

HDFS 2000 Marriage and Family in a Global Context Fall Semester 2007

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Textbook: Family Life Now; A Conversation about Marriages, Families and Relationships.  
2007. Kelly J. Welch.

#### Nature of the Course:

This course will explore the principles, processes, and key concepts involved in mate selection and marriage. During the course, we will discuss economic, cultural and demographic factors which influence diverse families, differences in interaction from an international perspective, issues of courtship and interaction in intimate relationships, and both functional and dysfunctional marital relationships. We will also consider how changes in the natural environment impact families worldwide.

Honesty Code: The Auburn University Student Academic Honesty Code (SGA code of Laws TITLE XII) applies in this class.

#### Grading

Your grade in this course will be determined by the scores you receive on exams, quizzes, and out-of-class assignments.

Quizzes There will be at least 5 pop (unannounced) quizzes given during the semester. Each quiz will be worth 10 points. You may drop your two lowest grades if you take all of the quizzes, but NO MAKE-UPS will be given. Quizzes will be multiple choice and you will need scantrons and a number 2 pencil for these. You should have scantrons with you each class day.

Out-of class assignments: You will need to complete two reaction papers worth 10 points each. At least one of these papers should be related to how global issues of sustainability and/or the changing environment impact families around the world, and one should be about diversity issues (both can be on sustainability if you prefer). Each of these assignments will be worth 10 points. At least one of the papers will involve attending an event on campus and writing a reaction paper to that event. I will email you about these opportunities. Other opportunities will include reading newspaper, magazine or other resources related to the above topics. I will provide more information on this possibility as the semester progresses. To get credit for these assignments, you must attend the event announced (or read the article) and write a 1 1/2-page typed reaction to the event or paper. The first third of the paper should describe the event/paper, the second 3rd should tie it in to class material, and the final 3rd should be your personal reaction. Your personal reaction should go beyond whether or not you liked it - it should include some thoughtful comments about it. I will NOT accept these assignments by email. You must turn in hard copies. There will be two due dates. I also will not accept them earlier than the due date. If you turn them in late, I will deduct 1 point for each day of the week they are late.

Exams: There will be three exams worth 100 points each and a comprehensive final worth also worth 100 points. Exams will consist of multiple choice questions, and possibly short answer and short essay. You will need scantrons, and number 2 pencils for these exams. You can drop the lowest of your first 3 test scores, but, with rare exceptions, NO MAKE-UP exams will be given UNLESS you miss TWO exams and have University-approved excuses for BOTH exams. These excuses MUST be provided to me within ONE WEEK of the second missed exam. University-approved excuses are defined in the Tiger Cub. Students should contact me via email or phone prior to missing the exam unless it is absolutely impossible to do so. Students must provide me with a written excuses on the day they return to class. Make-up exams will be given at a time agreed upon between the professor and the student. Students who do not show up at the agreed upon time for the make-up exam will not be allowed to schedule ! another exam unless they have an approved excuse for missing the make-up. Academic honesty as defined by the Tiger Cub is expected and will be enforced. Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be allowed. Students who are suspected of violating the codes of academic honesty will be reported to the academic honesty committee.

Final exam: University policy requires that the final exam be given during the officially designated time period. Requests to change the time or date of the final exam must be approved by your Dean's office (for Human Science majors, a form is available in 266 Spidle). The final will be comprehensive and ALL students must take the final.

Extra Credit: You may earn up to 5 points of extra credit in the class. These extra credit points can come from attending the CHS convocation on September 6 at 4 pm in Ballroom A of the Dixon Hotel and Conference Center. This is the one "for-sure" opportunity for this semester. There may possibly be others, but don't count on it! In any case, you can accrue no more than 5 points.

2 test grades @ 100 points each = 200 points  
final exam @ 100 points = 100 points  
3 or more quizzes @ 10 points each = 30 or more points  
2 reaction papers @ 10 points each = 20 points  
Total for required assignments = 350 or more points

Any extra credit would then be added to the total number of points you have (so up to 5 points added to 350)

Overall grades will be determined as:  
A = 90% and above      D = 60-69%  
B = 80-89%              F = 59% and below.  
C = 70-79%

Accommodations for students with disabilities Students who need special accommodations should make an appointment to discuss the Accommodations Memo (issued by the Program for Students with Disabilities) with me as soon as possible. If you do not have and Accommodation memo but need special accommodations, contact Dr. Kelly Haynes at the Program for Students with Disabilities, 11244 Haley Center, 844-5943. It is the student's responsibility to get the memo and schedule a time with me to discuss the memo well in

advance of when accommodation will be required.

#### Fingerprinting

By Alabama law, all HDFS students, as well as all students from other majors who work with children, youth, adolescents, and the elderly, in either paid or voluntary basis are required to have criminal background checks and be fingerprinted. Forms may be obtained from Jayne Kucera in the HDFS office.

#### Insurance

Effective January 2001, all HDFS students enrolled in this course are required to have Student Professional Liability Insurance. The fee for this insurance (\$14.50) will be assessed to your Bursar bill. Students in curricula other than HDFS are strongly encouraged to purchase Student Professional Liability Insurance if they are not already covered by a similar policy. To purchase this insurance, see Geri Murray, located in Glanton House. It is each student's responsibility to purchase this insurance.

#### Auburn University E-mail Accounts

As you may know, the University has implemented a policy that university e-mail accounts will be an official medium for communication with students. Because of this policy, students must activate their email accounts and check them regularly. Furthermore, your university email account will also be used as a means of communicating information or changes that may occur throughout the semester in this class. I expect you all to check your email.

#### Class Attendance/Conduct

Students are encouraged to attend all classes. Class lectures will cover both material that is in the textbook and some that is not in the textbook. Students are expected to arrive on time and remain for the entire class period. Cell phones, pagers, etc must be turned to OFF or Silent during the class. No cell phones or other electronic items may be out during quizzes or exams!

#### Diversity Statement:

Auburn University is committed to providing a working and academic environment free from discrimination and harassment and to fostering a nurturing and vibrant community founded upon the fundamental dignity and worth of all its members.

#### Students Needing Special Accommodations:

Any student needing special accommodations should contact Dr. Kelly Haynes, Director of the Program for Students with Disabilities, located in 1232 Haley Center. Those students documented as eligible by Dr. Haynes will be appropriately accommodated.

#### Note to all HDFS Majors Enrolled in This Class:

All HDFS students enrolled in this course are required to have Student Professional Liability Insurance. The fee for this insurance (\$14.50) will be assessed on your Fall semester Bursar's bill. Students in curricula other than HDFS are strongly encouraged to purchase Student Professional Liability Insurance if they are not already covered by a similar policy. To purchase this insurance, see Geri Murray, located in Glanton House (the second brick building on the Haley Center concourse). It is each student's responsibility to purchase this insurance.

Tentative Exam Schedule - this is subject to change!!!

Exam 1: September 13; chapters 1-4

Exam 2: October 16; chapters 5-9;

Exam 3: November 13 chapters 10-14

Exam 4: Finals week chapters 15-16 and highlights of other chapters (comprehensive)

Reaction Paper Due dates: Oct 23 and November 15.

Chapter titles:

Chapter 1: Family Life Now (characteristics of families today)

Chapter 2: Family Contexts: The Many Areas of Family Life (economic, religious, government and environmental contexts)

Chapter 3: Understanding Families through Research and Theory

Chapter 4: Family Communication and Conflict

Chapter 5: Gender in Today's Society

Chapter 6: Intimacy: Developing and Experiencing Affectionate Bonds

Chapter 7: Love and Loving

Chapter 8: The Path to Commitment: Attraction, Dating and Partnering

Chapter 9: Coupling from Singlehood to Marriage

Chapter 10: You, Sex, and Sexuality

Chapter 11: The Choices and Challenges of Childbearing

Chapter 12: Parenting: Choices, Challenges, and Changes

Chapter 13: Uncoupling: Relationship Deterioration and Divorce

Chapter 14: Rebuilding: Family Life Following Divorce

Chapter 15: Family Change: Stress, Crisis, and Transition

Chapter 16: Family Life and Aging