

**Sociology of the Family****100% Online****Semester: Fall, first 8-week session – August 22 to October 14, 2022**

Professor: Roslyn Schoen, PhD

Office: HH 204B

Office Hours: Email for a virtual appointment.

Contact: [roslyn.schoen@tamuct.edu](mailto:roslyn.schoen@tamuct.edu)**Catalog Course Description:**

Study the family as a social institution with emphasis on formation, functions, maintenance, child rearing, and family disorganization.

**Course Overview:**

This course examines the diverse nature of intimate family relationships in today's society. We will explore the ever-changing definition of family in the context of cohabitation, marriage, child rearing, ageing, and living apart but together. At times we will focus on the tension between so-called "traditional" and "unconventional" aspects of family forms and social life. Family connotes strong emotional bonds, not simply for those born into the same bloodline, but also for those who choose to align their lives into a support structure, caring entity, and cultural unit. In many ways, who we call family is both a matter of lineage and of who we choose to care for and to care for us. This course offers an objective analysis of the social concept of family. At times it may be difficult to remain objective because you have spent your life in the subjective experience of your own families. Try to keep that challenge at the forefront of your mind as you learn throughout this course.

**Course Objective:***Student Learning Outcomes:*

1. Students will exhibit an understanding of the evolution of modern family sociology.
2. Students will demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of family interactions and social structure.
3. Students will examine how culture, gender, age, and sexual orientation affect social interactions in America and in global networks as related to family structure.

**Competency Goals***Student Mastery:*

1. Students will use critical thinking to evaluate interpersonal perspectives of families different from their original definitions.
2. Students will research various family structures and use social statistics to analyze common assumptions about the family.
3. Students will build comprehensive dialogs with their peers through discussions, peer review, and a literature review.

**Mode of instruction and course access:** This course is 100% online and uses the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com>].CANVAS is where you will find all information related to this course, including assignments, student grades, and handouts. Monitor CANVAS every day, not just on the days things are due/assigned, since due dates occasionally may change due to unforeseen circumstances (ex: network outage).**Contacting your professor:**

The best way to contact me is through email ([roslyn.schoen@tamuct.edu](mailto:roslyn.schoen@tamuct.edu)). I check email every day during the week and often on the weekends as well. I do not respond to email after 9 PM; if you email in the middle of the night, please look for my response the following day. The best way to refer to your professor in email or in person is as "Professor Schoen" or "Dr. Schoen," pronounced *SHANE*.

**Required Books and Materials:**Ferguson, Susan J. (2019). *Shifting the Center: Understanding Contemporary Families, 5<sup>th</sup> edition*. Los Angeles, CA: Sage.**ISBN-13:** 978-1-5063-6827-6Nanda, Serena (2019). *Love and Marriage: Cultural Diversity in a Changing World*. Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press.**ISBN-13:** 978-1-4786-3755-4

Other required reading materials listed on the syllabus will be available through our course E-Reserve page. E-Res Password: kinship

**Recommended Book(s):***ASA Style Guide*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition. American Sociological Association.**Course requirements:**

Below is a description of the main activities for this course. They include (1) reading assignments, (2) discussion boards, (3) quizzes, (4) literature review, and (5) presentations.



Complete discussion board 1 and quiz 1.

**Week 2. August 29-September 4 The Changing Family**

Read chapters 6, 7, 8, and 9 in Ferguson.

Read chapters 2-4 (pgs. 11-40) and chapter 11 (pgs. 105-114) in *Love and Marriage*.

Complete discussion board 2.

Begin looking at the scholarly databases to narrow down a topic for your literature review.

**Week 3. September 6-11 Marriage, Intimacy, and Dating**

Read chapters 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19 and chapter 46 in Ferguson.

Read chapters 5 and 6 (pgs. 41-62) in *Love and Marriage*.

Complete discussion board 3: Share and discuss your chosen literature review topic.

Complete quiz 2.

**Week 4. September 12-18 Motherhood and Fatherhood**

Read part V in Ferguson, including chapters 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25.

Read chapter 7 in *Love and Marriage*.

Complete quiz 3.

Collect scholarly sources for your literature review and begin outlining.

**Week 5. September 19-25 Children and Childrearing**

Read chapters 26, 28, 29, 30 and 31 in Ferguson.

Read chapters 8 and 9 in *Love and Marriage*.

Complete discussion board 4 and quiz 4.

Continue outlining your literature review and collecting scholarly sources.

**Week 6. September 26 – October 2 The Effects of Poverty and Violence**

Read chapters 39, 41, and 42 in part IX and chapters 49, 51, and 52 in part XI.

Complete quiz 5.

Draft your literature review and begin planning for your 5-Minute Presentation.

**Week 7. October 3-9 Families, Work, and Carework**

Read chapters 43, 44, 45, 47, and 48 (pgs. 539-618)

Read chapter 10 (pgs. 95-104) in *Love and Marriage*.

Complete discussion board 5.

Using the final draft of your literature review, create a 5-Minute Presentation. Due: Friday at 11:59 PM CST.

**Week 8. October 10-14 Divorce, Remarriage, and Stepfamilies**

Read chapters 35 and 38 in Ferguson and chapter 12 (pgs. 115-119) in *Love and Marriage*.

Peer reviews of student presentations are due on Monday at 11:59 PM CT.

Literature reviews are due on Thursday at 11:59 PM CT via Canvas.

**Technology Requirements**

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system, called CANVAS. **We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.**

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

### Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

### Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

### Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: [helpdesk@tamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamu.edu)

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

*Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student*

## UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

### Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university’s programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information, please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) Canvas page (log-in required) [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

### Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University-Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the student conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html), [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a referral](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0), [[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\\_id=0](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0)].

### Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://federation.ngwebsolutions.com/sp/startSSO.ping?PartnerIdpId=https://eis-prod.ec.tamuct.edu:443/samlso&SpSessionAuthnAdapterId=tamuctDF&TargetResource=https%3a%2f%2fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2fSubmit%2fStart%2f53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar’s Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar’s Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar’s Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

### Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs’ Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html>]. Students may also contact the institution’s Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf) online, please visit the website [<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf>].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

### Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both virtually and in-person. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question, are interested in becoming a tutor, or in need of success coaching contact the Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion at (254) 501-5836, visit the Warrior Center at 212 Warrior Hall, or by emailing [WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu](mailto:WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu).

To schedule tutoring sessions and view tutor availability, please visit [Tutor Matching Services](https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT) [https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT] or visit the Tutoring Center in 111 Warrior Hall.

Chat live with a remote tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

### University Library & Archives

The University Library & Archives provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 400,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 96,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams or in-person at the library. [Schedule an appointment here](#)

[https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956]. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](#)

[http://tamuct.libguides.com/index]

### University Writing Center

Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via [WCOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

### A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Wellness and Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

### Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](#) online

[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](#) website for more information [https://www.tamuct.edu/bit]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5805.