

**SOC 272: Sociology of the Family  
Spring 2022**

**Instructor: Jorlanditha Austin**

**Email :** jorlanditha.austin@rutgers.edu

**Student Hours :** Wednesday 9-10 A.M. or by appointment

**Location for office hours :**

<https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/93760085411?pwd=eGN1ZUloYVExY0hQdTVtK1hsSnhmUT09>

**Online Lecture Zoom Link:**

<https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/9275985531?pwd=T1I2dVgvMTlrSUgvQU1MbXo3ckhhQT09>

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course examines one of the most important institutions in social life and an institution with which we all have experience and familiarity – the family. We will look at the family from a sociological perspective. The goal of this course is to teach you how (not what) to think about the family as a public and private social institution. Families are where we spend much of our private lives, however families also serve important societal functions and are shaped by public perception, social conventions, and laws. During the semester we will examine major themes studied by sociologists of the family. We start the course with a discussion of what family means including an examination of historical trends and changes that led to a current form of Western families. We then spend substantial time examining how the most significant structures of social inequality (social class, race/ethnicity, gender) affect family lives. Next, we explore sexuality, partnerships, marriage, parenting, and divorce with a particular focus on gender inequality in marriage and struggles with work-family balance. Finally, we will conclude the semester by discussing family-related social policies and social change.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. explain the historical perspective of the changing family structure and function
- B. identify the social forces that are the most important influences on the development and change in the structure and function of the family today.

**REQUIRED TEXT**

The Family: Diversity, Inequality, and Social Change, 3rd Edition by Philip N. Cohen, published by Norton with the access code to InQuizitive. Please see the CANVAS site for information on the materials and how to purchase.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Make sure you do the readings and quizzes through our Canvas site NOT directly through the textbook. Otherwise, the quizzes won't count in your grade!!

**Course Website**

Canvas will be used as our course management tool. You can find our course at <https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/16253.3> Here you will find the syllabus, zoom links, videos, readings, and assignment instructions. (everything you need for class).

You can find resources on how to use Canvas at: <https://canvas.rutgers.edu/students/getting-started-in-canvas-students/>

There is also a section for Frequently asked questions at: <https://canvas.rutgers.edu/students/faq-students/>

Finally, please be sure to configure your Canvas account so that it sends messages, announcements, emails, etc. to an email address that you check at least daily. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are reading messages that are sent to the class.

### **COURSE STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS**

1. Textbook devised quizzes on the chapter due each week at noon on the day I first lecture on the materials. These quizzes are designed for you to be able to get 100%.
2. Two multiple-choice tests based primarily on the lecture material, but they will also include some information from the textbook. They will each be worth 25%, for a total of 50%. I will provide a review sheet and hold review opportunities before each of the tests.
3. To keep the class time engaging and interactive, I will have “quizzes” and short writing activities during some of the lectures. These interactions need to be completed by the end of the class.

In-Class Participation	120
Chapter Quizzes	130
Midterm	125
<u>Final exam</u>	<u>125</u>
500 points total	

### **Class meetings and Participation**

Our class is a face-to-face class. This means that you will be expected to participate (I.E., TALK). Class is much more interesting when I am not talking at you, but we are engaging dialogue and applying what we are learning to real life situations. I will ask you for examples, feedback, and we will create classroom sessions based on your interests from the readings.

This course will apply a flipped-classroom design. This means that it is imperative that you complete all required readings (or videos, etc.) in the module. Lecture will allow for review of key concepts, answer questions, and complete in-class assignments. In-class participation assignments must be turned in **by the end of the class** to receive credit.

### **Exams**

There will be two exams in this course worth 150 points each: a midterm and a final. The exams may use multiple choice, T/F, matching, or categorization questions. These are designed to test knowledge and *comprehension*; therefore, questions require recall and application of material. Questions will cover material from assigned readings and lectures. Exam dates are noted in the

course schedule. The final exam is NOT comprehensive and will cover modules completed after Spring Break. Exams will be given during the assigned class period.

### **Final Grade**

Final grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

A	=	400 – 500 Points
B+	=	370 – 399 Points
B	=	300 – 370 Points
C+	=	270 – 299 Points
C	=	200 – 269 Points
D	=	100 – 199 Points
F	=	000 – 099 Points

All grades are final. Please do not ask to have your grade changed for reasons other than mathematical error. Applying subjective standards after the fact invalidates the standards applied to the entire class and is unfair to every student.

### **Policy on grade appeals**

Any appeals must be submitted in writing *within 7 days* after the assignment/exam has been returned to the instructor. You must have read all comments left by the grader and asked for clarification on any of those comments prior to asking for an appeal. Grade appeals will be returned within 7 days of the request.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

### **Keeping up with class**

All assignments, correspondence, updates, etc. will be updated on Canvas and via email. I ask that you follow the syllabus and keep up with the weekly tasks. Be sure to check your email and PLEASE READ the emails that I send. *I are unable to help with technological issues.*

### **Accommodations**

If you require accommodations, please let me know within the **first two weeks** of the semester, or as soon as you have accommodation documentation. This can include academic accommodations as well as anticipated absences. This allows me to create those accommodations within Canvas quickly.

Students with documented disabilities who need accommodations in this class must do so through the [Rutgers Disabilities Services Office](https://ods.rutgers.edu/) (<https://ods.rutgers.edu/>). You can also speak with a SC&I adviser about your disability by [contacting the Office of Student Services](#) by phone 848-932-7550 or email [sciss@comminfo.rutgers.edu](mailto:sciss@comminfo.rutgers.edu).

“It is University policy (University Regulation on Attendance, Book 2, 2.47B, formerly 60.14f) to excuse without penalty students who are absent from class because of religious observance, and to allow the make-up of work missed because of such absence.

Examinations and special required out-of-class activities shall ordinarily not be scheduled on those days when religiously observant students refrain from participating in secular activities. Absences for reasons of religious obligation shall not be counted for purposes of reporting. Students are advised to provide timely notification to instructors about necessary absences for religious observances and are responsible for making up the work or exams according to an agreed-upon schedule.”

### **Late Work**

Unless arrangements have been made, in-class participation assignments **will not be accepted** after the due date

### **Personal Emergencies**

If you experience an unavoidable personal situation that prevents you from completing work on time, you must take responsibility for informing your instructor prior to the date the work is due. A failure to contact your instructor prior to the due date will result in the application of the late assignment policy described above. Extensions will ONLY be granted for *substantiated and documented emergencies*. Make-up exams are scheduled ONLY in cases of *documented and unavoidable conflicts*.

### **Email**

I frequently use email as a means for getting in touch with the entire class. It is important that you have a working email address and that the email address that is registered with Canvas is one that you check daily.

I check emails daily during the work week (M-F, 9-5 p.m.). Please give me 24 – 48 hours to respond before emailing again; please anticipate that email turnaround will be longer over weekends and holidays.

When emailing please include the course number (SOC 272) in the subject line. We ask that you maintain a professional demeanor in correspondence.

You are welcome to email me at any time. However, I may suggest that we can better address your question via office hours. **I do not discuss grades over email**. Also, I am happy to help you understand specific concepts. Please write to me with specific questions about graded assignments or with specific questions from the lectures. I am unable to cover the entirety of a lecture during office hours.

If you actually read this far into the syllabus, I appreciate you! I am a big stickler on reading the things that I send out carefully, because you never know when there may be a hint for your benefit. So, please send me an email, by Jan 19 prior to class, with the subject line: SOC 272: I understood the assignment. Put your name in the body and you automatically get 5 points extra credit to start off the semester. Don't leak the information to your classmates because this is an assignment of paying attention to details 😊.

### **Important Note About Course Announcements**

Course announcements will be posted in our site regularly. To receive copies of these through email, make sure that you have your email notification settings turned on for announcements.

- Click on “Account” in the Global Navigation (the red bar on the left)
- Click on “Notifications”
- Ensure that the preference for Announcement is set to ‘Notify me right away.’
- Guide for Students: <https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Student-Guide/How-do-I-set-my-Canvas-notification-preferences-as-a-student/ta-p/434>

### **DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

The Rutgers Sociology Department strives to create an environment that supports and affirms diversity in all manifestations, including race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, social class, disability status, region/country of origin, and political orientation. We also celebrate diversity of theoretical and methodological perspectives among our faculty and students and seek to create an atmosphere of respect and mutual dialogue. We have zero tolerance for violations of these principles and have instituted clear and respectful procedures for responding to such grievances.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Rutgers University takes academic dishonesty very seriously. By enrolling in this course, you assume responsibility for familiarizing yourself with the Academic Integrity Policy and the possible penalties (including suspension and expulsion) for violating the policy. As per the policy, all suspected violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to):

- Cheating
- Plagiarism
- Aiding others in committing a violation or allowing others to use your work
- Failure to cite sources correctly
- Fabrication
- Using another person’s ideas or words without attribution–re-using a previous assignment
- Unauthorized collaboration
- Sabotaging another student’s work in doubt, please consult the instructor

Please review the academic integrity policy at: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>. Further, the Rutgers honor pledge will be included on all (major) assessments for you to sign: On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination (assignment).

### **STUDENT-WELLNESS SERVICES**

#### **Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)**

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/

<http://health.rutgers.edu/medical-counseling-services/counseling/>

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professionals within Rutgers Health services to support students’ efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of

services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community, and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Crisis Intervention : <http://health.rutgers.edu/medical-counseling-services/counseling/crisis-intervention/>

Report a Concern: <http://health.rutgers.edu/do-something-to-help/>

### **Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)**

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / [www.vpva.rutgers.edu/](http://www.vpva.rutgers.edu/)

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

### **Disability Services**

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

**\*\*Course content is subject to change as needed\*\***

<b>Wk</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Course Topic</b>	<b>Please complete these readings BEFORE lecture</b>	<b>Assignment Due Sunday before class</b>
1	1/19	Introduction to Class, Technology, and Each Other Who is a Family?	1) Syllabus 2) <i>Start reading Chapters 1 and 2</i>	
2	1/24 & 1/26	<b>ONLINE CLASS MEETING</b> Sociology of the Family The Family in History	3) Chapter 1 (Monday) 4) Chapter 2 (Wednesday)	<b>InQuizitive for Chapter 1 and 2 due 11:59 P.M.</b>

3	1/31 & 2/2	Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration	1) Chapter 3 (Monday)	<b>InQuizitive for Chapter 3 due 11:59 P.M.</b>
4	2/7 & 2/9	Families and Social Class	1) Chapter 4 (Monday)	<b>InQuizitive for Chapter 4 due 11:59 P.M.</b>
5	2/14 & 2/16	Gender	1) Chapter 5 (Monday)	<b>InQuizitive for Chapter 5 due 11:59 P.M.</b>
6	2/21 & 2/23	Sexuality	1) Chapter 6 (Monday)	<b>InQuizitive for Chapter 6 due 11:59 P.M.</b>
7	2/28 & 3/2	Love and Romantic Relationships	1) Chapter 7 (Monday)	<b>InQuizitive for Chapter 7 due 11:59 P.M.</b>
8	3/7 & 3/9	<b>Exam Review and MIDTERM</b>	1) Exam Review (Monday) 2) Midterm (Wednesday)	
9	3/12-3/20		<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
10	3/21 & 3/23	Marriage and Cohabitation	1) Chapter 8 (Monday)	<b>InQuizitive for Chapter 8 due 11:59 P.M.</b>
11	3/28 & 3/30	Families and Children Work and Families	1) Chapter 9 (Monday)	<b>InQuizitive for Chapter 9 due 11:59 P.M.</b>
12	4/4 & 4/6	Divorce, Remarriage, and Blended Families	1) Chapter 10 (Monday)	<b>InQuizitive for Chapter 10 due 11:59 P.M.</b>
13	4/11 & 4/13	Work and Families	1) Chapter 11 (Monday)	<b>InQuizitive for Chapter 11 due 11:59 P.M.</b>
14	4/18 & 4/20	Family Violence	1) Chapter 12 (Monday)	<b>InQuizitive for Chapter 12 due 11:59 P.M.</b>
15	4/25 & 4/27	The Future of Family	1) Chapter 13 (Monday)	<b>InQuizitive for Chapter 13 due 11:59 P.M.</b>
16	5/2, 5/4, & 5/11	<b>Final Exam Review Reading Day FINAL EXAM</b>	1) Exam Review (Monday) 2) NO CLASS WEDNESDAY 3) Wednesday, May 11 12-3	