

SYLLABUS
PART I
EDISON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SOC 225S MARRIAGE AND FAMILY RELATIONS
3 CREDIT HOURS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Study of family structures and functions, or dysfunctions, sex/gender roles, relationships between marriage partners and among family members, and the relationship between family and society. Prerequisite: SOC 121S.

COURSE GOALS

The student will:

Bloom's Level		Program Outcomes
3	1. Apply the terminology that describes different types of family structures.	1, 6
2	2. Describe the functions of the family.	1, 6
2	3. Discuss the importance of scientific research in the area of the family and the research methods used in family studies.	1, 6
4	4. Compare the theoretical frameworks which are the foundations of research on the family.	1, 3, 6
2	5. Cite the developmental history of marriage and the family.	1, 6
4	6. Compare and contrast the current research on variables which affect marital sexual adjustment.	3, 6
2	7. Distinguish the social meanings given to the gender differences between men and women.	5, 6
3	8. Relate love, its emotional component, the different kinds of love with theories explaining some of its aspects.	1, 6
4	9. Explain the many social factors affecting the selection of a marriage partner, the social functions of dating, singlehood, gay relationships, and of cohabiting.	1, 2, 4, 6
4	10. Connect sexual scripts, the cultural and learned components of human sexuality, the sexual response cycles, sexuality in context of relationships (premarital, marital, and extramarital), sexual preference, sexual dysfunctions, and sexually transmitted diseases and contraception issues.	1, 2, 4, 6
3	11. Relate marriage as a dynamic process with new roles and family life cycles as they change over time.	1, 2, 6
4	12. Compare the role of economics to the family and the quality of family life.	1, 2, 6
2	13. Describe recent issues regarding parenthood and child rearing.	1, 2, 6
3	14. Relate family dynamics and the role of non-verbal communication, communication skills, self-disclosure, conflict within intimate relationships, and types of conflict and ways of resolving them.	1, 2, 5, 6

4	15. Analyze family violence and abuse.	1, 6
4	16. Analyze the major causes of divorce and the effects of divorce on children.	1, 6
4	17. Explain how individuals adjust to divorce.	1, 6

CORE VALUES

The Core Values are a set of principles that guide in creating educational programs and environments at Edison. They include communication, ethics, critical thinking, human diversity, inquiry/respect for learning, and interpersonal skills/teamwork. The goals, objectives, and activities in this course will introduce/reinforce these Core Values whenever appropriate.

TOPIC OUTLINE

1. The Meaning of Marriage and the Family
2. American Marriages and Families: Past and Present
3. Studying Marriage and the Family
4. Contemporary Gender Roles
5. Love, Romance, and Intimacy
6. Pairing and Singlehood
7. Sexual Learning and Behavior
8. Sexuality and Relationships
9. The Family Life Cycle
10. Parents and Children
11. Marriage, Work, and Economics
12. Communication and Conflict Resolution
13. Inside Families
14. Family Dysfunctions: Violence and Abuse
15. Coming Apart: Separation and Divorce
16. Coming Together: New Lives, New Families