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Sociology of the Family

Readings: Articles will be uploaded to Blackboard

All assignments and requirements are listed under Course Materials for each week.

COURSE POLICIES

-This class is designed to be interactive and it is important for everyone to finish all readings and assignments during the assigned week, which serves as the equivalent of class attendance. This course will cover many interesting topics, some of which you may already have information and opinions about. The discussion board and interactive assignments should be a place where everyone feels comfortable to express their views and reactions to the course material in a non-threatening and supportive environment. According to Hunter College policy, acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) are regarded as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The college is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures. Commercial and non-commercial devices may be used to prevent and detect some forms of plagiarism and to educate and promote student commitment to academic integrity.

Course Learning Objectives: This course looks at how we define family in society. We will look critically at the different types of families and how certain types of families are privileged over others. We will explore how issues of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and religion affect the ways that ideas of families are constructed. These issues will be covered through assigned readings, class lectures, small group work, Internet/media assignments and class discussion. There are three learning objectives of this course:

1. **CONTENT-** You will learn about different families and experiences through the readings and lectures that show the great diversity that exists. This includes understanding our own lives through the lens of sociology.
2. **CRITICAL THINKING/APPLICATION-** You will be challenged to think about how our ideas about families are shaped by norms of society. You will apply them to various aspects of family that we cover through readings, class discussions and exercises.
3. **RESEARCH SKILLS/TECHNOLOGY-** You will learn research skills, including how to access academic peer-reviewed library databases and conduct your own observations. You will use different sources such as news/media sources and academic sources. You will learn how to use various technological tools including Blackboard.

Your grades are based on the following point system

1) Weekly Readings/Assignments	25 pts each week/ 100 pts total/ (50% of grade)
2) Research Paper	50 pts (25% of grade)
3) Final Exam	50 pts (25% of grade)