

FAMILY RELATIONS

FACS 311

A detailed syllabus will be provided to students registered for the course.

Please see Blackboard for the full, detailed syllabus.

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Office:	AC 414
Office Hours:	Posted on Blackboard Course Site
Required text:	Strong, B., & Cohen, T. F. (2017). <i>The marriage and family experience: Intimate relationships in a changing society</i> (13 th ed.), Wadsworth Cengage Learning: Belmont, CA. ISBN: 9781305503106
Course Web page:	Blackboard (http://blackboard.wku.edu)

GENERAL EDUCATION FULFILLMENT

FACS 311 can be used to fulfill part of General Education Category C requirements (catalog year before Fall 2014).

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Study of issues affecting individual and family well-being. Interpersonal relationships and communications skills necessary to achieve quality of life are addressed.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students who successfully complete the course in Family Relations will be able to:

- Analyze the family as an institution in our society and its interrelated functions, with the economic, education, religious, political, and legal institutions.
- Know and discuss the family systems theory as it looks at a family as a whole and the interactions and relatedness of family members.
- Define the role of social, economic, ethical, and psychological factors in family structure.
- Evaluate family interaction patterns and the influence of society on sexual identity.
- Identify the psychological and biological aspects of human sexuality and its role in personal and family development.
- Define ethical issues related to family decision-making, interpersonal relationships, and societal trends affecting the family.
- Know the range of role expectations and behavior in male/female and/or family relationships and parenting.
- Relate current research to trends in individual interpersonal relationship patterns and marital choices.
- Assess the changing patterns of roles for men and women in our society and their impact on child rearing lifestyles.
- Define divergent patterns in family life—dual career/dual workers, single parents, cohabitation, blended families, unemployment, divorce, remarriage; consider one's values which govern moral and ethical choices.
- Analyze the implications of employment on the family and its individual family members.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (MORE DETAILS ON BLACKBOARD)

1. Students will complete exams demonstrating knowledge of variations in family life, including theories and research methods (Objectives 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10).
2. Students will complete assignments (Objectives 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, and 11).
3. Students will complete assignments (Objectives 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, and 11).
4. Students will complete an assignment (Objectives 3, 4, 8, and 10).
5. Students will complete an assignment (Objectives 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11).

EXAMS

See Blackboard course site for detailed syllabus.

ASSIGNMENTS

See Blackboard course site for detailed syllabus.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

See Blackboard course site for detailed grading rubric.

Total Points: 500 points (100%)

A = 450 or above

B = 400 – 449

C = 350 – 399

D = 300 – 349

F = 299 or below

COURSE WEB PAGE

We will use Blackboard as our course Web site. All course announcements, assignments, exams, additional readings, video clips, necessary changes to the course schedule, corrections or clarifications on assignments, grades for assignments and exams will be posted on Blackboard. You are responsible for staying up-to-date on any materials posted on Blackboard. Also, please keep your email address accurate and current so that I can send email messages throughout the semester. Please use the full Blackboard site using a desktop or laptop with an Internet browser (e.g., Firefox, Opera, Chrome, Edge). The Blackboard app and some tablet and cell phone Internet browsers do not provide detailed or accurate information about assignments and grades. Students are responsible to check the full Blackboard site for accurate information about grades, assignments, and changes to the course. Students who access Blackboard solely on the Blackboard app or other tablet or cell phone-type device are at risk for having incomplete information.

STUDENT CODE OF HONOR

Do your own work. Academic dishonesty **will not** be tolerated. Your honesty is a crucial part of the learning environment in our class. Honesty is of utmost importance to me and I expect and assume that you will have perfect honesty in all you do in this class. All students who cheat in this class will automatically receive a zero grade on the exam or assignment. Students may also receive a failing grade for the course and be referred to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs for disciplinary action and expulsion. Visit [Student Affairs](#) for more information.

Academic Dishonesty

Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive from the instructor a failing grade in that portion of the course work in which the act is detected or a failing grade in a course without possibility of withdrawal. The faculty member may also present the case to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs for disciplinary sanctions. Students who believe they have been dealt with unfairly by a faculty member involving academic dishonesty may seek relief through the Student Complaint Procedure.

Plagiarism

To represent written work taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense. The academic work of a student must be his/her own. One must give any author credit for source material borrowed from him/her. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage without reference to the source after having changed a few words is also plagiarism. Students who plagiarize on an assignment will automatically receive a failing grade for that assignment and may receive a failing grade for the course. Referral to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs for disciplinary action and expulsion may also occur.

Cheating

No student shall receive or give assistance not authorized by the instructor in taking an examination or in the preparation of an assignment, essay, or other project which is submitted for purposes of grade determination. Students who give their work to other students, and these other students end up using this work as their own, will be held liable. In other words, if you give your work to a classmate and the classmate copies and steals your work, then you are held responsible too and receive discipline as laid out in the syllabus. **DO YOUR OWN WORK.** Cheating will be prosecuted at the highest degree and students will be referred to both the Office of Student Affairs and Office of Judicial Affairs.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center (SARC) located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC phone number: 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] and email: sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from the SARC.

EQUAL TREATMENT OF STUDENTS

“Western Kentucky University is committed to providing truly equal educational opportunities for all students. An important component of that commitment is to insure that all students, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, ethnicity, color, disability, veteran’s status, marital status, sexual orientation, or gender identity/expression feel welcome on campus, in the classroom, and in their interactions with faculty and staff. The Council of Academic Deans affirms this commitment and reinforces the expectation that all faculty and staff will conduct themselves in such a manner that all students feel they are treated equally and fairly at the university. Students who believe they have experienced any discrimination at Western should feel free to report it to a faculty member, a department head, a dean, or to any administrative official.”

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU’s [Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy \(#0.2070\)](#) and [Discrimination and Harassment Policy \(#0.2040\)](#).

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are “Responsible Employees” of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU’s Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU’s Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

OTHER IMPORTANT WKU POLICIES AND HELPS

See the [WKU syllabus information web site](#).