

# MARRIAGE AND FAMILY SYLLABUS

## **SOCIO 2315: Sociology of Marriage and Family**

Instructor: Olga Ochoa

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday

Email: olochoa2@utep.edu

## **Required Text**

*The Family: Diversity, Inequality, and Social Change 3rd edition by Philip N. Cohen*

## **Course Summary**

In this course, the focus will be on understanding the meaning and significance of marriage and family relationships from various perspectives in a very short period of time. We will cover a wide range of topics, including marriage, courtship, the dynamics of social interaction within families, effective communication within couples, and more. Throughout the course, there will be an emphasis on exploring healthy marital and family patterns. This will enable you to gain insights into what makes a resilient marriage and family, and how such relationships can be established and nurtured over time.

To ensure your success in this course, it is important to fulfill the following responsibilities:

- Read all assigned materials: Engage with the readings, any supplementary materials provided are optional. This will deepen your understanding of the topics covered and facilitate meaningful class discussions.
- Actively participate in class: Contribute to class discussions by sharing your thoughts, insights, and questions. Participating actively will enhance your learning experience and provide opportunities for collaboration and knowledge sharing.
- Complete assignments and projects: Demonstrate your understanding of the course content by completing assigned tasks, such as written assignments, projects, and presentations. These assignments will enable you to apply the concepts and theories learned in class to real-life scenarios.
- Demonstrate academic integrity: Plagiarism and any form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Properly cite and reference any sources used in your work and always submit original and authentic assignments.

## **Course Requirements**

### **1. Unit Discussions (25 each )**

Every week you will be required to participate on a discussion board. In order to receive full credit, you will be required to answer questions in your own words in an acceptable level of quality and reply to two responses from your classmates. You will have to create a new thread and answer the questions before being able to view other classmate responses. You **MUST** include IN TEXT CITATIONS (APA FORMAT) for full credit, and respond to two people.

Include your references for every discussion post. Make sure to have at least ONE reference for YOUR post.

### DISCUSSION'S RUBRIC

<b>Answer question</b>	students answer all questions in an acceptable level of quality.	8 points
<b>Text-Evidence (In-text citations)</b>	Include direct examples, quotes, or phrases from the text, book, or other articles used.	7 points
<b>Respond to two discussions:</b>	your responses must be more than "I agree" or "I feel the same way"	10 points
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>25 points</b>

### 2. Unit Check-Ins (50 points each)

Unit check-ins are brief assessments designed to evaluate your understanding of the chapters that have been covered. These checks typically consist of multiple-choice questions. By completing these quizzes, you can gauge your comprehension of the material and identify areas that may require further review or clarification. All Check-ins will be timed to ONE HOUR.

### 3. Unit Assignments (100 points each)

In this course, there will be two unit assignments which serve as opportunities for you to apply the knowledge you have acquired. These assignments will require you to demonstrate your understanding and comprehension of the topics covered throughout the unit. It is important to note that these assignments must adhere to the guidelines APA format.

When it comes to the formatting requirements, ensure that the font size is set to 12, specifically using Times New Roman font. Furthermore, your document should be double-spaced, providing appropriate spacing between lines.

APA citations are a crucial component of academic writing. In order to receive full credit for your unit assignments, it is essential to include in-text citations to support and acknowledge any information, ideas, or quotes that you have obtained from external sources. Neglecting to provide proper in-text citations may result in a deduction of 30 points automatically, so it is important to be diligent and accurate in your referencing.

40	Answers the question/s for the assignment
40	Text-Evidence: Student provides text-evidence to support writing. Use APA Format, include a reference page at the end.
20	Organizational Structure : Student demonstrates organization in their writing: Introduction, body, and conclusion. APA format of 12 size font, title page, reference page, 1-inch margins.
100 points	<b>TOTAL</b>

#### 4. Marriage Interview Assignment (100 points)

You will conduct an interview of a married couple, a couple that has been married, or a couple that has been living together and has kids. You must interview both members. This can be any family members or friends but you CAN NOT interview yourself. **Things that you want to consider for your interviews: their definition of marriage, history of the relationship (dating, marriage, family), struggles, hopes, joys, challenges, lessons from being married, and advice.** You must connect what you learned from that couple to what you have been reading in this course! This is very important! Reflection Papers should be at least 2-3 pages in length PLUS you must include the questions you asked during the interview at the end on a separate page WITHOUT the responses. INCLUDE IN TEXT Citations. The interview questions should not be included as part of the length requirement; they are an addition. Make sure to tell me their story, what you learned and how this might influence your views on marriage.

#### Marriage Interview RUBRIC

Text-Evidence	Include direct examples, quotes, or phrases from the text, book, or other articles used.	40 points
Answers questions & reflections	students answer all questions in an acceptable level of quality in paragraphs, reflecting on the responses	30 points
Includes Questions separately	Include all the questions asked during the interview separately	10 points
Organization and Writing structure	Writing flows, intro, body, conclusion, write in paragraphs, grammar, title page, reference page	20 points
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>

#### Grading

The overall grade of this course is based on a point system. The more points you earn the higher your grade will be. This is done to give you an advantage. The more points you earn in the assignments you find less difficult will benefit you in assignments you find difficult. Using text-evidence is highly important in this course. If you look at the rubrics text-evidence is worth a lot of points!

Letter Grade	Percentages	Points
A	100-90	875-788
B	89-79	787-691
C	78-69	690-604
D	68-59	603-516
F	58-below	515-below

## **ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF SUBMITTING WORK IN CASE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES**

I strongly suggest that you submit your work with plenty of time to spare in the event that you have a technical issue with the course website, network, and/or your computer. I also suggest you save all your work (answers to discussion points, quizzes, exams, and essays) in a separate Word document as a back-up. This way, you will have evidence that you completed the work and will not lose credit. If you are experiencing difficulties submitting your work through the course website, please contact the UTEP Help Desk. You can email me your back-up document as a last resort before the due date!

### **Academic Integrity**

To excel in this class and achieve a high grade, it is important to dedicate time and effort to your studies. Keeping up with the assigned readings and materials is crucial for success. It will enhance your understanding of the subject matter and allow you to actively participate in class discussions and assignments. Plagiarism, or using someone else's work without proper acknowledgment, will not be tolerated. It is important to respect your own work and the work of others by properly referencing any sources used.

Additionally, following all guidelines for writing assignments and other tasks is crucial. Not meeting the required length for papers or failing to adhere to the specified formatting and citation style may result in a lower grade. Therefore, pay close attention to the instructions provided for each assignment and ensure that you fulfill all requirements. Respecting your peers is essential in creating a positive and conducive learning environment.

Grades in this class are based on a point system, meaning that the more points you accumulate, the higher your grade will be. By adhering to these guidelines and committing to your studies, you can expect to succeed in this class and achieve a high grade.

### **Late work**

NO LATE WORK ACCEPTABLE in this course. Meeting deadlines for assignments is a strict requirement for this course. While there may be exceptional circumstances that could warrant an extension, they will be infrequent and granted only in rare cases in which you must provide documentation. .

### **Technical Problems**

I recommend NOT using Internet explorer or Safari when using blackboard for better internet connection use Google chrome or Firefox. Call the HELP DESK if you have any technical problems.

### **Drop Rule**

If you make the decision to drop the course, it is your responsibility to do so. I will not drop the course for you. Failure to do so may result in a grade of "F" on the student's academic record. Students are limited to a six course drop during their academic career. There are a few

exceptions that may allow a student to drop a course without having it counted toward the six-drop limit. For more information on that check the UTEP's academic website.

### **Guidance on Artificial Intelligence**

#### **AI prohibited**

Use of AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as [ChatGPT](#) or [DALL-E](#), is *not allowed* for assignments in this class. Each student is expected to use critical and creative thinking skills to complete tasks and not rely on computer-generated ideas. Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

#### **AI allowed with proper acknowledgement**

Use of AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as [ChatGPT](#) or [DALL-E](#), is *only allowed with proper attribution given for its use*.

Students must properly cite and give full credit to the program used upon submission of every relevant assignment. For example, text generated using ChatGPT must be cited:

Chat-GPT(version). Date of query (year/month/day). "Text of your query."  
Generated using OpenAI. <https://chat.openai.com/>

#### **Using AI for brainstorming**

Some AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as [ChatGPT](#) or [DALL-E](#), can be beneficial during the early brainstorming stages of an activity, and you are welcome to explore them for that purpose. However, keep in mind that AI-generated ideas are not your own and may hinder your ability to think critically and creatively about a problem. It is also important to remember that these technologies often "hallucinate" or produce materials and information that are inaccurate or incomplete—even providing false citations for use.

That said, you are not allowed to submit any AI-generated work in this course as your own. If you use any information or materials created by AI technology, you are required to cite it like you would any other source. Consider how this will affect your credibility as a writer and scholar before doing so. Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

**Note: If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at [www.sa.utep.edu/cass](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass). CASS' Staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.**

<b>WEEKS</b>	<b>READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>DUE DATES</b>
<b>WEEK 1</b>	Chapter 1: A Sociology of the Family Chapter 2: The Family in History <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Syllabus Assignment</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Discussion 1</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Check In 1</b>	<b>June 15, 2024</b> <b>By midnight</b>
<b>WEEK 2</b>	Chapter 4: Families and Social Class Chapter 5: Gender <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Discussion 2</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Check In 2</b>	<b>June 22, 2024</b> <b>By midnight</b>
<b>WEEK 3</b>	Chapter 6: Sexuality <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Discussion 3</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Check In 3</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Assignment #1</b>	<b>June 29, 2024</b> <b>By midnight</b>
<b>WEEK 4</b>	Chapter 7: Love and Romantic Relationships Chapter 8: Marriage and Cohabitation <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Discussion 4</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Check In 4</b>	<b>July 6, 2024</b> <b>By midnight</b>
<b>WEEK 5</b>	Chapter 9: Families and Children Chapter 10: Divorce, Remarriage, and Blended Families <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Discussion 5</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Check In 5</b>	<b>July 13, 2024</b> <b>By midnight</b>
<b>WEEK 6</b>	Chapter 11: Work and Families <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Discussion 6</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Check In 6</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Assignment #2</b>	<b>July 20, 2024</b> <b>By midnight</b>
<b>WEEK 7</b>	Chapter 12: Family Violence and Abuse <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Discussion 7</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unit Check In 7</b>	<b>July 27, 2024</b> <b>By midnight</b>
<b>WEEK 8</b>	<b>Family and Marriage Interview FINAL PAPER</b>	<b>August 2, 2024</b> <b>FRIDAY</b> By midnight

## **EXTRA CREDIT**

This is the only extra credit opportunity that will be offered for the class. You must complete 15 hours of community service through UTEP. If you are interested in obtaining this extra credit log in to “the cue” using your utep email. You will receive an additional 100 points on your final grade. This course is based on a point system, 100 points could change your final letter grade.

This is not something you can leave at the last minute, so if you are considering the extra credit, reach out as soon as possible. The cue is the website used to explore where you can do community service and keep track of your hours. Download and email me your hours when completed. The website is: <https://utep.givepulse.com/>



**The Cue: Community University Engagement**

**What is The Cue?**  
The CUE is a revolutionary website created to facilitate connections between universities and their community's non-profit organizations.

**What does it do?**

- Displays various volunteering and internship options.
- Offers service opportunities that may range from a day-long event to an on-going commitment.
- Allows students to sign up for said opportunities and track their volunteering or Service-Learning hours.

UTEP's **Project Move**, an annual day of community service, is processed through The Cue.

**How to get access?**  
Visit [cue.utep.edu](http://cue.utep.edu) to create an account.

**As a student:**

- Step 1) Click the SIGN UP button on the upper right corner
- Step 2) Provide your information in order to create the account.
- Step 3) Once you have registered, look for the on the left side tab that reads **"SERVICE LEARNING COURSE LINKS"**.
- Step 4) Select your SL class Note: Some professors may have more than one courses, so ensure that you are selecting the right class.

**As an agency:**  
In order to create your organization's profile, first you have to create a personal account.

- Step 1) Click the SIGN UP button on the upper right corner
- Step 2) Provide your personal information in order to create an account. Note: Enter 000000 for UTEP ID
- Step 3) Log out once you are registered.
- Step 4) Click the SIGN UP button on the upper right corner, then follow the "Want to sign up your agency?" link, underneath Create an Account.
- Step 5) Once your request has been reviewed, you will receive an email with instructions on how to manage your profile.

**Questions? Don't hesitate to contact us!**  
Center for Civic Engagement  
Benedict Hall room 101  
ph:(915) 747-7969  
[cce@utep.edu](mailto:cce@utep.edu)



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