



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

Department of Sexuality, Marriage, & Family Studies (SMF)

SMF 101: Relationships & Families

Winter 2019

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10-11:20 a.m.

SJ2 1004: Vanstone Lecture Hall

Instructor: Dr. Denise Whitehead

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Office Phone: 519-884-8111 Ext. 28281

Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:30-12:30 (after class), Wednesdays 2:30-3:30 or By Appointment (please email me).

WELCOME to SMF 101!! I am delighted that you have chosen to enroll in this course. You are encouraged to come and visit me during office hours; it is a pleasure to get to meet students one-on-one and to get to know you better. I am available to tackle questions about course material, discuss future university degrees and career ideas, or just have a chat. This is how to build rapport and a foundation by which you might someday approach a professor for a letter of reference (thinking ahead is important).

Email is generally answered the same day during business hours – Monday to Friday – and at other times when I am able. If you haven't heard from me within 24 hours during the business week, please resend your email in case I didn't receive or it got lost among the long list of emails I receive.

LEARN: I use LEARN to keep in contact with my students and to provide course updates, class cancellations, and to share little news items or other things that I think you might find interesting. **Please access this daily. In the event of a cancellation due to weather I will post in News and send an email to all students in the course.**

T.A. Information: To Be Announced (TBA)

Please be professional in your emails and include the following:

- A personal address: For example, Dear Dr. Whitehead or Dear Professor Whitehead.
- In the Subject line please note the course you are in: SMF 101 (I have many students this semester)
- Your request/question
- A signature line. For example, Sincerely Sarah; Kind Regards, Tom; Best, Frankie

Please contact me/come to see me if you are having medical/psychological issues that are compromising your ability to complete the course successfully. Generally, tackling these issues earlier, rather than later in the course, allows for more options.

Mental Health Services

On Campus

- Counseling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca / 519-888-4567 x32655
- MATES: one-to-one peer support program offered by Federation of Students (FEDS) and Counseling Services
- Health Services Emergency service: located across the creek from the Student Life Centre and across the street from St. Jerome's University.

Off campus, 24/7

- Good2Talk: Free confidential help line for post-secondary students.
Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Extended Assessment Unit
Phone: 519-749-4300 x6880
- Here 24/7: Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- OK2BME: Support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 x222

Full details can be found online at the Faculty of ARTS website

Download UWaterloo and regional mental health resources (PDF)

Download the WatSafe app to your phone to quickly access mental health support information

Course Description

This course provides an overview of couple, marital, and family relationships from a broad, interdisciplinary perspective. [Note: Formerly SMF 206]

Antireq: SMF 206

Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

This is a broad introductory course that considers the topics of couples, relationships and family from a broad interdisciplinary perspective. This is an introductory course designed to familiarize you with key topics, demographics, theories and historical perspectives that underscore close relationships in the past, present, and future.

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- A. Articulate key theoretical ideas related to the study of relationships and families
 - Describe issues related to mate selection and close relationships over time
 - Describe the types of transitions and relationships that people face over the lifespan
- B. Describe how historical and current developments have shaped ideas about family and relationship formation
 - Describe the associations between employment and caregiving
Articulate major issues that impact families
- C. Identify and articulate how social, political, economic and cultural factors shaped families and relationships
 - Articulate the impact of social expectations and social policies on families/relationships
 - Articulate how certain families are advantaged/disadvantaged by these factors
- D. Develop critical thinking skills through reading, writing and discussion of course material
 - Engage in scholarly discussion in the classroom
 - Apply these critical thinking skills in articulating ideas in written one-minute papers

Required Text

McDaniel, S.A., Tepperman, L. & Colavecchia, S. (2019). Close Relationships: An Introduction to the Sociology of Families, 6ed. Toronto: Pearson.

**This book is available through the UWaterloo Bookstore in both hard copy (paper) and as an Electronic EBook. You may select EITHER version for your use.

***There is also ONE copy available on Course Reserves at the St. Jerome's Library available for 3-hour intervals.

Additional Readings Available on LEARN and through the UWaterloo Library

- I have deliberately included journal article citations in the required readings section that will necessitate that you access the online UWaterloo library database to locate. If you don't know how to do that you are encouraged to seek out help at the library and learn how to do this. This effort will help acquaint you with journal articles and databases for accessing research for papers and other types of learning that you will encounter in upper year courses.
- Where noted I have provided other readings in the Content section of LEARN. These are listed in the required readings section.

Course Requirements and Assessments

Assessments	Date of Evaluation	Weighting
Mid-Term	Tuesday February 12th, 2019	40%
Final EXAM	In Exam Period - TBA	50%
10 1-minute Papers (10 x 1 mark each)	Randomly throughout semester	10%
Total		100%

See Course Outline/Schedule below for what material will be covered in each test.

MIDTERM (40%): February 12th, 2019

In-class. Format to be announced.

FINAL EXAM (50%): DATE TBA

To be scheduled during final exam period. Format to be announced

NEED TO MISS A TEST OR EXAM due to illness or other issues?

Tests & Exams will only be rescheduled under VERY limited conditions; it is your responsibility to read and abide by the following:

1. You must notify me prior to the test if you are unable to write at the scheduled time due to medical (or at minimum on the day of the test/exam) or religious circumstances (for midterm within one week of the start of class, for the final exam within one week of the exam schedule being posted). Students who fail to do so will receive a grade of ZERO on the test/exam.
2. You must provide appropriate documentation (see UW Policy Regarding Illness and Missed Tests* - a UW Verification of Illness Form (VIF) must be submitted) in order to have a test/exam rescheduled. See <https://uwaterloo.ca/health-services/student-medical-clinic/services/verification-illness>
3. Rescheduling is at the discretion of the course instructor. Verification of Illness Form (VIF) dates will weigh heavily in this decision to permit the student to write a make-up.
4. Make-ups are typically scheduled for the Friday (1-4 pm) immediately following the missed test. An experienced proctor at St. Jerome's administers these.

10 1-MINUTE PAPERS (10 papers X 1 Mark = 10 marks = 10% of final grade)

One-minute (and sometimes longer) papers are designed to have you think critically and start to become comfortable with articulating your thoughts in writing. Therefore, only full COMPLETE sentences will be accepted. These papers also help reinforce concepts while allowing for class “participation” without having to speak in front of a large class. Where appropriate, a brief discussion will follow that will invite the class to share their ideas with others – a wonderful learning opportunity for all, including the professor.

WHEN WILL ONE-MINUTE PAPERS OCCUR?

*One-minute papers will be written during class time

*Papers will be randomly assigned throughout the semester and will be based on the particular week’s topic, content, and readings.

*Papers will be distributed at various times throughout the class: beginning, middle, or end. You MUST BE PRESENT to write the paper. Only under very limited circumstances may papers be completed at another time (see Policy for Late Work due to illness below).

*I will supply the “paper” (question) you supply the answer. You MUST write in COMPLETE sentences (use of point form will be graded as a “FAIL” – no mark earned).

HOW WILL THE PAPERS BE GRADED?

Papers will be graded on a PASS/FAIL basis. Receiving a PASS earns you one mark out of a possible total of 10 marks for completing the papers (10 one-minute papers X 1 mark = 10 or 10% of final grade).

As noted above, you must write in complete sentences (point form will be graded as a FAIL) You may not simply “dial in” your answer – CONTENT MATTERS! - Your answer is required to demonstrate critical thought and familiarity with the readings and lectures. Answers assessed to have not met these criteria will receive a FAIL/no mark grade.

*Papers are completed individually; you may not discuss or copy from a classmate.

*Dr. Whitehead is the final arbiter of whether the writing demonstrates sufficient effort, analysis, and connection to course content in order to receive a passing grade.

Course Outline / Class Schedule

Other than test dates which are firm, this is a tentative schedule. I do my best to stick to the schedule but modifications to required readings or topic coverage may be made throughout the semester.

Week	Date	Topic	Readings Due
1	January 8	Welcome & Introduction to Course	Buy the textbook!
	January 10	Families and Family Like Relationships	Chapter 1
2	January 15	Historical Perspectives on Canadian Families (and American)	Chapter 2
	January 17		
3	January 22	How Families Begin	Chapter 3 Handa, A. (2018). The hall of shame: Lies, masks, and respectful femininity. In Gender and Women's Studies in Canada: Critical Terrain (pp. 282-289)(available through SMF 101 Course Reserves)
	January 24	Guest Speaker: Thyra Calvert, Psychotherapist	
4	January 29	Types of Intimate Couples	Chapter 4 Sassler, S. & Miller, A. (2011). Waiting to be asked: Gender, power, and relationship progression among cohabiting couples. Journal of Family Issues, 32(4), 482-506.
	January 31		
5	February 5	Happy and Healthy Relationships	Chapter 5
	February 7		
6	February 12	MIDTERM (40%)	COVERS CHAPTERS 1-5 Plus ALL Lecture Materials & Additional Readings
	February 14	No Place Like Home (In Class Film)	

Week	Date	Topic	Readings Due
	February 16 – February 24	READING WEEK: No emails are answered during this time.	NO CLASSES
7	February 26 February 28	Parenting & Pets	Chapter 6 Power, E. (2008). Furry families: Making a human-dog family through home. <i>Social and Cultural Geography</i> , 9 (5), 535-555.
8	March 5 March 7	Work and Family Life	Chapter 7 Doucet, A. (2004) "It's almost like I have a job, but don't get paid: Fathers at home reconfiguring work, care and masculinity. <i>Fathering</i> , 2(3), 277-303.
9	March 12 March 14	Stress & Violence	Chapter 8
10	March 19 March 21	Divorce and Ending Relationships	Chapter 9 Whitehead, D. (2015). Is shared custody the alchemy of family law? <i>Canadian Family Law Quarterly</i> , 35(1), 1-29.
	Fri March 22nd, 2019	Drop, Penalty 1 Period ends	<i>WD (Withdrew, no credit granted) grade assigned for course(s) dropped</i>
11	March 26 March 28	Family Transitions and Diversity	Chapter 10
12	April 2 April 4	A Glimpse into the Future	Chapter 11
FINAL EXAM	DATE TBA	FINAL EXAM (50%) - during exam period	Covers all materials since the midterm: Chapters 6-11 plus all additional readings and all lecture material

Late Work

Make-up opportunities for the in-class One-Minute Papers will only be provided under very limited conditions and in extreme circumstances. You must notify me prior to the start of class you will be missing that you are unable to attend and the reasons for your absence (e.g., medical, family emergency, or religious circumstances). **STUDENTS WHO FAIL TO DO THIS WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO/FAIL ON THAT DAY'S ASSESSMENT.** You must provide appropriate documentation (e.g., for absence due to illness and UW VIF form must be submitted) in order to have a make-up opportunity.

Electronic Device Policy

I work very hard to come to class prepared and to be engaged. You are welcome to use a computer or electronic device to type your notes during class.

If you are not in that frame of mind and will be checking your phone or otherwise engaged in non-course activities on your computer I will voice my concerns - publicly. This isn't just about your education, it is also about every other student around you who, according to research, is even more negatively affected than the student who is not fully engaged. If I judge you to be violating this expectation I will ask you to leave the class. I owe this to the students around you who can't voice their objections.

IMPORTANT: Lectures and PowerPoints may NOT be digitally recorded or photographed. Furthermore, no class materials may be posted online. This includes comments about other students in the course.

Attendance Policy

Your education is your responsibility. In that vein, to get the most for what you paid for you are expected to attend classes. If choose to miss a class for any reasons, you are responsible for the material covered. You will need to obtain notes from a willing classmate. My lecture notes are not available (unless I have chosen to post some).

Reminder that attendance is critical to being able to complete the 10 1-minute papers that will happen throughout the semester. Miss the class the day of a 1-minute writing and you automatically will receive a zero/fail for that item.

Important Information

Academic Integrity: To maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo and its Affiliated and Federated Institutions of Waterloo (AFIW) are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity](#) webpage for more information.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the [St. Jerome’s University Policy on Student Discipline](#). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [University of Waterloo Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read the [St. Jerome’s University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances](#).

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under the St. Jerome’s University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome’s University Policy on Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the [St. Jerome’s University Policy on Student Appeals](#).

Note for Students with Disabilities: The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.