

## SOC 334/SWGS 335: SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY

Rice University  
Spring 2018  
TR 2:30-3:45PM  
Location: Rayzor 119

**Instructor:** Sergio Chávez, Ph.D.  
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Office hours: By Appointment

**Course Description:** This course will examine the family from a sociological perspective by exploring the family in its historical, cultural, and social context. We will examine the complex relationship between family, other social institutions, and larger economic forces in society. In particular, we will investigate sociological theories on the family and how the family intersects with social constructs such as race, ethnicity, and gender and how it is affected by social change such as industrialization and globalization. We will examine these issues through the use of lectures, films, historical and contemporary readings, and small and large group discussions. After taking the course, students will have a better understanding of the empirical patterns and trends, political and cultural debates, and policy issues concerning family- and the major theories and research methods used in the study of the family.

### Course Objectives:

- To understand sociological theories, concepts, and acquire critical and analytical skills for studying the family.
- To become familiar with the diversity of family forms, experiences, and patterns of family life.
- To understand family issues in historical context.
- To understand the relationships between family and other social institutions.

### Required Texts:

1. Kathryn Edin and Timothy Nelson. 2013. *Doing the Best I Can. Fatherhood in the Inner City*. University of California Press.
2. Joanna Dreby. 2010. *Divided By Borders: Mexican Migrants and Their Children*. University of California Press.
3. Lisa Wade. 2018. *American Hookup: The New Culture of Sex on Campus*. W.W. Norton.

**Other readings will be posted on CANVAS.**

### Class Rules

- We start and end class on time.
- Turn off cell phones.
- Read the assigned materials before each class and come prepared to talk.
- LAPTOPS may NOT be used during class.

**Course Assignments:**

This course is worth 500 points and is based on seminar participation, three examinations, and a photo-essay. Below is a detailed description of the grading breakdown.

1. **Seminar Participation** (50 points): The purpose of participating is to make yourself known to your colleagues and myself and to practice talking theory. Students are expected to attend class, participate actively in discussions, exercises, and group projects. There are three components to seminar participation that will be graded.

A. Attendance (10 points): is based on being in class. The instructor will take attendance randomly. You are permitted one unexcused absence throughout the semester.

B. Class participation (20 points): means critiquing an author’s ideas, connecting the author’s ideas to other readings, applying concepts and theories to current events, asking questions, and bringing current events to share with your classmates.

C. Presentation (20 points): Each student will be required to find and present one supplemental reading. Students will be expected to summarize the article and evaluate their arguments and evidence, tying the findings to theories and other readings covered in class. I will provide a sign-up sheet in the first few days of class and provide a detailed explanation of the assignment.

2. **Examinations**: The examinations will be based upon assigned readings and consist of short and long essay questions. Exams will cover anything in class including discussion, movies, lecture material, films, activities, etc.

Examination #1 (100 points): February 13.

Examination #2 (100 points): March 8.

Examination #3 (100 points): will be circulated on the last day (April 19th). It will be due on the scheduled exam date as determined by the registrar’s office.

3. **Final Paper** (150 points): In consultation with the instructor, the final paper will consist of writing an empirical paper in which you either observe or conduct interviews about topics which we discuss in class related to marriage, work, and family. The assignment will be due on **either April 17 or 19<sup>th</sup>**. You will also have to present your results to the entire class and will receive feedback from your peers. A detailed handout will be circulated well in advance of the due date.

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

A+	99-100	A	94-98	A-	90-93
B+	87-89	B	84-86	B-	80-83
C+	77-79	C	74-76	C-	70-73
D+	67-69	D	64-66	D-	60-63

### **Statement on Disabilities:**

Any student with a documented disability who needs academic adjustments or accommodation is requested to speak with me during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities will need to also contact Disability Support Services in Allen Center, Room 111 or Phone at 713-348-5841.

### **HONOR CODE AT RICE UNIVERSITY**

Students are expected to abide by the Rice Honor System (<http://honor.rice.edu/>). Violations include, but are not limited to, cheating on exams, having unauthorized possession of an exam, and submitting the work of another person as your own (aka, plagiarism). When in doubt about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please ask! Ignorance of this policy is not an acceptable excuse for noncompliance.

While the Honor Code system is designed to enforce rules about what is considered acceptable and honorable behavior, Rice does not have a unified Honor Code policy that *defines* these rules. Therefore, we list below a standard set of rules that will apply to academic writing in sociology classes at Rice. All students must follow this format when citing published works. This includes material drawn from books and journal articles (including those assigned for the course, and additional readings that you find to include in written assignments), in addition to personal interviews and information obtained online. Information from class lectures does not need to be cited in-text or on the reference page. If you have any questions, please ask!

### **Assignment Guidelines:**

- One-inch margins on all sides

### **Citation Rules for Sociology Classes:**

All students are required to follow ASA rules for format and style when writing papers for sociology classes. Below we give examples for both in-text citations and the bibliography page. If you have any questions, please ask -- or you can Google "ASA style guide" to find links to several on-line postings that provide additional detail on rules for citing.

#### 1. *In-text citations*

You must cite the original author if you pull in either exact phrases or sentences, or if you use essentially the same ideas, concepts, or research findings -- even if paraphrasing. That is, even if you rewrite the author's words, you must still cite the original author as the source of the ideas.

- When referencing work in the body of a paper, you must always include (a) the author name, and (b) the year of publication. Example:

*In her study of men in “women’s professions,” Williams (1995) demonstrates that men are not disadvantaged by their gender minority status in the same way that women often are in predominantly male workplaces.*

- You can also cite multiple authors who draw on the same ideas, who have similar findings on a similar topic. Example:

*Men in “women’s professions” often feel their masculinity is called into question by outsiders (Williams 1995; Cross and Bagilhole 2002).*

- Whenever you draw on a new idea, concept, or finding, you must use internal citations with author’s names and years of publications. However, if you are discussing the same article or author in a series of sentences, you only need to provide a citation the first time. Example:

*Miller (1997) demonstrates how the military men in her study engage in gender harassment of their women superiors. She illustrates several forms of this gender harassment, including foot-dragging and rumor spreading.*

**Note:** In the second sentence, there is no citation for the year, as you provided it in the previous sentence. However, if you discuss Miller later in the paper, you will provide the year again to make clear you are discussing the same article.

- When quoting directly, you must also include the page(s) the quote is found on, and enclose the quote in parentheses. Example:

*According to Tran (2002:34), the “way of the way is the way.”*

- For citations with four or more authors, use “et al.” rather than list all author names in-text. Example:

*Research has documented elevated infant mortality rates among children born to teenage mothers (Jackson et al. 1992).*

- Do not use titles of books and articles in your paper, or the author’s first name. Rather, use the author’s last name and internal citations to give the year of the publication. Example:

**INSTEAD of:** *Virginia Valian, in her 1999 book Why So Slow: The Advancement of Women, shows that women in professional occupations often advance more slowly than their men counterparts.*

**USE:** *Valian (1999) shows that women in professional occupations often advance more slowly than their men counterparts.*

- Common mistakes you should take care to avoid:

- ⇒ In all of these examples listed above, the period comes AFTER the parentheses, NOT before it. Please remember that the author citation is part of the sentence, so it should be listed before you end the sentence with a period.
- ⇒ Many students use too many direct quotes from a book or journal article. Quotes should be used very sparingly, while paraphrasing from the text should be the norm.
- ⇒ For the bibliography page (described below), you ONLY include a weblink for a source if it can ONLY be obtained online. For published books and journal articles, weblinks are not needed.

### ***B. Bibliography page***

A bibliography page lists all sources cited in the paper. The page should follow the basic format of author, year of publication, title of publication, publisher, and if an article, the volume and page numbers. **Here are some examples from a sample reference page:**

Anderson, Maya. 1978. *Ever Heard of Hip Hop?* New York: Oxford University Press.

Brown, Susan, Amy L. Anderson, and Scott Jones. 2007. "Cohabitation in the United States." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 32(3):111-125.

Burlington, Amy and John Temple. 2010. "Sports, Gender, and Power." *Social Problems* 36(3): 229-241.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2006. "Cigarette Use Among High School Students – United States, 1991-2005." *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports* 55:724-726.

Cleary, Paul D., Lawrence B. Zaborski, and John Z. Ayanian. 2004. "Sex Differences in Health over the Course of Midlife." Pp. 37-63 in *How Healthy Are We? A National Study of Well-being in Midlife*, edited by O.G. Brim, C.D. Ryff, and R.C. Kessler. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

\*\*Note that all authors after the first author have their first names listed first.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2002. "Hispanics Growing Fast." Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Commerce. Retrieved March 30, 2007. (<http://www.census.gov/hispanic.html>).

Williams, Genia. 1997. "The Lonely Way." *American Journal of Sociology* 42:37-64.

Zenia, Genco. 2007. Personal Interview. Conducted April 2, 2007.

\*\*Only include if person gives permission to be cited by name

## COURSE SCHEDULE

### January 9: Introduction to the class and each other

### January 11: What is the family?

Film: *I Love Lucy- Job Switching*

- Diana Gittins. 1985. *The Family in Question: Changing Household and Familiar Ideologies*. Macmillan, Basingtoke.

### January 16: Historical Origins of the Family: Myth and Reality

- Tamara K. Hareven. 1977. "Family time and historical time." *Daedalus* 57-70.
- Paula England. 2010. "The Gender Revolution: Uneven and Stalled." *Gender and Society* 24(2): 149-166.

### January 18: Gender and Family

- Myra Marx Ferree. 2010. "Filling the Glass: Gender Perspectives on Families." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72: 420-439.

### January 23: Examining the family sociologically

- Maxine Baca Zinn. 1994. *Feminist Rethinking from Racial-Ethnic Families*. From Maxine Baca Zinn and Bonnie Thornton Dill, *Women of Color in US Society*, pgs 18-26.
- Suzzane M. Bianchi and Melissa A. Milkie. 2010. "Work and Family Research in the First Decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 72: 705-725.

### January 25: Theories and Methods for Studying Families

- Brent C. Miller, Boyd C. Rollins and Darwin L. Thomas. 1982. "On Methods of Studying Marriages and Family." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 44(4): 851-873.

### January 30: Social Decline of Marriage

- Andrew J. Cherlin. 2004. "The Deinstitutionalization of American Marriage." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 66: 848-861.
- Laurie Essig and Lynn Owens. 2009. "What if Marriage is Bad for US?" *The Chronicle Review*.

### February 1: Dating and Courtship

- Lisa Wade. 2018. *American Hookup: The New Culture of Sex on Campus*. W.W. Norton. [1-112]

### **February 6: Dating and Courtship**

- Lisa Wade. 2018. *American Hookup: The New Culture of Sex on Campus*. W.W. Norton. [113-248]

### **February 13: EXAMINATION 1**

### **February 15: Divorce and Remarriage**

- Paul Amato. 2010. "Research on Divorce: Continuing Trends and New Developments." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 72(3): 650-666.
- Terry Arendell. 1992. "The Social Self as Gendered: A Masculinist Discourse of Divorce." *Symbolic Interaction* 15(2): 151-181

### **February 20: Parenthood and Childhood**

- Robin W. Simon. 2008. "The Joys of Parenthood Reconsidered." *Contexts* 7(2): 40-45.
- Allison Pugh. 2013. "The Theoretical Costs of Ignoring Childhood: Rethinking Independence, Insecurity, and Inequality." *Theory and Society* 43(1): 71-89.

### **February 22: Family Rules and Roles: Motherhood**

- Terry Arendell. 2000. "Conceiving and Investigating Motherhood: The Decade's Scholarship." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 62(4): 1192-1207.
- Ana Villalobos. 2014. "Compensatory Connection: Mothers' Own Stakes in an Intensive Mother-Child Relationship." *Journal of Family Issues* 36(4): 1928-1956.

### **February 27: Other Mothers and Extended [Non]Families**

- Carol Stack. 1972. "Black Kindreds: Parenthood and Personal Kindreds among Urban Blacks." *Journal of Comparative Family Studies* 3:2, 194-206.
- Matthew Desmond, "Disposable Ties and the Urban Poor," *American Journal of Sociology* 117(5): 1295-1335.

### **March 1: Fatherhood and Masculinity**

- Kathryn Edin and Timothy Nelson. 2013. *Doing the Best I Can. Fatherhood in the Inner City*. University of California Press. [pgs. 1-102]

### **March 6: Fatherhood and Masculinity**

- Kathryn Edin and Timothy Nelson. 2013. *Doing the Best I Can. Fatherhood in the Inner City*. University of California Press. [pgs. 103-202]

### **March 8: EXAMINATION 2**

### **March 20: Families and Work**

- Nancy Folbre and Julie A. Nelson. "For Love or Money -- Or Both?" *The Journal of Economic Perspectives* 14(4): 123–140.
- Arlie Hochschild. 1989. *The Time Bind: When Work Becomes Home and Home Becomes Work. [Selections]*

### **March 22: Families and Poverty**

- Sara McLanahan and Christine Percheski (2008). "Family Structure and the Reproduction of Inequalities." *Annual Review of Sociology* 34(1): 257-276.

### **March 27: Housework Studies**

- Suzann M. Bianchi, Liana C. Sayer, Melissa A. Milkie, and John P. Robinson. 2012. "Housework: Who Did, Does or Will Do It, and How Much Does it Matter?" *Social Forces* 91(1): 55-63.
- Heidi I. Hartmann. 1981. "The Family as the Locus of Gender, Class, and Political Struggle: The Example of Housework." *Signs* 6(3): 366-394.

### **March 29: Emotion Work and Care Work**

- Arlie Russell Hochschild. 1979. "Emotion Work, Feeling Rules, and Social Structure." *American Journal of Sociology*, 85(3): 551-575.
- Paula England. 2005. "Emerging Theories of Care Work." *Annual Review of Sociology* 31:381-399.
- Rebecca Erickson. 2005. "Why Emotion Work Matters: Sex, Gender, and the Division of Household Labor." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 67: 337-351.

### **April 3: Transnational Families**

- Joanna Dreby. 2010. *Divided by Borders: Mexican Migrants and Their Children*. Berkeley: University of California Press. [Pgs. 1-110]

### **April 5: Transnational Families [Children's Perspective]**

- Joanna Dreby. 2010. *Divided by Borders: Mexican Migrants and Their Children*. Berkeley: University of California Press. [Pgs. 111-144; 179-231]

### **April 10: Global Stratification of Care**

- Joanna Dreby. 2010. *Divided by Borders: Mexican Migrants and Their Children*. Berkeley: University of California Press. [145-178]

### **April 12: Outsourcing Care**

- Amber M. Epp and Sunaina R. Velagaleti. “Outsourcing Parenthood? How Families Manage Care Assemblages Using Paid Commercial Services.” *Journal of Consumer Research* 41(4): 911–935.

**April 17: PRESENTATIONS**

**April 19: PRESENTATIONS**