



ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 1992
 REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2025
 COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval): September 2030
 Course outline form version: 28/10/2022

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: SOC 331	Number of Credits: 4 Course credit policy (105)												
Course Full Title: Sociology of Families Course Short Title: Sociology of Families													
Faculty: Faculty of Social Sciences	Department/School: Social, Cultural, and Media Studies												
Calendar Description: Students focus on the sociological study of Canadian families, both past and present, in all of their diverse and ever-changing forms and practices. A multiplicity of topics and intersecting issues are examined, including the different social factors that structure families, diversity of family forms, discourses and “the family”, individual experiences of the family, Indigenous families, history and families, intimacy and commitment, parenting, work and family life, midlife and aging families, social inequality, and families of children with disabilities. While this course focuses primarily on “Canadian” families, a diversity of family forms, both past and present and from other societies will be examined.													
Prerequisites (or NONE):	45 university-level credits including SOC 101.												
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):													
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):													
Antirequisite Courses <i>(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)</i> Former course code/number: Cross-listed with: Equivalent course(s): <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>	Course Details Special Topics course: No <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: No <i>(See policy 207 for more information.)</i> Grading System: Letter grades Delivery Mode: May be offered in multiple delivery modes Expected frequency: Every semester Maximum enrolment (for information only): 25												
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Lecture/seminar</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">60</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total hours</td> <td style="text-align: center;">60</td> </tr> </table>	Lecture/seminar	60									Total hours	60	Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) PLAR is available for this course.
Lecture/seminar	60												
Total hours	60												
Scheduled Laboratory Hours Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Transfer Credit <i>(See bctransferguide.ca.)</i> Transfer credit already exists: Yes Submit outline for (re)articulation: Yes <i>(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)</i>												
Department approval	Date of meeting: April 5, 2024												
Faculty Council approval	Date of meeting: May 3, 2024												
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval	Date of meeting: September 27, 2025												

Learning Outcomes *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze "the family" from a variety of different sociological perspectives and issues.
2. Explain how the sociological study of families provides ways to address inequities in society as it pertains to a diversity of family forms.
3. Demonstrate the ability to think critically, providing sociological insights into the family.
4. Apply a nourishing of your sociological imagination through critical reflection.
5. explain how "the family" is socially organized by history and social context.

Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Final exam:	30%	Quizzes/tests:	30%	Assignments:	40%
	%		%		%

Details:

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Instructional Methods *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Combination of lecture, student seminar presentations, and small group discussion.

Texts and Resource Materials *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. [Open Educational Resources](#) (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the [Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form](#).)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1. Textbook	Albanese, P	Canadian Families Today: New Perspectives (4th ed)	2018
2. Textbook	Mitchell, B	Family Matters: an Introduction to Family Sociology in Canada (4th ed)	2021
3.			
4.			

Required Additional Supplies and Materials *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)***Course Content and Topics**

- Introduction to sociology of families
- Theory and "the family"
- Changing family forms
- A historical look at the family
- Discursive and normative assumptions of the family
- Intimacy, commitment, and the family
- Indigenous families
- Parents, children, and family life
- Work and family life
- Midlife and aging families
- Poverty and the family
- Families and disabilities