McLennan
C O M M U N I T Y
C O L L E G E

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS AND INSTRUCTOR PLAN

Marriage and the Family

SOCI 2301.O08

PAULA UNGER

NOTE: This is a 16-week course.
NOTE: This is an online course.

SPRING 2024

Course Description: *Sociological and theoretical analysis of the structures and functions of the family, the varied cultural patterns of the American family, and the relationships that exist among the individuals within the family, as well as the relationships that exist between the family and other institutions in society.*

Semester Hours: 3 (3 lec)

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites: None

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations: All documents are posted on the SOCI 2301 Brightspace site.

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Paula Unger

Email: punger@mclennan.edu

Phone: 254.299.8494

Office: Michaelis Academic Center (MAC) 233

Zoom: Please click this URL to start or join. https://mclennan.zoom.us/j/2542998494
                     Or, go to https://mclennan.zoom.us/join and enter meeting ID: 254 299 8494

Conference Hours:

Days	Conference Hours
Mondays & Wednesdays	10 am to noon & by appointment
Tuesdays & Thursdays	8 to 9 am & by appointment
Fridays	by appointment

Please let me know if you'll be dropping in during conference hours. I sometimes have meetings which interfere and would hate to miss you.

Required Text & Materials:

- All learning materials are provided for free and can be accessed through Brightspace, our learning management system.

Required Learning Tools:

- Computer/laptop
- Reliable internet
- Brightspace compatible internet browser – Google Chrome and/or Mozilla Firefox

Core Objectives for Social & Behavioral Sciences:

Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Courses involve the exploration of behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

- **Critical Thinking --** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communications Skill --** to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- **Empirical & Quantitative Skills --** to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Social Responsibility** -- to include intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the family and marriage as social institutions through theoretical perspectives.
2. Examine the diversity and complexity of contemporary families.
3. Explore changing cultural attitudes about marriage and alternatives to marriage.
4. Critically evaluate such issues as sexuality, partner choice, resolving marital issues, having and raising children, and combining work with family.
5. Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between theories and research methods used in the scientific study of marriage and family.
6. Describe some of the historical changes and current trends regarding the structural nature of the American family including the role of gender in relationships.
7. Identify causes and consequences of relevant problems within contemporary families.

Course Outline & Schedule:

This schedule is tentative, though you will be given advanced notice if anything changes. The specific dates are maintained on Brightspace.

UNIT I	UNIT III	UNIT III
Prep Module: Course Overview & Introductions	Attachment & Loving Module	Sex & Marriage Module
Marriage & Family Trends Module	Enduring & Happy Committed Relationships Module	Infidelity & Domestic Violence Module
Attraction, Dating & Loving Module	Gender Roles Module	Divorce, Remarriage & Blended Families Module
Marriage & Cohabitation Module	Parenting Module	Exam 3 Module: Preparing & Taking Exam 3
Marriage Module	Family Systems Theory Module	
Exam 1 Module: Preparing & Taking Exam 1	Exam 2 Module: Preparing & Taking Exam 2	

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Basic Course Structure: This course is organized into units, topics, and assignments. You are expected to complete the readings, homework, research project, and exams as scheduled.

Assessment	Description	Time & # of Attempts	Total #	Points for Each	Total Points
Sociology Skills & Analysis Assignments (SSKA)	The SSKA assignments are designed to develop and refine sociological skills through investigation, analysis, writing, and discussion. These exercises vary in length and structure and are intended to improve your observational, analytical, and reasoning skills. Examples of SSKA assignments include multiple-choice quizzes, discussion boards, and short reflective essays.	varied & 1 attempt	30	20-100	700
Exams	Each 50-question exam follows a multiple-choice and true/false structure, and the questions are based on the readings, videos, discussions, and quizzes. They are mandatory and will be administered and completed online. All exams require the Respondus Lockdown Browser, which means you will need a webcam to take each. If you do not have one, you can borrow one in the Library and take the exam there.	60 minutes & 1 attempt	3	100	300
				TOTAL POINTS	**1000**

Course Grading Information:

All points are summed then averaged to calculate your final grade.

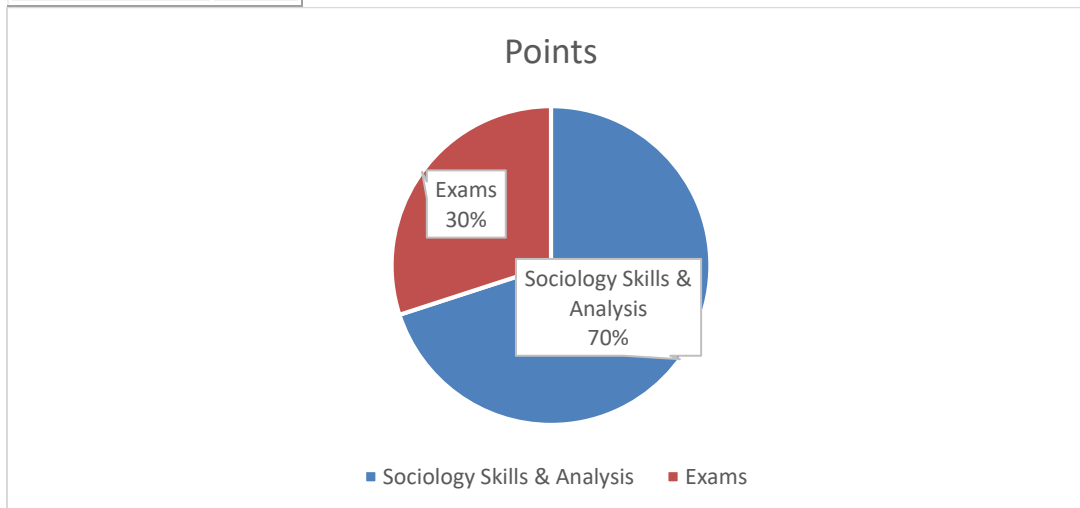Exam 1   100 points

Exam 2   100 points

Exam 3   100 points

Sociology Skills & Analysis   700 points

Total   **1000 points**

90-100% 900-1000 points	A
80-89% 800-899 points	B
70-79% 700-799 points	C
60-69% 600-699 points	D
below 60% below 600 points	F

Points

- Sociology Skills & Analysis   ■ Exams

General Grading Rubric for Sociology Skills & Analysis Assignments (SSKA)

NOTE: Because each SSKA focuses on a different learning objective, which skill is most important will vary. For example, not all SSKAs require collaboration; therefore, that skill will not be assessed on those.

	A-B Outstanding to Above Average	C-D Average to Below Average
Critical Thinking & Creativity	• Demonstrated thoughtful insight and analysis that reflected deep thinking on the subject matter • Clear connections made to sociological topics, concepts. and theories	• Generally competent; information is thin and commonplace; obvious lack of effort • Limited connections are made, not really clear or too obvious
Communication	• Proficiency with technology; designed and shared information effectively; managed, analyzed, and synthesized data • Few grammatical or stylistic errors	• Developing proficiency with technology; designed and shared information effectively; managed, analyzed, and synthesized data; obvious grammatical or stylistic errors • Errors interfere with content
Collaboration (for discussion boards)	• Demonstrated ability to interact effectively and respectfully with others; built relationships to pose and solve problems effectively; exercised flexibility and willingness to be helpful in addressing discussion topics • Assumed shared responsibility, and valued the contributions made by others	• Limited ability to interact effectively and respectfully with team and classmates; minimal relationships with others; limited flexibility and ability to address discussion topics • Little shared responsibility and limited value of the contributions of others

<u>Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:</u>

If you have a personal crisis or family issue that interferes with your commitment to this course, please talk with me about it. You can contact me in class, by phone (254.299.8494) or email (punger@mclennan.edu). I will work with you.

Frequently Asked Questions About Make-up Policies

1) *May I make up a missed SSKA assignment?* **Yes**! You are given three *free* extensions for any of the SSKA assignments. After that, you will be penalized for late work; the points lost will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and dependent upon how late it is submitted.
2) *May I make up a missed exam?* **Yes**! But, *whatever* the reason, you will lose points for having extra study time and taking it late; the points lost are assessed on how late you take the exam.
3) *How do I get the notes if I get behind?* **Brightspace is your resource**! The slideshows and videos are all posted there.

<u>Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:</u>

* **[Click Here for the MCC Academic Integrity Statement](www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity)**
(**www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity**)
The link above will provide you with information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who miss 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)
(**https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html**)
Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

* Access each link separately through your Web browser (for example: Internet Explorer, Mozilla, Chrome, or Safari) to review each link's information.

MᶜLENNAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

Accommodations/ADA Statement:

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit www.mclennan.edu/disability

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:
> disabilities@mclennan.edu (254)299-8122
> Room 319, Student Services Center

Title IX:

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/

Additionally, Title IX provides rights and protections for pregnant and newly parenting students. Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at www.mclennan.edu/titleix/. It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

Student Support/Resources:
MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email (ast@mclennan.edu) by going to our website (https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/)

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact either MCC CREW – Campus Resources Education Web by calling (254) 299-8561 or by emailing crew@mclennan.edu or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing success@mclennan.edu.

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to https://calendly.com/paulannespantry-mcc/15min.

The CREW, Success Coaches, and Paulanne's Pantry are all located on the second floor of the Student Services building in Success Coaching Services.

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:
Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an

emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:
Please view our Academic integrity statement for more information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:
Go to https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Minimum Technical Skills:
Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:
In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

Email Policy:
McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to www.mclennan.edu/studentemail.

Instructional Uses of Email:

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- Email Setup for iPhones and iPads
- Email Setup for Androids

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to MCC's Tech Support or email helpdesk@mclennan.edu.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.