

Sociology

Instructor:	Carol Holdt
Office:	N/A
Office Hours:	Using Google Hangouts chat; day and time to be announced
Phone:	N/A
Email:	holdtc@d2l.pdx.edu using D2L email only. Use holdtc@pdx.edu ONLY if D2L is unavailable.
Course Title:	Marriage & Intimacy
CRN:	13275
Credits:	4
Course Location:	Online in D2L
Course Meeting Schedule:	None; fully online

Course Description

In this course, students will be introduced to sociological and social psychological perspectives on intimate relationships and all stages of family life. We will explore the wide diversity of ways in which people "do family." We'll examine the effects of historical and current social environments and the role of gender, race, and class in shaping our personal choices and experiences. We'll learn about important research being conducted and sociological theories that help to explain family experiences.

The general course objectives I hope students will achieve:

- To become familiar with recent research findings regarding families and intimate relationships
- To understand the various theoretical approaches used to study families and intimate relationships
- To become increasingly aware of the cultural influences that affect the decisions we make around family and intimate relationships

This course is an elective for the Bachelor's in Social Work and Child and Family Studies majors and an approved Cluster Course in the Families and Society Cluster. The course expands on the ecological framework introduced in the Families and Society Sophomore Inquiry class and related major areas of study.

Course Outcomes/Learning Objectives

Through required reading and active participation in reflective discussions, students will create a learning community in which they will learn to:

- Discuss the historical and present day dynamics of intimacy and family life

- Identify and explain common theoretical approaches to the study of marriages and families
- Apply theory and research findings to our own experiences and those of others
- Identify and discuss cultural and economic influences that affect decisions we make around family and intimate relationships
- Assess and discuss policy implications of research findings

Course Prerequisites

None

Required Materials

Textbook: REQUIRED at the start of the term

The Family: Diversity, Inequality, and Social Change, 2e, Second Edition, by Philip N. Cohen, WW Norton & Company, 2018.

Choose 1 of these three options:

- ebook: (least expensive) purchase from publisher's website here: <https://digital.wwnorton.com/thefamily2>
- Paperbound: (most expensive) ISBN: 978-0-393-63932-2
- Loose-leaf: ISBN: 978-0-393-63935-3

NOTE: Check the title, authors, ISBN and edition carefully! There are many similarly named books out there. You must have the correct edition of the text to succeed in this course.

D2L:

- You must have access to a computer and an Internet connection. You can customize [account notifications](#) to receive alerts about instructor announcements and upcoming assignment deadlines. You should plan to log in to the D2L course at least every three days to check for emails.

All coursework must be submitted in the D2L course. If you encounter problems with D2L, click on Help in the bar above. If you are unable to access D2L at some point during the term, outside the scheduled outages, contact the PSU Help Desk for assistance. If you are new to D2L, please check out PSU's [Online Class Support](#) for an outline of D2L's basic tools.

Course Structure and Major Assignments

This course is organized in WEEKLY MODULES. **The weeks begin at 6:00 am Sunday morning and end at 10:00 pm Saturday night.** This weekly structure may not be consistent with other online courses you have taken, or are currently taking, so please be sure to note this schedule so you can plan accordingly.

Required online activities are described in the weekly modules, which are accessible in the Course Content area.

Each WEEKLY MODULE includes:

→Overview

Includes important course content provided by the instructor, often intended to supplement other required readings. This material will be covered on quizzes and exams.

→Review Quiz

You are required to complete weekly quizzes covering the weekly reading assignment(s). Quizzes are available beginning at 6 am Sunday mornings and must be completed by 10:00 pm on **Saturday** nights.

The quizzes consist of 20 multiple choice and true/false questions. Quizzes are open book and cover material from the current week's online lectures, textbook and any assigned online readings. You have one hour in which to complete each quiz attempt. Once you begin a quiz, do not exit until you have completed it. Doing so may use up one of your two attempts and may prevent you from using any additional attempts. If you encounter any problems, click on D2L Help at the top of the page.

You are allowed 2 attempts at each quiz and a different but similar set of questions will be presented with each attempt. Your highest score will be recorded. After submission, you will be able to view the questions you answered incorrectly. I suggest you complete the assigned readings, take the first attempt, then print your quiz and look up all the questions you missed.

At the end of the term, your lowest quiz score of the quarter will be dropped. Thus, if you do miss one quiz, it will not affect your grade. The remaining scores will be averaged and weighted at 25% of your overall course grade.

→ Reflection**

Required reading, listening or viewing activities vary each week and may include a written reflection. Some weeks you will view a short video or read a short blog post or article, followed by a reflection submitted in the Discussions or Quizzes tool. At the end of the term, all reflective activities are weighted equally and account for 25% of your overall grade.

Reflections cannot be made up after the Saturday deadline. No points will be given for any reflections submitted after 10 pm Saturday.

Carefully read the assignment instructions each week. Be sure you answer all parts of the assignment. In order to receive full points on your reflection, it must be submitted within the required timeframe, answer all of the questions I asked, and include at least two clear connections to the week's assigned readings. Push yourselves, give things more thought, and remember that it's okay to question traditional thoughts if you see something differently. Cite the page numbers for all references to the textbook.

→Checklist

Each week I provide a checklist so you can check off the work as you complete it and know if there is more work to be completed.

Exams:

There will be two exams: a midterm and a final.

The midterm exam, which will be due **Saturday of week 5**, will be an essay exam. As a formal writing assignment, you will be expected to integrate your own thoughts with the ideas presented in the course materials you read, watch, and listen to in the first five weeks of the term. Complete instructions can be found in the Assignments tool at the beginning of Week 4. You have two weeks in which to complete it.

The final exam, which will be due **Monday of Finals Week** (week 11), will consist of both multiple choice and short answer questions covering the course materials you read, watch, and listen to in the sixth through tenth weeks of the term. All questions will be accessed in the Quizzes tool. The exam will be open for two days: Sunday and Monday of Week 11. Your responses to the short answer questions will be evaluated based on the relevant ideas you take from the course readings and successfully incorporate into your response. **Generally, the more relevant ideas you correctly and clearly incorporate in your response, the more points you will receive.**

Refer to the Plagiarism policy in the Course Policies module! No points will be given for essays or short answer responses that are not properly paraphrased to avoid plagiarism. Review the [Owl/Purdue](#) site for tips on proper paraphrasing.

Grading Structure

I have developed very detailed grading criteria and rubrics for scoring your discussion posts and exams. Although most of the actual grading is done by your assigned mentor/teaching assistant (TA), the evaluation and scoring of your work is done under my close supervision. My assistants follow my instructions and I check their work regularly.

The various types of coursework are weighted at 25% of your overall course grade. The scores on your coursework will be weighted as follows:

Coursework	Weighted points
Midterm Exam (Essay exam 1)	25
Final Exam	25
Review quizzes (average of 9 quiz scores)	25
Reflections (average of 4 reflections)	25
Total	100

PSU Grading System

<http://pdx.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2017-2018/Bulletin/Undergraduate-Studies/Grading-System-for-Undergraduates>

Be sure to note that a C indicates satisfactory work. Meeting minimum requirements in a satisfactory manner is C work, NOT A work! In other words, students must do work that is significantly above and beyond the minimum requirements to earn a grade higher than C.

Students taking the course with a Pass/No Pass grading option must earn a C- (70%) or better in the course in order to pass.

Course Policies

Deadlines:

Please plan to complete all your coursework well ahead of deadlines. This will give you and me more opportunity to correct any problems in time for you to meet the deadline. The longer you wait to attempt to submit your work, the less likelihood there is of correcting a problem in time. Don't count on help being available during evenings and weekends! For example, if you wait until Saturday evening to attempt the quiz and encounter a problem, the chances are very poor that you will be able to find assistance from me or the Help Desk and you may lose those valuable points. On the other hand, if you are able to contact me well before the deadline, chances are good that we can solve the problems so you can meet that deadline.

Throughout the course materials, I have included many reminders to you regarding the work that you must complete for this course but it is especially important in a fully online course for students to take responsibility for noting and meeting all course requirements and deadlines.

- Students should complete all coursework prior to the date indicated in this syllabus and the assignment instructions on D2L.
- Problems with your computer or Internet connection are **NOT** acceptable reason for deadline extensions. If you encounter computer problems, use another computer to complete the work prior to the deadlines.
- Deadlines will NOT be extended due to work schedules or travel plans.
- Review Quiz deadlines are firm. One missed quiz will not impact your course grade and therefore quizzes may not be made up except in the case of documented illness.
- Reflection deadlines are firm and will not be extended except in the case of documented illness.
- Essay exam deadlines are firm and will not be extended except in the case of documented illness.

Conduct:

It is required that you act appropriately and demonstrate mutual respect for everyone involved in this course, including the instructor, mentor/assistants, and your classmates. Disruptive behavior including, but not limited to, allowing online access by unauthorized guests, profanity, verbal abuse or threats directed to others, inappropriate discussion posts and emails, and any general disrespect of others, **will negatively impact your grade in this course.**

I reserve the right to delete any discussion posts that I or your classmates find to be non-academic and offensive.

Please review the University's [Student Code of Conduct](#). These policies will be strictly adhered to and enforced should the situation arise.

Drop/Withdraw Deadline

Disability Access Statement

PSU values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to fostering mutual respect and full participation for all students. My goal is to create a learning environment that is equitable, useable, inclusive, and welcoming. If any aspects of instruction or course design result in barriers to your inclusion or learning, please notify me. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) provides reasonable accommodations for students who encounter barriers in the learning environment.

If you have, or think you may have, a disability that may affect your work in this class and feel you need accommodations, contact the Disability Resource Center to schedule an appointment and initiate a conversation about reasonable accommodations. The DRC is located in 116 Smith Memorial Student Union, 503-725-4150, drc@pdx.edu, <https://www.pdx.edu/drc>.

- If you already have accommodations, please contact me to make sure that I have received a faculty notification letter and discuss your accommodations. Students who need accommodations for tests and quizzes are expected to schedule their tests to overlap with the time the class is taking the test.
- For information about emergency preparedness, please go to the [Fire and Life Safety webpage](https://www.pdx.edu/environmental-health-safety/fire-and-life-safety) (<https://www.pdx.edu/environmental-health-safety/fire-and-life-safety>) for information.

Safe Campus Statement

Portland State University desires to create a safe campus for our students. As part of that mission, PSU requires all students to take the learning module entitled Creating a Safe Campus: Preventing Gender Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Assault. See <http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault/safe-campus-module>. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources on PSU's Enrollment Management & Student Affairs: Sexual Prevention & Response website at <http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault>

Title IX Reporting

Portland State is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of prohibited discrimination and sexual harassment (sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, and gender or sex-based harassment and stalking). If you have experienced any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or sexual harassment, know that help and support are available.

Information about PSU's support services on campus, including confidential services and reporting options, can be found on PSU's Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response website at: <http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault/get-help> or you may call a confidential IPV Advocate at 503-725-5672 or schedule Online at <https://psuwrc.youcanbook.me>.

You may report any incident of discrimination or discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment, to:

- PSU's Title IX Coordinator: Julie Caron by calling 503-725-4410, via email at titleixcoordinator@pdx.edu or in person at Richard and Maureen Neuberger Center (RMNC), 1600 SW 4th Ave, Suite 830
- Deputy Title IX Coordinator: Yesenia Gutierrez by calling 503-725-4413, via email at yesenia.gutierrez.gdi@pdx.edu or in person at RMNC, 1600 SW 4th Ave, Suite 830
- Deputy Title IX Coordinator: Dana Walton-Macaulay by calling 503-725-5651, via email at dana26@pdx.edu or in person at Smith Memorial Union, Suite, 1825 SW Broadway, Suite 433

Please be aware that all PSU faculty members and instructors are required to report information of an incident that may constitute prohibited discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence. This means that if you tell me about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence that may have violated university policy or student code of conduct, I have to share the information with my supervisor, the University's Title IX Coordinator or the Office of the Dean of Student Life. However, the Title IX Coordinators will keep the information confidential and refer you to a confidential advocate.

For more information about Title IX please complete the required student module Creating a Safe Campus in your D2L.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a vital part of the educational experience at PSU. Please see the [PSU Student Code of Conduct](#) for the university's policy on academic dishonesty. A confirmed violation of that Code in this course will result in failure of the course.

It is extremely important that you do not represent another person's work as your own (plagiarism), whether intentional or not. It is your responsibility to acquaint yourself with the intricacies of academic writing and the appropriate use of another person's work and/or ideas. See the Tip Sheet in the Content tab for help with avoiding plagiarism.

You will not receive credit for any coursework that is not your own, original work.

If you are not familiar with the rules of writing, you should consult a writing manual or seek support from the PSU Writing Center or a tutor. Here is a good online resource you may use - <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/679/01/>.

I expect you to submit work that is appropriate for a 300-level college course. While content should be our main focus, I cannot accept any form of plagiarism.

Incomplete Policy

Students do not have a right to receive or demand an Incomplete grade. The option of assigning an Incomplete grade is at the discretion of the instructor when the following criteria are met.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Required satisfactory course completion/participation.

2. Reasonable justification for the request.
3. Incomplete grade is not a substitute for a poor grade.
4. Written agreement. (See [Incomplete Contract](#))
5. Resolving the Incomplete.

For the full Incomplete Policy see <http://pdx.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2016-2017/Bulletin/Graduate-Studies/Enrollment/Incompletes>

Flexibility Statement

The instructor reserves the right to modify course content and/or substitute assignments and learning activities in response to institutional, weather, or class situations.

Questions:

If you have trouble using any of the **D2L tools**, click on Help at the top of the page. It is a very good idea to print a copy of the contact info found there in case you are unable to access D2L at some point during the term. If you are unable to access D2L, please contact the PSU Help Desk (503-725-HELP or help@pdx.edu).

If, at any time during the term, you have questions about any of the **course requirements** or other information in the syllabus, assignment instructions, or learning modules, please post your question in the appropriate Ask the Instructor Q & A area in the Discussions tool, where I will answer your question so that everyone can see the response. Go to Activities>Discussions and scroll until you find the appropriate Q&A area.

If you have a question that is **personal or confidential**, that you just don't want your classmates to see, please feel free to contact me using the D2L email tool. Go to People>Classlist and click on my name.

If you have a specific question about how a piece of your **work was evaluated and graded**, please feel free to contact me or my TA via D2L email. And please note that all of the grading criteria and scoring rubrics were developed by me, your instructor. My TA has very little leeway in assigning scores to your work. Together, we will be sure to get all your questions answered. Any requests for deadline extensions or makeup work must be directed to me.

If you have a question about a **quiz question**, please wait until the quiz has closed before posting the question in the Q&A Discussions area. If you believe a question was worded improperly or the answer was incorrect, please contact me through D2L email and be sure to include the quiz number, your attempt number, question number, question text, specific reasons why you believe it is in error and the relevant page number(s) from the readings.

