SOCI 320 002: Diversity in Family Forms
2016 Winter Session (3 Credits)
Tuesdays & Thursdays 2:00-3:30 pm
Buchanan B213

Instructor: Yue Qian
Office: Anthropology and Sociology (ANSO) 122
Email: yue.qian@ubc.ca
Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:00-11:00 am and by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Kate Dalrymple
Email: kate.dalrymple94@gmail.com

Course Description:
Family is one of society’s most basic institutions. Thus, studying family is integral to understanding the larger society in which we live. The “traditional” or “ideal” family consisting of a breadwinner-husband, a homemaker-wife, and two to three children has become less common, while other family forms such as dual-earner families, single-parent families, stepfamilies, transnational families, and same-sex families—among others—have become increasingly more common. This course will cover diverse sociological and demographic issues that impact families across the world. Students are expected to describe, understand, and critically analyze the trends and variation in family diversity as well as the causes and consequences of family diversity.

The professor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus as needed to address the educational needs of the class.

Course Evaluation:
Always make a copy of your work (either a hard or electronic copy) before you turn it in.

I. 25%: Module Content Quizzes. There will be 25 Module Content Quizzes between January 5th and April 6th. Quizzes will be given at the beginning of each class time. Quizzes will cover the course reading(s) of that particular class time. Each Quiz will consist of 3 multiple choice questions, and students will have 5 minutes to complete each quiz. You must be present to take the quizzes and there will be no makeup quizzes.

II. 20%: Learning Journal. Students are required to keep a weekly journal. At the beginning of each class, we will write for about 10 minutes on a prompt that I provide. The prompts include questions about the substance of the readings; therefore it is necessary to come to class having read all of the assigned readings. During each class time, I will randomly call on students to share what they have written in the journal as a way to spark conversation. Students who are called on will not be required to read their entry verbatim, if they do not want to, but they must address the prompt if asked. “I don’t
know” or “I didn’t read that article” is not an acceptable response. If unprepared, I will note that and it will negatively impact your final journal grade.

Students may choose to hand-write in a binder or use your computers for the in-class writing. For the final journal project, students will choose TWO entries to turn in for their grade. Each entry should state the prompt at the beginning of the entry and then proceed to the response. Since these journal entries will be graded, students should work on these responses to refine them before turning them in. The final document then should consist of two separate entries stapled together and must be double-spaced, use 12-point Times New Roman font and have 1 inch margins all around. The final document must not exceed two pages. No bibliography is required for this assignment. The final document is due at the beginning of the last class on Apr 6th. No late assignments will be accepted.

III. 25%: Book Review. Each student will write a 2-page (double spaced) critical review of a book on sociology of family, and a 2-page précis summarizing the main points and outline of the book. You can freely choose one book from the list of 16 books attached at the end of this syllabus. Book review is due at the beginning of the class on March 2nd. To facilitate you completing this assignment, I require you to turn in the choice of your book at the beginning of the class on January 10th. No late assignments will be accepted.

IV. 30%: A Take-Home Final Exam. I will distribute the final exam in class on April 4th. You must turn in your final exam at the beginning of the class on April 6th. Late exams will not be accepted. The content of the examination will include the range of topics covered during the course. You will be required to answer three questions. The exam will evaluate: 1) your familiarity with and comprehension of the course material and 2) your capacity to make a critical, cogent, and interesting argument incorporating that material. The final exam is exclusively a test of individual work; therefore, you are not permitted to work together. Any question regarding the content or format of the exam must be directed to me. Your answers to the final exam questions must be typed, double-spaced, use 12-point font, and NOT exceed 5 pages. For each exam question, you have to include at least 10 readings from this course in your answer.

Course Texts:
Texts will be made available on Connect or through the UBC library.

Academic Dishonesty will not be tolerated. This includes lying, cheating, and plagiarism. I will deal with instances of academic dishonesty, should they occur, according to university policy. Please see the Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for university policies on academic misconduct and academic dishonesty:
http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,0,0 I reserve the right to use any tool available to determine if a student is engaged in this kind of behavior.

The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Disability Resource Centre. The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments or completing scheduled tests and examination. Please
let me know during the first two weeks of class if you will require any accommodation on these grounds.

Students are expected to follow a standard citation format throughout their work. Please consult a UBC librarian or go to: http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/resource-guides/cite-sources/ and follow the guidelines for APA (American Psychological Association) citation style. UBC’s Early Alert program is designed to provide students with academic advising, financial advising, counseling, and other resources that can help you get back on track. If you are feeling stressed, please notify me and indicate that you would like assistance. While we are not trained to help with personal problems, we can get you help from people who can assist you. Any information that they receive from you or us is strictly confidential and is in the interest of your academic success and wellbeing. For more information, please visit earlyalert.ubc.ca.

Faculty of Arts Grading Table:

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Course Outline:

**Week 1**  3 Jan  Introduction to the Course

**Week 1**  5 Jan  Definition of Family

**Week 2**  10 Jan  Family: Past and Present (1)

**Week 2**  12 Jan  Family: Past and Present (2)
Week 3  17 Jan  Understanding Family Diversity (1)


Week 3  19 Jan  Understanding Family Diversity (2)


Week 4  24 Jan  Diverging Destinies (1)


Week 4  26 Jan  Diverging Destinies (2)


Week 5  31 Jan  When the Personal Becomes Public (1)


Week 5  2 Feb  When the Personal Becomes Public (2)

Week 6 7 Feb Cohabitation (1)

Week 6 9 Feb Cohabitation (2)

Week 7 14 Feb Remarriage & Stepfamilies (1)

Week 7 16 Feb Remarriage & Stepfamilies (2)

Week 8 Mid-Term Break

Week 9 28 Feb Migration & Families (1)

Week 9 2 Mar Migration & Families (2)

Week 10 7 Mar Childbearing (1)
Week 10 9 Mar Childbearing (2)

Week 11 14 Mar Money and Family (1)


Week 11 16 Mar Money and Family (2)


Week 12 21 Mar Same-sex Families (1)

Week 12 23 Mar Same-sex Families (2)

Week 13 28 Mar Fragile Families (1)

Week 13 30 Mar Fragile Families (2)

Week 14 4 Apr Case Study (1)

Week 14 6 Apr Case Study (2)
List of Books to Write A Book Review


