

SO 31140 - Marriage and The Family  
Chaminade University of Honolulu  
5:30 - 9:40 pm, Monday

Summer Term, 2000  
Ft. Shafter - Bldg 320  
July 10 - Sept 11, 2000

Instructor: Geri Boyd, MSW, LSW  
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**Required Text:** Strong, Bryan, DeVault, Christine, Barbara W. Sayad, 1998 (Seventh edition), The Marriage and Family Experience, Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing Company

**Introduction and Description:**

Marriage and family are cross-cultural universals that occur in all human societies and involve most human beings in some way. While marriage and family are universals, the specific form or forms they assume depend on the particular culture, sociological variables such as economic class, and the historical period. This course will explore marriage and the family from the comparative and global perspective, but with an emphasis on American society. The analysis will focus on theory and research regarding the structure, patterns, and trends of marriage and the family as basic social institutions.

**Class Objectives:**

- \* to survey universal and particular aspects of marriage and the family.
- \* to critically review the effect of cultural and social change on marriage and family.
- \* to understand and apply different approaches to the study of issues involved in marriage and family.
- \* to analyze factors related to problems in marriage and family.
- \* to help students deal better with their own personal involvement in marriage and family as well as with related sociopolitical issues as active members of various institutions in the local community and as active citizens of a state and the country.

**Class Format:**

This class will be an interactive, cooperative learning experience for the students and the instructor. The format integrates lectures, class discussions, student presentations, and debates. Students are encouraged and expected to actively participate in class activities. They are required to come to class with intensive reading to contribute to discussion of the basic textbook and relevant handouts.

Controversial issues identified by the students and instructor such as abortion, same-sex marriage, and euthanasia will be critically analyzed from all points of view through student debates. In all of this, the instructor will apply perspectives from philosophy (critical thinking), women's studies and feminism, and clinical social work with couples and families to help students gain a better understanding of the phenomena of marriage and family.

### **Requirements and Grading:**

Students are required to be open minded in class discussion and to participate regularly in class activities. Each student is expected to carefully read the assigned chapter in the textbook and handouts, and be prepared to discuss these for the class period of the assignment.

Grading will be determined by a point system:

Quizzes	10 pts. (2 pts. @ quiz)
Class participation	10 pts.
Exam	40 pts.
Field Project	20 pts.
Oral Presentation	10 pts.

Quizzes will be of multiple choice and short answer formats. There will be no make-up quizzes. Class participation will be evaluated on the basis of the students' demonstration of having read and analyzed the assigned material through relevant classroom debate/discussion. The exam will be of multiple choice and short essay formats and will cover the lecture material and all readings assigned up to the class prior to the exam. Permission must be granted by the instructor in advance to take a make-up exam. At the discretion of the instructor, make-up exams may be more difficult (reflecting that the student had additional preparation time) and will be scheduled at the instructor's convenience.

Classroom presentations of the students' field projects will be made at the final class meeting. Classroom time will be provided for field project preparation and implementation. Details of the field project will be discussed in class and will incorporate the learning that occurs in this course.

### **Grading Scale:**

Your final grade will be based on the following formula:

100 - 90 points = A // 89-80 points = B // 79-70 points = C // 69-60 = D // 59-0 = F

### **Learning Outcome Assessment::**

All students' work will be evaluated for the following:

- \* knowledge of the subject matter from textbook, handouts, class lectures, class discussion, and resources from research.
- \* ability to apply the knowledge to understand current marriage and family issues in society.
- \* ability to provide relevant examples to support viewpoints.
- \* clarity and logical presentation
- \* understanding the subject matter from opposing viewpoints
- \* ability to analyze, critically review, and compare the issues cross-culturally.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING ASSIGNMENT</u>
July 10	Orientation and Introductions The Meanings of Marriage and the Family Studying Marriage and the Family	Ch. 1 Ch. 2
July 17	Quiz Contemporary Gender Roles Friendship, Love, and Commitment Communication and Conflict Resolution	Ch. 3 Ch. 4 Ch. 5
July 24	Quiz Pairing and Singlehood Understanding Sexuality Marriage as Process: Family Life Cycles	Ch. 6 Ch. 7 Ch. 8
July 31	Quiz Pregnancy and Childbirth Parents and Children Marriage, Work, and Economics	Ch. 9 Ch. 10 Ch. 11
Aug 7	Quiz Families and Wellness Family Violence and Sexual Abuse Coming Apart: Separation and Divorce	Ch. 12 Ch. 13 Ch. 14
Aug 14	Quiz New Beginnings: Single-Parent Families and Step-Families Marriage and Family Strengths	Ch. 15 Ch. 16
Aug 21	Exam Class Preparation for Field Project	
Aug 28	Class Preparation for Field Project	
Sept 4	Field Project	
Sept 11	Class presentation of Field Project	