Family and Consumer Studies 2400 (3 credit hours)  
Family Studies Across the Life Course  
Summer 2013

General Course Information

Time and Location: online only  
Instructor: Carrie LeFevre Sillito, PhD  
Office: 326 AEB  
Email: carrie.sillito@fcs.utah.edu  
Office Hours: By appointment,  
Website: canvas.utah.edu  
Prerequisites: No Prerequisites required

Course Description: Provides an overview to family studies, including family theory, demography and empirical research on relationship formation, marriage, parenting, post parental families, and family problems.

Course Objective: Encourage students to consider the extent to which our own family experiences are related to larger social forces such as gender, race and ethnicity, social class, and changes in cultural attitudes. Teaching and learning methods will include: lecture, film, discussion, small group activities, and examinations.

Learning Objectives: By the end of the course, students will be able to explain how family form, race, ethnicity, gender, and social class influence outcomes in marriage, divorce, remarriage, parenting and ageing.


**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.

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 a 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.
• **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 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:**

- **Thought Papers (32% of grade)** throughout the semester, you are required to complete FOUR thought papers. Thought papers will involve students writing essays, approximately 2-3 pages in length, that incorporate thoughtful reflection, analysis, critique and synthesis of course readings or films. Thought papers are to be submitted under “Assignments” on Canvas before the individual thought paper due dates. **NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Each thought paper is worth 8% of your final course grade.

**ALL THOUGHT PAPERS MUST BE SUBMITTED ON CANVAS**

- **Weekly Assessments (45% of grade):** To ensure that students keep up on readings and assignments there will be 17 weekly quizzes throughout the semester. These are short, timed assessments of the assigned reading, lecture, and film. *You should complete your assessment after finishing all other coursework for the week* Only 15 of the 17 are required. The Lowest 2 scores are dropped. So – if you complete all 17, your lowest scores will be dropped. If you complete 15, the two you don’t complete will be dropped. **These are due on canvas at 11:59 PM SATURDAY of the week they are assigned**

- **Online Assignments and Discussions (23%):** Points are earned through online assignments If you miss an assignment it is not possible to make up these points.

**Point Allocation:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number Required</th>
<th>Percent Each</th>
<th>Total allocation to Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thought Papers</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Assessments (Quiz)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online assignments</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>23%</td>
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**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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assigned Reading Chapters</th>
<th>Video, Media, Etc</th>
<th>Assignments : DUE 11:59 SATURDAY NIGHT unless otherwise noted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | 5/13/13 -5/15/13 | 1. Marriage, relationships and family commitments  
2. Exploring relationships and families Article: Huck’s Raft | NPR: Switched at Birth  
http://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/360/switched-at-birth  
(listen to on NPR website) | Quiz 1  
Quiz 2  
Discussion: Introduction |
Thought paper 1: Invisible Inequality | Video: Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick? -- In Sickness and in Wealth  
http://stream.scl.utah.edu/index.php?c=details&id=584  
Optional Video: The house we live in  
http://stream.scl.utah.edu/index.php?c=details&id=199  
Optional Video: Race – the Power of an illusion  
http://stream.scl.utah.edu/index.php?c=details&id=199 | Quiz 3  
Thought paper 1 due |
| 3    | 5/27/13 – 6/1  | 4. Our Gendered Identities  
5. Our Sexual Selves Article: The Good Provider Role | Miss Representation (rated TV-14)  
http://stream.scl.utah.edu/index.php?c=details&id=7825  
Optional video: Tough Guise  
http://stream.scl.utah.edu/index.php?c=details&id=889  
David Reimer Video Clip | Quiz 4  
Quiz 5  
Short video summary: Miss representation or Tough Guise |
7. Marriage: from social institution to private relationship | The Marriage News You Can Use:  
http://stream.utah.edu/m/show_grouping.php?g=0c645370f16bef1840 | Quiz 6  
Quiz 7  
Discussion: Marriage Promotion |
| 5    | 6/10/13 – 6/15 | 8. Living alone, cohabiting, same-sex unions and other intimate relationships  
Thought Paper 2: The Expectations Trap | 30 Days: Season 3, Episode 4 - Same Sex Parenting  
http://stream.scl.utah.edu/index.php/details/item/7185 | Quiz 8  
Thought paper 2 due |
| 6    | 6/17/13- 6/23 | 9. To parent or Not to Parent  
10. Raising Children in a Diverse Society | Baby Crash: Causes and Consequences of Declining Birthrates  
http://stream.lib.utah.edu/index.php?c | Quiz 9  
Quiz 10  
Discussion: Do we need a law to |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>Quiz/Discussion</th>
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Assignments:
Descriptions of all assignments are found on the Canvas course page under the relevant assignment. Grading rubrics are also included on Canvas.