



Department of Sociology & Social Work
SOC 250-1 Sociology of the Family
3 Units

Fall 2018

Meeting days: Tuesday & Thursday	Instructor title and name: Daniel Davis
Meeting times: 1:30 – 2:45 pm	Phone: 707-362-0186 (voicemail only)
Meeting location: Rohr Hall 111	E-mail: danieldavis@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: Thurs. (13 th), 1:30 pm, 111	Office location and hours: Rohr Hall #110, after class & by apt.

PLNU Mission
To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Department Mission

As followers of Christ, our mission is to nurture servant scholars who critically evaluate social and cultural patterns, and constructively engage as agents of hope.

WELCOME

The sociological study of family provides a lens into one of the most fundamental, yet greatly varied, social institutions. We will discuss methods for studying families scientifically, as well as theories about family-related social behavior. We will also delve into a host of topics relevant to families: mate-selection, sexuality, marriage, parenting, divorce, and more.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the changing nature and function of the family as a basic institution of society with emphasis upon variety related to culture, class, and ethnicity.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- EP 2.1.3(2) & EP 2.1.7 (1) Critically discuss major theoretical perspectives, such as conflict theory, structural functionalism, and symbolic interactionism.
- EP2,1.4(1) Identify and critique various social structures, particularly those resulting in inequality and injustice.
- EP 2.1.6(2) Evaluate and apply social science data to inform decisions of everyday life.

- EP 2.1.1(1, 2) Describe and exemplify the relationship between Christian faith and human actions.
- EP 2.1.7(2) Apply service-minded sociological concepts to specific need areas in our communities.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

- Hammond, R., Cheney, P., Pearsey, R. (2015). *Sociology of the Family*.
 - The primary textbook is FREE digitally at: <http://www.freesociologybooks.com>
 - Recommended Resources at www.methodsmentor.com

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

DATE	CLASS TOPIC	READING & ASSIGNMENT DUE DATE
8/30	Introduction & Group Formation	Syllabus
9/4	Changes and Definitions	SoF Chpt. 1 & Link
9/6	Studying Marriage and Families	SoF Chpt. 2 & Link
9/11	Sociological Theories of the Family	SoF Chpt. 3 & Link
9/13	Gender and Socialization	SoF Chpt. 4 & Link
9/18	Gender and Sexual Stigma <i>(thought card instead of quiz)</i>	Article 1 & Link
9/20	Love and Intimacy	SoF Chpt. 5 & Link
9/25	Singlehood <i>(thought card instead of quiz)</i>	Article & Link
9/27	Communications and Connections	SoF Chpt. 6 & Link
10/2	Sexual Scripts	SoF Chpt. 7 & Link
10/4	Dating and Mate Selection	SoF Chpt. 8 & Link
10/9	Dating Apps & Hookup Culture <i>(thought card instead of quiz)</i>	Article & Link
10/11	Marriage	SoF Chpt. 9 & Link
10/16	Parenting	SoF Chpt. 10 & Link
10/18	The Business of Being Born	In Class Film
10/23	Family Resources and Economics	SoF Chpt. 11 & Link
10/25	Labor and Family Stability <i>(thought card instead of quiz)</i>	Article & Link
10/30	Divorce and Separation	SoF Chpt. 12 & Link
11/1	Remarriage and Stepfamilies	SoF Chpt. 13 & Link
11/6	Interview Discussion	Interviews Due
11/8	Politics, Government, and Issues	SoF Chpt. 15 & Link
11/13	Violence and Tragedies	SoF Chpt. 16 & Link
11/15	Rape and Sexual Assault	SoF Chpt. 18 & Link
11/20	Aging and Families	SoF Chpt. 14 & Link
11/22	Thanksgiving Break – No Class	
11/27	Family Strengths and the Future	SoF Chpt. 17 & Link
11/29	The Way We Never Were: American Families & the Nostalgia Trap	In Class Film
12/4	Presentations	Presentations Due
12/6	Presentations	Presentations Due
12/13	Final Exam Due 1:30 pm	Final Paper Due

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading Quizzes 40% (18x2%+4x1%)• Group Leading 10% (2 x 5%)• Interviews 10%• Participation 10%• Presentation 10%• Final Paper 20%	Grade scale: A=93-100 A-=92-90 B+=87-89 B=83-86 B-=80-82 C+=77-79	C=73-76 C-=70-72 D+=67-69 D=63-66 D-=60-62 F=0-59
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Reading Quizzes (40pts): Canvas multiple-choice quizzes for 18 days with text (18 x 2pts), 4 thought card days with journal articles (1pt each). Thought card is a 3x5 card full of key ideas and points. Raise hand in class and discuss, turn in at that moment. Media articles supplement each academic reading.

Group Leading (2 x 5pts): Summarize and lead discussion two times on the key ideas in the reading. A group leader template is on Canvas.

Interviews (10pts): Interview 4 people (5 Q's) on a topic from our reading. Your final paper will also build on this topic. Turn in transcriptions of the 4 interviews and a 1-page summary of key insights.

Participation (10pts): Two free misses, then lose 1 point each day absent, late, distracted, or disruptive.

Presentation (5pts): Based on your final paper. Three minutes, three slides. More info given in class.

Final Paper (20pts): 5-page double-spaced research essay on a sociology of family topic of your choice, but building off of your interview topic. It can be descriptive (summarizing the situation) or prescriptive (proposing policy solutions). In ASA or APA style, with 10 scholarly sources (reference page does not count in page total).

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu. See [Disability Resource Center](#) for additional information.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

LINKS TO COURSE MATERIALS (OTHER THAN TEXTBOOK)

DATE	Digital Links
9/4	Article: http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/02/13/8-facts-about-love-and-marriage/
9/6	Videos & Tool: https://www.methodsmentor.com/courses/338321/lectures/5400553 Go through all the sections in “A Few Basic Decisions to Make Before Starting Your Own Project” and end by taking the quiz on method types (bring results to class for discussion)
9/11	Tool: www.sociologystyle.com (bring results to class for discussion)
9/13	Article: https://montrealgazette.com/life/boys-girls-and-the-confidence-gap-whats-a-parent-to-do-plenty
9/18	Video: https://vimeo.com/ondemand/howtoloseyourvirginity (just watch the trailer) Article on Canvas: (Mize and Manago 2018)
9/20	Article: https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2016/01/romantic-rejection-and-the-self-deprecation-trap/424842/
9/25	Article: http://nautil.us/issue/41/selection/families-of-choice-are-remaking-america-rp Articles on Canvas: (Lahad 2012) (Sarkisian and Gerstel 2016)
9/27	Article: https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2015/jun/08/aziz-ansari-modern-dating-extract-guide
10/2	Article: https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/finding-love-the-scientific-take/201805/gender-scripts
10/4	Article: https://www.rollingstone.com/interactive/feature/millennial-sexual-revolution-relationships-marriage/
10/9	Video: https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/mobile-love-industry/ Article: https://www.huffingtonpost.com/leora-tanenbaum/the-truth-about-slut-shaming_b_7054162.html Articles on Canvas: (Armstrong <i>et al.</i> 2012) (Hobbs, Owen, and Gerber 2017)
10/11	Article: https://listverse.com/2015/07/15/10-unorthodox-forms-of-marriage/
10/16	Article: https://www.huffingtonpost.com/suren-ramasubbu/parenting-in-the-digital-era_b_6625618.html
10/18	http://www.thebusinessofbeingborn.com (we will watch in class)
10/23	Article: https://www.nytimes.com/2015/12/18/upshot/rich-children-and-poor-ones-are-raised-very-differently.html
10/25	Article: http://www.thefiscaltimes.com/Articles/2014/09/29/New-Evidence-How-Unemployment-Wrecks-Families Article on Canvas: (Killewald 2016)
10/30	Article: http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2013/10/21/is-divorce-contagious/
11/1	Article: https://www.usnews.com/news/blogs/data-mine/2014/11/14/remarriage-on-the-rise-in-the-us-pew-report-says?context=amp
11/8	Article: https://www.cnn.com/2018/07/31/us/north-carolina-adultery-law-trnd/index.html
11/13	Article: https://www.theatlantic.com/family/archive/2018/07/restraining-orders-social-media/564614/ Article: http://time.com/3313343/ray-rice-black-women-domestic-violence/
11/15	Article: https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/guide-to-rape-culture_b_5440553 Article: https://www.nbcnews.com/think/amp/ncna838936
11/20	Article: https://www.forbes.com/sites/williamhaseltine/2018/04/02/aging-populations-will-challenge-healthcare-systems-all-over-the-world/amp/
11/27	Article: https://www.forbes.com/sites/zachconway/2017/10/12/how-a-modern-family-can-cut-out-conflict-and-create-a-legacy/amp/
11/29	Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MleAnU7_7TA (we will watch in class)