

Department:

Sociology

Course Description:

This course examines the nature, development, functions, and norms of the family in American society as well as in other cultures. The course will focus on courtship, marriage, sexual relations, birth control, male and female roles, kinship, child rearing, divorce, and death in the family.

Course Competencies:

The learning outcomes and competencies detailed in this syllabus meet or exceed the learning outcomes and competencies specified by the Kansas Core Outcomes Groups for this course as approved by the Kansas Board of Regents. (Kansas Regents Shared Number Course and Title: **KRSN Course SOC2010 Marriage and Family/Introduction to Family Sociology.**)

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Identify historical, social, and cultural forces that shape contemporary families and family life.
2. Examine intimate relationships and family dynamics across the life course.
3. Describe diverse intimate relationships and family structures.
4. Critically analyze family issues utilizing evidence-based research and theoretical perspectives.

Course Content:

- A. The Changing American Family
- B. How We Study the Family: Theories and Research Methods
- C. Sex and Gender
- D. Sexuality
- E. Dating and Mate Selection
- F. Love
- G. Marriages and Committed Partnerships
- H. Living Single
- I. Reproduction and Parenting
- J. The Economy of Working Families
- K. Family Crisis
- L. Growing Older in Families
- M. The Evolution of Families in the 21st Century

Learning Assessments:

Competencies may be evaluated by projects, research, written assignments, quizzes, group work, oral reports, exams, article reviews, and reflection papers.

Instructional Materials:

Textbook: *Marriages & Families in the 21st Century: A Bioecological Approach*, Howe, 3rd Ed., Sage Publications, 2023.
ISBN: 13: 978-1071856673

Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students **must** complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” on our [Disability Services website](#).

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.

A Note on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct

Highland Community College seeks to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX, and College policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. Highland Community College encourages anyone experiencing harassment, discrimination or sexual misconduct to talk to report to the Vice President for Student Services, the Human Resources Director or complete an [online report](#) about what happened so that they can get the support they need and Highland Community College can respond appropriately.

There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. Highland Community College is legally obligated to respond to reports of sexual misconduct, and therefore we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of a report, unless made to a confidential resource. Responses may vary from support services to formal investigations. As a faculty member, I am required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and thus cannot guarantee confidentiality. I must provide our Title IX coordinator with relevant details such as the names of those involved in the incident. For more information about policies and resources or reporting options, please review our [Equity Grievance Policy](#).