

Contents

Dating, Relationships & Families	1
SOC 255 summer 2020 (5717).....	1
Course Information ▪ Course Outcomes	2
▪ COURSE OVERVIEW	2
▪ GRADING	3
BOOKS AND MATERIALS REQUIRED	3
HELP WITH CANVAS.....	4
Classroom Learning Atmosphere	4
▪ INSTRUCTOR’S EXPECTATION	4
OF YOU:.....	4
▪ AFFIRMATION OF INCLUSION	5
▪ DIVISION STATEMENTS	5
▪ STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY.....	6
▪ IMPORTANT LINKS	6
COURSE CALENDAR	7

Dating, Relationships & Families

SOC 255 summer 2020 (5717)

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by [hotblack](#)

No matter how many communes anybody invents, the family always creeps back.
~Margaret Mead

Course Information

▪ Course Outcomes

By the end of this course you should understand how to:

- Think sociologically about the family in the USA
- Distinguish between factual statements and value judgments regarding the family
- Put aside personal ethnocentric attitudes and become culturally relativistic regarding what constitutes a family
- Understand the connection between the family and other institutions in the USA
- Critically evaluate commonly accepted ideas of what family is
- Utilize objective criteria for evaluating the family
- Apply sociological concepts and knowledge of the family in the USA to real-life situations

▪ Course Overview

All of us are familiar with the family in the USA from observing families (our own and/or other people's), from talking to other people about families, and from information given to us by the news and entertainment media. This class will give you a chance to analyze the family in the USA from a sociological perspective.

▪ Grading

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>NUMBER</u> (subject to minor redistribution)	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
introduction discussion	1	25	25
reading journals	17	30	450 (lowest 2 dropped)
unit assignments	5	30	150
discussion questions	6	60	360
plagiarism assignment	1	10	10
soc imag essay rd & responses	1	40	40
sociological imagination essay	1	50	50
final assessment	1	25	25

Note: a minor alteration to the number of reading journals may occur over the course of the quarter

Grading Scale

(see canvas for current grade)

A: 94-100%

A-: 90-93%

B+: 87-89%

B: 84-86%

B-: 80-83%

C+: 77-79%

C: 74-76%

C-: 70-73%

D+: 64-69%

D: 60-63%

F: <60%

WRITTEN WORK

- All sources must be cited in APA format. Any information gathered from outside sources, and this includes the text books, must be cited and referenced. For information on citations and references see the writing lab online at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/asc/writing/> or in person in D-204.
- Since this is a social science class, written work should consist of analysis rather than opinion. This means connection the information, whether it is from a movie, a text or another source, to sociological concepts and themes presented in class. This does not mean you cannot connect things to your own life and experiences, but it does mean the sociological context needs to be there as well and that your ideas are backed up by the appropriate source(s).
- Any grade appeals (beyond a recording mistake) must be submitted in writing.

The link to the College Grading Policy is located on page 10 of the Course Catalog: [Grading Policy](#)

Books and Materials Required

Hammond, R., Cheney, P., & Pearsey, R. (2015). *Sociology of the family* Free Soc Books. http://freesociologybooks.com/Sociology_Of_The_Family/01_Changes_and_Definitions.php

The link for this free online text in in the menu to the left in the Canvas class site.

Topical readings will be in PDF format in the the unit modules. These all come from databases

provided through the Bellevue College Library Media Center. The funds for the databases come from tuition and fees, so you have paid for the articles already!

Help with Canvas

For help with Canvas go to the [Technology Help Desk](https://bellevuecollege.teamdynamix.com/TDClient/Home/)
(<https://bellevuecollege.teamdynamix.com/TDClient/Home/>)

Classroom Learning Atmosphere

▪ Instructor's Expectation

OF ME:

- *A sincere effort to help you learn the course material.* Since my ultimate goal is to help you succeed, I intend to spend enough time and effort on class preparation to make the material as understandable and as interesting as I possibly can.
- *Accessibility.* I am available to you outside of class should you desire help. I encourage you to contact me, via email, on the phone, or by stopping by my office, whenever you have a question or concern. I am more than happy to help.
- *Learning.* You can expect me to be a learner with you. While I know sociology and it is my job and my goal to teach you the subject matter, you bring things to the class (perspective and experience) that I don't which contribute to the learning for us all.

OF YOU:

- *Preparation.* You should have the readings and assignments completed by the due date posted. Late assignments will not be accepted. If there is a true emergency (computer problems do not qualify as emergencies) and you cannot get an assignment in, call or email to let me know the situation as soon as possible. Doing this, along with providing relevant documentation, will allow me to work out a reasonable accommodation with you.
- *Currency:* It is your responsibility to keep current in class. You can find the calendar on the Canvas site, and the assignments and handouts are in the relevant module.
- *Honesty:* If you cheat, you fail. No excuses will be taken into account. Your work must be your own, except when asked to work with other students. Furthermore, you are required to acknowledge in your papers if you have borrowed any ideas, terms, or phrases, even if you have borrowed from a classmate. Working together is fine and even encouraged. Just be sure to turn in work that is clearly original. Be careful to cite your sources properly as plagiarism will result in a score of zero for the assignment, and possibly an F for the class depending on the severity of the offense. If you would like information on how to avoid plagiarism, the writing lab (<http://bellevuecollege.edu/asc/writing/> or D-204D) is an excellent resource online and in person.
- *Communication:* If an issue arises that will impact your class work, let me know as soon as possible so that we can work out a solution together. After assignments have been

missed may be too late. If you don't understand a concept or the expectations of an assignment, please ask. I want you to succeed in this class. If you need course adaptations or special accommodations because of a disability, or if you have medical information that needs to be shared with me in the event that the building needs to be evacuated, please contact me during the first week of the quarter. If you require accommodations due to a diagnosed disability, please contact the Disability Resource Center in B132. Phone: 425-564-2498 (Voice) TTY: 425-564-4110.

- *Willingness to listen/read*: Essential to a liberal arts education is an open-minded acceptance of ideas and modes of expression which might conflict with one's personal ideas and/or values. By being exposed to such ideas and expressions, you are not expected to endorse or adopt them but rather understand that they are part of the free flow of information upon which higher education depends.

▪ Affirmation of Inclusion

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination.

We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

Religious Holidays

Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or Dean.

College Anti-Discrimination Statement (Title IX)

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates.

For further information and contacts, please consult [College Anti-Discrimination Statements](#).

▪ Division Statements

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete

("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*

▪ **Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity**

Any act of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source), and fabrication and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to, talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Success for investigation. Specific student rights, responsibilities, and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct at: [Student Code](#)

▪ **Important Links**

See "[Important Links](#)" page online for more information about:

- College Anti-Discrimination Statement
- Bellevue College E-mail and access to MyBC
- Technology help desk
- Disability Resource Center (DRC)
- Public Safety
- Final Exam Schedule
- Academic Calendar
- Academic Success Center

Course Calendar

[see Canvas calendar]

With the exception of the first and last week, the schedule will look like this:

Monday: nothing due

Tuesday: reading journals due

Wednesday: discussion post due

Thursday: unit assignment due (this could be a discussion or an assignment submitted directly to the instructor)

Friday: responses to discussions due (one or two discussions depending on the unit assignment; three responses per discussion)