SOCI 2043-B
WINTER 2019
SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY

Instructor: Dr. Rania Tfaily
Office: Loeb Building C779
Office Hours: Mondays and Tuesdays 10:00 – 11:00 am or by appointment
Email: rania_tfaily@carleton.ca
Phone Number: 613 520 2600 ext. 2625

Course Time: Mondays 11:35 am – 2:25 pm
Course Location: Southam Hall 624
Format: Lectures, Discussions, Writing Exercises & Videos
Pre-requisites: SOCI 1001 & SOCI 1002, or SOCI 1003, or ANTH 1001 and ANTH 1002, or ANTH 1003

Course Description:
What constitutes a family? How has the definition of the family changed over time? What led to the rise of intensive motherhood? Did industrialization initially weaken kin ties? Why was the period following WWII characterized by revival of domesticity? Is cohabitation replacing marriage? How does parental separation shape childhood? Is there gender equality in the contemporary family in Canada? Do men ‘mother’? What do studies of LGBTQ families tell us? How does social class shape the experiences of families and children? What has been the impact of colonization and residential schools on indigenous families? This a sample of the questions that this course explores. The course examines how the patterns and dynamics of family relations are shaped by economic and social structures. It discusses diverse family patterns across different historical periods and looks in depth at contemporary families in North America. The course also examines how family experiences are shaped by gender, social class, race, ethnicity and indigenous status.

Course Objectives:
• To acquire a solid understanding of the historical changes in the family
• To enhance knowledge of salient issues affecting and shaping contemporary families
• To become familiar with theoretical approaches used in the study of the family
• To gain sociological insights into inequalities within the family and between families
• To acquire experience in sociological research on the family
• To apply course concepts and ideas to contemporary issues particularly regarding family policies and debates concerning the family
• To strengthen writing and communication skills
• To sharpen critical and analytical skills in relation to academic texts, videos and mass media articles on the family

**Required Readings:**
• Additional required readings available electronically through the Carleton Library website

**Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation:**
• In-class participation  15%
• In-class writings     10%
• Two short assignments 30%
• Midterm exam          20%
• Final exam            25%

**Final Letter Grades**
In accordance with the teaching regulations of Carleton University, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>57-59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>63-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>53-56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60-62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>50-52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WDN</td>
<td>Withdrawn from the course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEF</td>
<td>Deferred</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**a) In-class participation (15%)**
Students’ active participation in class discussions is important as it is key to enhancing oral skills and sharpening critical analysis. Students are expected to have read the required readings before class and be prepared to discuss them. **Students who have read the required readings before class should sign up the reading sign-up sheet on cuLearn ahead of each class to indicate that they read the required readings and are ready to discuss them in class. Students who sign up but are not present in class when the readings are discussed will get no credit.** Note that class attendance is essential, and that it will be taken regularly.

**b) In-class writings (10%)**
Classes will include a writing period in which students (in groups of four) answer specific questions related to the lecture, readings and/or videos shown. Responses are to be handed in-class (one response per group). There is no make-up for missed in-class writings.

**c) Midterm Exam (20%)**
The mid-term exam is scheduled for February 11th. It covers all materials discussed in class including required readings, lectures and videos. Medical documentation is required for missed
in-class exam. In such case, no make-up exam is given, and the final exam is re-weighed accordingly.

d) Assignments (30%)
There are two short written assignments in this course. Each assignment is expected to be about five double-spaced pages long. **The due dates are February 4th for assignment #1 and March 18th for assignment #2.** The instructions for each assignment will be posted on cuLearn about two weeks before the due date and discussed in class. Hard copies of the assignments are due in class. Students who cannot make it to class that day can leave a hard copy in the sociology drop box (7th floor, B750 Loeb Bldg.). Students should include their names, professor’s name (Dr. Rania Tfaily) and course number (SOCI 2043) on the cover page of the assignment. It is the responsibility of the students to ensure that the course instructor received the assignment on time. Assignments not handed in on time are penalized at a rate of 5% per day in the absence of a valid and documented excuse.

e) Final Exam (25%)
The final exam covers all materials discussed in class including required readings, lectures and videos. The final exam is scheduled by the University.

**Academic Regulations, Accommodations, Plagiarism:**
University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university’s website, here: [http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/](http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/)
You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**
The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at **613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca** for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable).
*The deadline for contacting the Paul Menton Centre regarding accommodation for final exams for the Winter 2019 (April) exam period is March 15, 2019.*

**For Religious Obligations:**
Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)
For Pregnancy:
Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

For Survivors of Sexual Violence
As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [www.carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](http://www.carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

Accommodation for Student Activities
Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. [https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf](https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf)

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is the passing off of someone else's work as your own and is a serious academic offence. For the details of what constitutes plagiarism, the potential penalties and the procedures refer to the section on Instructional Offences in the Undergraduate Calendar. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy (See [https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/](https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/)). The Policy is strictly enforced and is binding on all students. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Students who infringe the Policy may be subject to one of several penalties.

What are the Penalties for Plagiarism?
A student found to have plagiarized an assignment may be subject to one of several penalties including but not limited to: a grade of zero, a failure or a reduced grade for the piece of academic work; reduction of final grade in the course; completion of a remediation process; resubmission of academic work; withdrawal from course(s); suspension from a program of study; a letter of reprimand.

What are the Procedures?
All allegations of plagiarism are reported to the faculty of Dean of FASS and Management. Documentation is prepared by instructors and departmental chairs. The Dean writes to the student and the University Ombudsperson about the alleged plagiarism. The Dean reviews the allegation. If it is not resolved at this level then it is referred to a tribunal appointed by the Senate.
Assistance for Students:
Academic and Career Development Services: http://carleton.ca/sacds/
Writing Services: http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/
Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS): https://carleton.ca/csas/group-support/pass/

Important Information:

- Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).
- Audio and/or video recording of the lecture/class is not permitted.
- **Laptops, tablets, phones and similar devices are not allowed during class time** (except for students with documentation that a computer is required for note-taking). Recent studies show that laptops distract both users and non-users, and that taking notes by hand generally leads to better and deeper understanding of the material. For more information: http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/a-learning-secret-don-t-take-notes-with-a-laptop/ http://www.rcinet.ca/en/2013/08/20/new-study-shows-computers-in-class-distract-both-users-and-non-users/
- All phones must be switched off and kept out of sight for the duration of the class.
- It is the students’ responsibility to know the content of this syllabus.
- This syllabus is subject to minor modifications throughout the term at the discretion of the instructor.
- It is the students’ responsibility to check cuLearn regularly for announcements and course related materials.
- Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.
- Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.
- Carleton University is committed to protecting the privacy of those who study or work here (currently and formerly). To that end, Carleton’s Privacy Office seeks to encourage the implementation of the privacy provisions of Ontario’s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) within the university.
- In accordance with FIPPA, please ensure all communication with staff/faculty is via your Carleton email account. To get your Carleton Email you will need to activate your MyCarletonOne account through Carleton Central. Once you have activated your MyCarletonOne account, log into the MyCarleton Portal.
- Please note that you will be able to link your MyCarletonOne account to other non-MyCarletonOne accounts and receive emails from us. However, for us to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid MyCarletonOne address. Therefore, it would be easier to respond to your inquiries if you would send all email from your connect account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting https://students.carleton.ca/
Course Reading List

Jan. 7th – Introduction: Defining Families

*Video: The Women’s Kingdom*

**Optional Readings**

- Trost, Jan. 1990. “Do We Mean the Same by the Concept of Family.” *Communication Research* 17(4): 431-443.

**Part I: Families in a Historical Perspective**

Jan. 14th – The ‘Family Economy’

**Required Readings**


*Video: Growing Up Canadian: Family*

**Optional Readings**


Jan. 21st – Industrial Capitalism

**Required Readings**


*Video: Modern Times*

Jan. 28th – Post War II

**Required Readings**


*Video: TV Family*
Feb. 4th – Theoretical Perspectives

Assignment #1 due

Required Readings


Video(s): Charting a New Course; Status Quo? The Unfinished Business of Feminism in Canada

Optional Readings


Feb. 11th – Midterm Exam

Feb. 18th – Statutory Holiday, No class

Part II: Contemporary Families

Feb. 25th – The Deinstitutionalization of Marriage

Required Readings


Video: Singlehood and Other Options

Optional Readings


March 4th – Separation & Divorce

Required Readings


Video: Split: Divorce Through Kids’ Eyes
Optional Readings


March 11th – Gender & the Family

Required Readings


Video(s): The End of Men; Life with Dad

Optional Readings


March 18th – LGBTQ Families

Assignment # 2 due

Required Readings


Video: The Same Difference

Optional Readings


March 25th – Social Class

Required Readings

Video: Family Motel; Kelly and Her Sisters

Optional Readings

April 1st – Indigenous Families

Required Readings

Video: Blind Spot: What Happened to Canada's Aboriginal Fathers?

Optional Readings

April 8th – Review

April 12th to 27th – Final Exam, Scheduled by the University