



Brescia University College

Family Studies 3320A (530): Family Practices in a Global World 9-12, 2011

Dr. Wei-Wei Da
Office: 219 Merici Wing
Tel: (519) 432-8353 ext. 28276
Email: wda@uwo.ca

Office hours:
Wed 10-11 AM, Thu 2-3 PM; or by appointment
Class time/room:
Wed 2:30 -5:30 PM / BR204

COURSE INTRODUCTION

This course examines family practices around the world by using various historical, theoretical and comparative perspectives to help students develop a cross-cultural understanding of family life. Family lives in western countries are examined in contrast with those of families in parts of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The impacts of modernization and globalization on the family life are also examined.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to

- gain familiarity with major theories and basic concepts/terms introduced in this course;
- acquire knowledge and understanding of the diversity in family lives in global settings;
- have a better understanding of emerging issues and challenges the family faces in the process of modernization and globalization;
- understand how families differ from one to another by race, culture, ethnicity, social class and social policy;
- enable to think critically about family life in cultures beyond your own.

PREREQUISITE

Family studies 2200E/2225 or permission of the instructor.

TEXTBOOK

Leeder, Elaine. (2004). *The Family in Global Perspective: A Gendered Journey*. London, UK: Sage Publications.

The textbook is available for purchase in the University Bookstore and will also be placed on reserve in the BUC library. Additional readings will be provided by instructor.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Teaching methods will include lectures, videos, discussions, and group presentation.

COURSE MANAGEMENT POLICY

Attendance and participation Students are expected to attend class regularly, come prepared and participate in all class activities.

Submission of assignments All assignments are firm and subject to a late penalty except prior permission has been granted due to documented exceptional circumstances. Late submission of an assignment by due date will result in **1%** of total assignment's value for each day beyond the deadline. Assignments received later than the seven days after the due date will NOT be accepted.

Communication with professor I prefer to talk with students in person than to exchange lengthy e-mails on questions regarding course contents, assignment requirements, lecture notes and the like. All e-mails will be responded within two days.

Format of written works: The written work should conform to the standards set out in the *Publication of Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA). It should be typed, double spaced, paginated, and font size 12.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING STRUCTURE

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Group presentation	20%
Reflection paper	20%
Midterm quiz	20%
Final exam (Cumulative)	40%

Group research and presentation - 20%

A group of 3-4 students will be formed to do a case study of family practices of one particular social, cultural and racial group/community in any countries around the world. Family practices, including family structure/function, gender roles, sexuality, marriage, childrearing, intergenerational relations, parenting and the like will be examined and analysed by using the existing theories or theories learned from this course.

A brief presentation outlines is required to submit to the instructor due on Monday 4PM of the scheduled week for presentation. The outline should be clearly labelled with all group members' full names, and dated.

Research paper – 20%

Students are required to write a reflection paper (5-6 pages) focusing on one of the topics related to familial issues from any chapters of the textbook, lectures, and videos showed in class. The paper must have a properly defined title and include: (1) an introduction of the topic you chose; (2) the reason that issue intrigues you; (3) your points of view on the issue; and (4) a brief summary. Three references are required (scholarly works). **Due on Nov 16, 2011.**

Midterm quiz – 20%

The quiz is schedule on **Oct 19, 2011**. Questions will be based on readings, lectures, videos and discussion from weeks 1 – 5. The format of questions consists of multiple choices, true/false, and short-answer questions.

Final exam - 40% (Cumulative)

The final exam will be cumulative based on the readings, lectures, videos and class discussions from the entire course. The format of questions consists of multiple choices, true/false, and short-answer questions.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topics	Readings
Sept 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the course & Course management • Conceptualization of culture and family 	Reading #1
Sept 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focusing on the family 	Chapter 1
Sept 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families: An evolutionary anthropological perspective 	Reading #2
Oct 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining families in global terms: 	Chapter 2
Oct 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theories of the family 	Chapter 3
Oct. 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz on Sept 19. • History of the family in the USA 	Chapter 4
Oct. 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of the family in the Semi-periphery and periphery 	Chapter 5
Nov. 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender and the family 	Chapter 6
Nov 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race, class, ethnicity, Caste and family life 	Chapter 7
Nov. 16	Intimate relationships: Love, marriage and dissolution	Chapter 8
Nov. 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intergenerational relationships 	Chapter 9
Nov. 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence and the family 	Chapter 10
Dec 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The future of the family in global perspective • Review 	Chapter 11
Dec 10-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final exam 	

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

If supporting documentation is from a family physician, Hospital Urgent Care Centre or Emergency Department, or a walk-in clinic a UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required**. To download an SMC go to <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> and follow the link under "Medical Documentation". Documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial visit. If it is not possible to have an SMC completed by the attending physician, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** considered adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. All documentation is to be submitted to an Academic Advisor.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full statement of University policy regarding extensions of deadlines or makeup exams can be found at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2011/pg117.html>.

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note

that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar.

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar_services/index.html.

The University of Western Ontario Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm>