Bemidji State University

SOC 3300: Family and Society

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 0
Lab Hours/Week: 0
OJT Hours/Week: *.*
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

After a brief introduction to basic sociological concepts, frameworks, methods, and relevant historical materials, students examine several documents that address particular contemporary family issues. Students also learn how to evaluate the materials discussed. [Core Curriculum Goal Area 5]

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 01/14/2013 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. This course presents a sociological examination of the development of the family as a social institution. We will examine core theories and research methods in the sociological analysis of the family, with an emphasis on mate selection problems, courtship, marriage, child-parent relationships, and the economy and family work, largely in the context of the United States. In the latter half of the course we will explore how family dynamics interact with globalized, historical, and cultural dynamics in the other parts of the world.
2. differentiate among theoretical concepts associated with micro, meso, and macro levels of social processes within the family.
3. specify how social class and the political and economic institutions have affected one another over the course of U.S. history.
4. summarize the historical and contemporary mechanisms resulting in the development of the family institution.
5. compare the early and modern explanations for the emergence of the family institution.
6. discuss the strengths and weaknesses of contemporary theories of family.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus
G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted