

The Family: SO 2710
Fall 1999: T & R: 1:00-2:20
Arts, Education, & Commerce
Grande Prairie Regional College

Instructor: Vjaya Krishnan, PhD.
Office hours: M & W: 9:00-10:00

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- o The course introduces the sociological study of the family as a societal institution. The course will focus on both the diversity and commonality of families, and the issues and policies that many families face today. Topics covered include the families changing role as a societal institution, ethnic and cultural differences, dating and courtship, marriage, divorce, remarriage, and public policy.

REQUIRED TEXT

- o Eshleman, J. S. & Wilson, S. J. (1998). *The Family* (Second Canadian Edition). Scarborough: Allyn & Bacon Canada.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES

- o All class sessions will be devoted to lectures and discussions. Lecture material is distinct from readings. Lectures are intended to complement and expand on assigned readings rather to duplicate this material.
- o Exams will cover the assigned readings and class lectures. The examinations will consist of a multiple choice and short written answer and/or essay questions that draw, equally, on material from lectures and readings. The balance of these will vary from test to test, with an increasing essay component for the final. The examinations will be non-cumulative. Make up exams are not permitted.
- o Being on time for class and class attendance is expected and required.

GRADING

- o The final grade will consist of:
 - o 3 exams 60%
 - o 2 Assignments 30%
 - o Participation 10%

LECTURE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Readings
Sept. 9	Introduction	None
Sept. 14	Introduction to the family	Ch..1
Sept. 21	Theoretical approaches to family study	Ch. 2
Sept. 28	Family and kinship groups	Ch. 3
Oct. 5	Exam # 1 (all materials covered to date)	
Oct. 7	Marriage, Family, & Work	Ch. 4
Oct. 14	Assignment #1 due	
Oct. 14	The Selection of partners	Chs. 6 & 7
Oct. 21	Exam # 2 (all materials covered to date since exam 1)	
Oct. 26	Families in the middle and later years	Ch. 12
Nov. 2	Family Crisis	Ch. 13
Nov. 9	Divorce and remarriage	Ch. 14
Nov. 16	Assignment # 2 due	
Nov. 16	Family and social policy	Ch. 15
	Final Exam (all materials covered to date since exams 1 & 2) Date: TBA	