

FCS 5380: Family Problems
(3 credit Hours)

General Course Information

Time and Location: Online only **Instructor:** Carrie LeFevre Sillito, Ph.D.

Email: carrie.sillito@fcs.utah.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

Website: Canvas.utah.edu

Prerequisites: No Prerequisites required

Course Description: Examines the social science research in the area of family crisis. Specifically, this course examines problems associated with poverty, violence, divorce, delinquency, death etc.

Course Learning Objectives: By the end of the course, students should be able to identify characteristics of families in crisis and describe barriers and supports to overcoming crisis in families. Students should be able to use the ABC-X model to explain how events, resources, and perceptions can lead to stress or crisis in families.

Course Texts:

REQUIRED:

Families & Change: Coping With Stressful Events and Transitions Fourth Edition (2010). Sharon J. Price, Christine A. Price, Patrick C. McKenry. Sage Publications.

ISBN-10: 1412968518. **ISBN-13:** 978-1412968515

Optional (MUST CHOOSE ONE):

Stark, E. (2007). Coercive Control: The Entrapment of Women in Personal Life. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Edin, K., & Nelson, T. J. (2013). Doing the Best I Can: Fatherhood in the Inner City. Berkeley, CA, USA: University of California Press

Edin, K., & Kefalas, M. (2011). Promises I Can Keep: Why Poor Women Put Motherhood Before Marriage. Berkeley, CA, USA: University of California Press

Important note: All assignments, exams, and quizzes are to be completed on Canvas in this course. Students in the course will be expected to have computer proficiency and computer access to complete these assignments, exams, and quizzes. If you have any problems with your Canvas account, please contact the campus help desk. Students are responsible for having access to Canvas before assignments or exams are due as NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS, ASSESSMENTS, OR EXAMS WILL BE ACCEPTED. All assignments are due by 11:59 PM Saturday of the assigned week

Code of Conduct & Accommodations

- **Faculty and Student Responsibilities:** All University policies and procedures will be followed. Please refer to the University of Utah Faculty Handbook (<http://www.admin.utah.edu/fhb/>) and Student Code (<http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-10.html>).
- **Plagiarism:** Cases of suspected cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the Dean. **The penalty for cheating is an automatic failing grade for the course**, in addition to other potential penalties decided by the Dean's Office.
- **ADA Statement:** The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services (CDS), 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.
 - **Disabilities:** Please inform me of disabilities with written documentation from the CDS within the first 2 weeks of class so appropriate accommodations can be made.
- **Accommodations:** Some of the writings, lectures, films or presentations in this course may include material that conflicts with the core beliefs of some students. Please review the syllabus carefully to see if this course is one you are committed to taking. If you have concerns, please discuss it with me within the first 2 weeks of class.
- **Athletics:** If you are a member of a university athletic team, you must provide me with a schedule of games and team commitments during the first two weeks of the semester.
- **Student Assignments:** I will retain unclaimed student exams and papers only until January 1, 2014. Please make a note of this for your records.
- **Syllabus and Course Event Schedule:** This syllabus is a tentative schedule only. All dates and assignments are subject to change. I will notify class via Canvas email or in class prior to any changes. It is your responsibility to check Canvas email and attend class for information regarding changes to schedule.
- **Final Course Grade :** I absolutely WILL NOT allow you to “make up” missed assignments at the end of the semester in order for you to achieve a desired grade. This is grade inflation, is unfair to the other students in the course, and is not a true reflection of your academic work. If you want a good grade in the course, do the work well and turn it in on time throughout the semester.

Course Requirements & Grading:

- **Reflective Book Report :(20%)** - Requirements for reflective book report are found at the end of this syllabus on a separate page. Assignments should fit this page length when in times new roman font, 1 inch margins, double spaced. Heading/ subheadings and extra spaces do not count toward the page length.
- **Exams (40%):** There will be two exams in this course. Each exam will be 20% of the final grade. ****Exams are open note, open book and COMPLETED ON CANVAS.** However, exams are to be completed individually; there is to be NO collaboration on exams between class members and other class members or other people. Exams are timed, and you will have 120 minutes to complete each exam. Answers submitted after time expires will not be accepted. You may take the exam on a personal computer or at any opened computer lab on campus. ***Exams are found under “assessments” on Canvas***. There is no cumulative final exam in this course. Because exams are opened-note, there is not a study guide for the exams. Exams have both a short essay component, and a multiple choice component.

- **Article Summaries (20%)**: There are two article summaries due this semester. Together, they are worth 20% of your final grade. The first summary is worth 45 points and covers 6 articles. The second summary is worth 50 points and covers 7 articles. The first article summary should include a short summary (1/2 page to 1 page for each article) of the assigned articles from Week 1 to Week 6. The second summary should include a short summary (1/2 page to 1 page for each article) of the assigned articles from Week 9 to Week 15. Assignments should fit this page length when in times new roman font, 1 inch margins, double spaced. Heading/ subheadings and extra spaces do not count toward the page length. This page requirement is a MINIMUM requirement. Some articles may be summarized in a half page. Others may require more space for an adequate summary. See grading rubric for more information on how this assignment will be graded.
- **Online Assignments and Discussion Board Posts (20%)**: Most weeks throughout the semester there will be a short assignment or discussion board post to help solidify your learning for the week. For discussion board posts, the grade is based on your response to the question AND responding to at least one post by another student. Other online assignments vary by week, and full descriptions are found on Canvas.
- **Point Allocation:**

	Number Required	Percent Each	Total allocation to Final Grade
Exams	2	20%	40%
Reflective Book Report	1	20%	20%
Article Summary	2	10	20%
Online Assignments	Varies	Varies	20%

Grading Scale:

94% - 100%	A
90% - 93.9%	A-
87% - 89.9%	B+
84% - 86.9%	B
80% - 83.9%	B-
77% - 79.9%	C+
74% - 76.9%	C
70% - 74.9%	C-
65% - 69.9%	D+
60% - 64.9	D
55% - 59.9%	D-
Less than 54.9%	E