

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY  
SAULT STE MARIE, ON



COURSE OUTLINE

Course Title: Sociology of the Family

Code No.: SOC 115-3 Semester: Winter

Program: Various Human Services

Author: Social Sciences Department

Date: January 2002 Previous Outline Date: January 2001

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dean Date

Total Credits: 3

Prerequisite(s): None

Length of Course: 2 hours/week Total Credit Hours: 30

**Copyright © 2001 The Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology**  
*Reproduction of this document by any means, in whole or in part, without the prior written permission of The Sault College of Applied Arts & Technology is prohibited.*  
*For additional information, please contact Judith Morris, School of Continuous Learning,*  
*(705) 759-2554, Ext. 516*

**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed to provide students with the means to achieve a sociological orientation or perspective for analysis of the family. Sociological factors such as social change, social structure/stratification, culture, and socialization which affect family life in contemporary society will be presented.

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:**

\

**A. Learning Outcomes:**

1. Define and use the basic terminology common to sociology
2. Describe how the family is an institution that varies depending on socio-cultural factors
3. Describe how the family, socialization, social structures and society are interrelated.

**B. Learning Outcomes and Elements of the Performance:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Define and use the basic terminology common to sociology.

**Potential elements of the performance:**

- Define sociology as a macro perspective and a micro perspective
  - Review the similarities and differences between personal experiences and the scientific method as ways of understanding the family
  - Define the conceptual approaches of sociology to the study of the family
  - Define social structure and social institution
  - define socialization and social change
2. Describe how the family is an institution that varies depending on socio-cultural factors.

**Potential elements of the performance:**

- Describe economic influences on the family
- Describe the achievements of the feminist movement in Canada
- Describe the multicultural roots of the Canadian family
- Describe the influences of work and technology on the family

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE  
(Continued):**

3. Describe how the family, socialization, social structure and society are interrelated.

**Potential elements of the performance:**

- Outline the content of gender-role socialization
- Describe the influence of attitudes on social patterns in society
- Examine the future of marriage in Canadian society
- Evaluate the future of the family in Canadian society

**III. TOPICS:**

**Note:** These topics sometimes overlap several areas of skill development and are not necessarily intended to be explored in isolated learning units or in the order below.

1. A sociological study of family and marriage
2. The role of marriage and family in society
3. Changes in the family
4. The future of the Canadian family

**IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES / TEXTS / MATERIALS:**

1. The Family Dynamic, A Canadian Perspective, Second Edition, by Ward, Margaret  
Scarborough: Nelson Canada

**Instructional Methods / Class Activities:**

Lecture, class discussion, group activities, videotape presentations and assigned readings are designed to provide students with opportunities to gain an understanding of sociology of the family. A review of personal and social experiences will be complemented by instruction on how to analyze the family as a social institution. The text which is required reading will provide the themes of study. All tests are based on this text, class lectures and notes.

**V. EVALUATION PROCESS / GRADING SYSTEM,  
MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTING:****TIME FRAME**

Sociology of the Family meets two periods per week during the semester. Students are expected to attend classes and to participate in collaborative group activities and class discussion.

**GRADING**

- 1. Written assignments:** There will be at least two (2) **30%**  
selected by the professor from the following options:
- \* journals of reflective thought
  - \* short response papers
  - \* brief social analysis papers
  - \* reports of social experiments
- 2. Tests:** Tests are a combination of short answer, **70%**  
essay, and objective.

**Participation in a minimum of 70% of graded course activities is required for eligibility to succeed in the course.**

**Note:** Students who miss a test must notify the professor in advance if possible or at the earliest opportunity to request a rewrite. Allowing the rewrite is at the professor's discretion if the student has provided a reasonable excuse for the absence. Requests for rewrites will be denied if made one week or more after the test date.

**METHOD OF ASSESSMENT (GRADING METHOD):**

<u>Point</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade</u>
			<u>Equivalent</u>
A+	Consistently outstanding	(90% - 100%)	4.00
A	Outstanding achievement	(80% - 89%)	3.75
B	Consistently above average achievement	(70% - 79%)	3.00
C	Satisfactory or acceptable achievement in all areas subject to assessment	(60% - 69%)	2.00
R	Repeat - The student has not achieved the objectives of the course, and the course must be repeated.	(less than 60%)	0.00
CR	Credit exemption		
X	A temporary grade, limited to situations with extenuating circumstances, giving a student additional time to complete course requirements		

**NOTE:** Students may be assigned a mid-term grade of "R" for unsatisfactory performance.

**VI. SPECIAL NOTES:**Special Needs

Students with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, learning disabilities) are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with the professor and/or contact the Special Needs Office.

Plagiarism

To plagiarise is to "take and use as one's own (thoughts [ideas], writings, inventions, etc. of another); especially to take and use a passage, plot, etc. from the work of another writer" (Gage Canadian Dictionary, 1983, p. 861).

Students should refer to the definition of "academic dishonesty" in the "Statement of Students' Rights and Responsibilities" (on-line Intranet for Sault College). Also, in order to collaborate on an assignment, students need prior permission from the professor.

Students who engage in "academic dishonesty" will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or other such penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course.

**VI. SPECIAL NOTES (continued):**Plagiarism (continued):

In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the material referenced, and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

Advanced Standing

Students who have completed an equivalent post-secondary course must bring relevant documents to the Coordinator, Social Sciences Department:

- A copy of course outline
- A copy of the transcript verifying successful completion of the equivalent course

Note: A copy of the transcript must be on file in the Registrar's Office.

Retention of Course Outlines

Students are responsible for retaining all course outlines for possible future use in gaining advanced standing at other post-secondary institutions.

Substitute course information is available at the Registrar's office.

**VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT**

Students who have related employment-centered experience should see the Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Coordinator.

