COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course will examine the sociological and social psychological dimensions of courtship, marriage, and the family; perspectives on the effects of social environment and transitions in the structure and functions of intimacy, courtship, marriage, and the family; and the influence of society and community upon intimate relationships.

COURSE MATERIALS
Available from PSU bookstore:
(2) Unhitched by Judith Stacey

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING
Total Points: 400
(1) Two in-class exams. Total points: 200.
(2) Two 1-1 ½ page, single-spaced response papers on video clips/news articles presented in class. Each response paper will be worth 100 points. In the first paragraph of your paper, briefly summarize the main points of the video/article that are relevant to your argument. In the rest of your paper, provide your reactions to the video/article through the construction of an argument that integrates at least one theory and one piece of supporting evidence presented in course readings or lecture. An academic argument includes 1) a thesis statement with a question and a position and 2) at least one claim that is supported by 3) evidence or theory. By evidence I mean findings based on empirical research, not merely your own anecdotal evidence. For more information about how to make an academic argument see “Establishing Arguments” at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/588/01/.
An academic argument is not merely a summary. You must use the video/article to make a sociological argument. Papers are due one week after the video/article is presented. Also, you must cite the source from which you obtain the evidence or theory you use in your paper (this includes an internal citation indicating Author and page #). Total points: 200.

Grading Scale:
A 94 – 100% (Excellent)  D- 60 – 61%
A- 90 – 93%  F<60%
B+ 86 – 89%  P>70%
B 82 - 85% (Good)
B- 80 – 81%
C+ 76 – 79%
C 72 – 75% (Satisfactory)
C- 70-71%
D+ 66 – 69%
D 62-65% (Inferior)
Extra Credit:
You may earn up to 10 extra credit points by completing an additional response paper. See (2) above for requirements

Course Schedule
(subject to change)
U: Stacey (Unhitched)
C: Cherlin (Public and Private Families)

Topic Introduction/History of Marriage
9/24 Introduction to the course
9/26 U: “Introduction” (p. 1-12)
9/28 C: “The Family in Trouble” (p. 3-14)
10/1 History of Marriage C: (p. 31)

Topic Research 101: Race, Class, and Gender
10/3 Research Methods and Theory of Marriage- no readings
10/5 Research Methods and Theory cont. – no readings
10/8 C: “I’m Here but I’m There” (p. 108-123); “Breaking the Last Taboo” (p. 124-129)
10/10 C: “Ain’t No Middle Class” (p. 70-84); “Invisible Inequality” (p. 85-105)
10/12 C: “Doing Gender” (p. 47-58); “Joey’s Problem” (p. 186-199) Video shown for response paper 1
10/15 Gender cont. - no readings

Topic Love, Sex, and Kinship
10/17 C: “What’s Love Got to Do With It?” (p. 31-37); “From Role to Self” (p. 16-29)
10/19 U: “Unhitching the Horse from the Carriage” (p. 152-157); C: “Sexual Desire and Gender” (p. 133-141) Response paper 1 due
10/22 U: “Love, Sex, and Kinship in Gay El Lay” (pp. 15-18; 29-33; 46-48)
10/24 Love, Sex, and Kinship continued- no readings, overview for midterm

10/26 Midterm Exam

Topic Cohabitation, Marriage, Divorce
10/29 C: “Everything’s There Except Money” (p. 155-169) U: “Paradoxes of Polygamy and Modernity” (p. 142-151)
10/31 C: “Children’s Adjustment…” (p. 287-294) U: “Unhitching the Horse from the Carriage”

Topic Parenthood, paternity, and fertility
11/2 U: “Gay Parenthood and the End of Paternity as We Knew It” (p. 49-88) Video shown for response paper 2
11/5 Motherhood penalty? Economics and women- no readings
11/7 Parenting: well -being of kids; no readings

11/9 Response paper 2 due

11/12 No Class- University Holiday

Topic Alternatives to Marriage
Course Policies- turn off cellphones during class

Deadlines and Make-ups. Assignments and readings are to be completed by the beginning of class on their due date, and I prefer that you turn in a hard copy of all assignments. Prior approval is required for e-mailed assignments. (E-mail assignments at your own risk – they sometimes get lost in my inbox.) Late work is penalized 1/3 of a letter grade per each class day. Missed exams cannot be made-up without prior approval. Please document any family or medical emergency and notify the professor before the class you will miss. Make up exams must be taken at the testing center (testing@pdx.edu).

Class Participation. This class is designed to promote students to think critically about assumptions regarding love, sex, intimacy, marriage and more. Many of us may have strong feelings about these issues, and in order to make our class a safe and open place for discussion, respectful behavior towards classmates and the instructor are expected at all times. Moreover, hateful speech or attacks towards members of the class, instructor, or specific social groups will not be tolerated.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken every class. This is a part of your overall attendance and participation grade. You will NOT be penalized for missing class, however, you will be rewarded for good attendance with a higher participation grade at the end of the term. Class participation will be taken into account for final grading as well; each student is responsible for completing the reading and being prepared to contribute to class discussion. “90 percent of life is just showing up” (I have no idea who said that, but it’s true!) Requirements for Papers. Papers should be typed using 12-pt font and 1-inch margins. All papers should be checked and corrected for spelling and grammar errors. You may be marked down if you have multiple spelling and/or grammar errors. The PSU Writing Center is a great resource. Please take advantage of it: (http://www.writingcenter.pdx.edu; 188F Cramer Hall, (725.3570).

D2L. Course materials and grades will be available online at https://d2l.pdx.edu. I may also use D2L to communicate with the class. Please let me know if you are unable to access D2L. It is your responsibility to maintain an updated email address with D2L so that you can receive emails and announcements. **PLEASE DO NOT email me through D2L** The best way to get in touch with me is by emailing me directly at ulm@pdx.edu. If you are having trouble accessing your D2L account or do not have an ODIN account please contact the OIT help desk (Smith Memorial Student Union (SMSU) 18) at 503-725-HELP (4357) or help@pdx.edu.

Plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense than can result in a failing grade and other serious consequences, including expulsion. Plagiarism occurs when you utilize the ideas, expressions, phrases or words of another person without correctly citing that person or source. Make sure you understand how to correctly cite sources, including when and how to paraphrase and quote.

Students with disabilities, who may require accommodations, are encouraged to contact the PSU Disabilities Resource Center (DRC) and the professor at the beginning of the term to arrange
accommodations. The DRC is located in 435 Smith and can be contacted at 725-4150 or by email at drc@pdx.edu. Visit their site at www.pdx.edu/uasc/drc.

**Recommended Materials**
Here are some helpful on-line grammar and writing resources:
The OWL at Purdue University
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/679/01/
The Emory Writing Center
http://www.writingcenter.emory.edu/writing.html

**Resources to Help You Succeed at PSU**

**Writing Center** (http://www.writingcenter.pdx.edu)
One-on-one help with writing, on a drop-in or appointment basis
188F Cramer Hall, 725.3570

**Millar Library** (http://www.lib.pdx.edu)
Reference desk, phone, IM, email, 24/7 chat: http://library.pdx.edu/askus.html
Research guides, research survival guide: http://library.pdx.edu/researchguides.html

**Undergraduate Advising and Support Center (UASC)** (http://www.pdx.edu/uasc)
Drop-in advising hours are Monday-Friday, 10-3 (subject to change) OR call to schedule an appointment
425 SMU, 725.4005, askuasc@pdx.edu

**Student Health and Counseling Center (SHAC)** (http://www.shac.pdx.edu)
Counseling, psychological evaluation and intervention, testing services, and all health-related concerns