in individual and societal decisions.

Diversity (D): Diversity courses provide instruction in the values, attitudes and norms that create cultural differences within the United States. These courses encourage students to recognize how social roles and status affect different groups in the United States. Students are expected to analyze and evaluate their own cultural norms and values in relation to those of other cultures, and to distinguish opportunities and constraints faced by other persons and groups.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Cohen, P. N. (2021; 3rd edition). *The Family: Diversity, Inequality, and Social Change*. W. W. Norton & Company

(Available as an e-book through UF All Access)

COMMUNICATION

All inquiries concerning the course should be sent to wjoo@ufl.edu. Emails must include SYG2430 in the subject line. Please allow at least 24 hours during regular business hours (M-

F, 9 AM – 5 PM) to respond to your email inquiries.

GRADING POLICY

- **In-class quiz (20%):** 2 yes or no (0.3 point each) + 2 multiple choice (0.5 point each) questions each week / 5 minutes are given at the start of the Monday lectures unless otherwise noticed / open book test but not allowed to discuss with your classmates / total 15 sets ($30 \times 0.3 + 30 \times 0.5 =$ total 24 points) / if you already get 20 points, you don't have to take more quizzes (that means, you can roughly drop three sets of quizzes if you get full scores from others) / some of the questions will be given again for the exams
- **In-class activity (20%):** 2 excellent 1.5 great 1 good / activities are given during the Wednesday or Friday lectures / total 12 sets ($12 \times 2 =$ total 24 points) / if you already get 20 points, you don't have to do more activities (that means, you can skip two activities if you get full scores from others)
- **Three exams (20% × 3):** 30 yes or no + multiple choice questions for each / from textbook + extra readings + lectures + lecture slides / not cumulative / Exam 1 & 2 are during regular lecture times / Exam 3 is on **Dec 14, 10-11am** in the final exam week
- ✓ **Optional take-home assignment (20%):** ≤ 3 pages, 12pt, single space / detailed instructions are given on the course website / will replace the lowest exam score (that means, you can skip this assignment if your exam scores are strong) / due by **November 26 midnight**

COURSE POLICIES

- Electronic devices are *required* for in-class quizzes and activities.
- Students are expected to read the required readings before the lecture, so that they are prepared to solve in-class quizzes. Additional weekly readings, if any, will be uploaded one week ahead of the lecture day.
- Students are required to be present at every lecture.
- Any missed exams, assignments, or quizzes will receive a score of 0 (zero). No other provisions will be available for make-up work unless discussed *in advance* with verifiable documentation.

EVALUATION POLICY

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>.

GRADING SCALE

A	≥ 94
A-	≥ 90 & < 94
B+	≥ 86 & < 90
B	≥ 83 & < 86
B-	≥ 80 & < 83
C+	≥ 76 & < 80
C	≥ 73 & < 76
C-	≥ 70 & < 73
D+	≥ 66 & < 70
D	≥ 63 & < 66
D-	≥ 60 & < 63
E	< 60

SCHEDULE

Week	Readings	M	W	F
W1 Aug/21-		(Aug/21 no class)		Practice Quiz
W2 Aug/28-	C1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> About half of U.S. pet owners say their pets are as much a part of their family as a human member (link) C2 (34-54)	Quiz (C1, reading)	Quiz (C2 34-54)	
W3 Sep/4-	C2 (55-75) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than half of Americans live within an hour of extended family (link) Young adults in U.S. are much more likely than 50 years ago to be living in a multigenerational household (link) 	(Sep/4 Labor Day)	Quiz (C2 55-75, reading)	
W4 Sep/11-	C3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family life is changing in different ways across urban, suburban and rural communities in the U.S. (link) 	Quiz (C3, reading)		
W5 Sep/18-	C4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How the American middle class has changed in the past five decades (link) 	Quiz (C4, reading)		
W6 Sep/25-	C5	Exam 1	Quiz (C5)	
W7 Oct/2-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STEM Jobs see uneven progress in increasing gender, racial and ethnic diversity (link) The mark of a woman's record: Gender and academic performance in hiring (link) 	Quiz (reading)		(Oct/6 Homecoming)
W8 Oct/9-	C6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no 'gay gene.' There is no 'straight gene.' Sexuality is just complex, study confirms (link) 	Quiz (C6, reading)		
W9 Oct/16-	C7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What consent looks like (link) 	Quiz (C7, reading)		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 facts about Americans and online dating in 2019 (link) 			
W10 Oct/23-	C8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A peek inside the black box: What marriage means for poor unmarried parents (link) 	Quiz (C8, reading)		
W11 Oct/30-	C9	Exam 2	Quiz (C9)	
W12 Nov/6-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diverging destinies: How children are faring under the second demographic transition (link) 	Quiz (reading)		(Veteran's Day)
W13 Nov/13-	C10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Divorce and the Great Recession (link) Divorce rates are now dropping (link) Marriage, divorce, and the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S. (link) 	Quiz (C10)		
W14 Nov/20-	C11	Quiz (C11)	(Thanksgiving)	(Thanksgiving)
W15 Nov/27-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parenthood, gender and work-family time in the United States, Australia, Italy, France, and Denmark (link) Some gender disparities widened in the U.S. workforce during the pandemic (link) 	Quiz (reading)		
W16 Dec/4-	C12	Quiz (C12)		(Reading days)

* **Optional take-home assignment:** November 26, midnight

* **Exam 3:** December 14, 10:00am-11:00am