

**BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**  
**Western University**  
**2013-2014**

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**SOCIOLOGY 2235 (530)**  
**SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY**

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**Dr. Helene A. Cummins**  
**Phone 519 432-8353 x 28055**  
**Office: Portable Room 7**  
**Office Hours: Mon 9:00 – 10:00**

**Lectures: Tuesday 8:30-11:30 in Room BR-18**

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**Course Description**

This full-credit course is designed to develop a sociological awareness of the dynamics of the Canadian family. The modern day family has changed significantly over the years. This course examines sociological theories and concerns linked to the institution of the family. How do we choose our mates? How do we raise children? Do children make couples happy? How do we negotiate finances and differences in the family? These questions and issues of socialization, alternative family structures, divorce, family violence and the aging family form the base from that which we focus our analyses.

**Learning Objectives**

On successful completion of this course students will

- understand the various complexities of family and the methods used to study them
- be familiar with the diverse family forms and functions to be found in family
- perceive the challenges of age, gender, sex, class, race and ethnicity as they intersect in families
- evaluate the complexity of family interaction as family members move in and out of each others lives
- learn to become better family members and occupy family roles that unify and segment human relationships

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### **Course Prerequisites**

Soc 1020 or 1021E, or enrolment in the Honors Specialization, Major or Minor module in Family Studies, or the Honors Specialization or Major Module in Childhood and Family Relations or Year 2 of the “old” Childhood and Family Relations Program.

Unless you have either the requisites of this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustments to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

### **Course Textbooks**

You are required to purchase the texts and maintain the required readings.

Baker, Maureen (Ed.) 2009. Families: Changing Trends in Canada. Sixth Edition. Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson Ltd.

Fox, Bonnie (Ed.) 2009. Family Patterns: Gender Relations. Third Edition. Canada: Oxford University Press.

### **Course Evaluation**

Midterm Examination 1	20%
Midterm Examination 2	20%
Group Assignment	30%
Final Examination	30%

There will not be any make-up examinations nor extra work for the purpose of improving grades. Missed lectures and any material given in class are the responsibility of the student, not the professor. The course involves a large commitment of student participation and reading on your own. You are advised to attend to every lecture and view every media presentation. Audio visual presentations cannot be arranged to be seen at a later date as they involve booking equipment and costs for media rental.

This course involves student thought and participation during class time. The classroom is a place where we respect the views of others as we discuss sociology. Many sensitive issues will arise during these discussions therefore, it is incumbent that each student respect their classmates during discussion times. Also, since the course covers a breadth of material, in some cases discussion may be limited or curtailed as time allots. My classroom is a place where order is maintained and respect is paramount for all those within its walls.

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Please be aware that cell phones are not to be used in the university classroom and should be turned off when inside the classroom. Texting in-class is also not acceptable. In addition, laptop computers are to be used only for the purpose of taking notes in the classroom.

Any inquiry with regards to a mark on an exam or assignment will not be given via email for reasons of confidentiality. I prefer personal and face-to-face student interaction and/or phone contact for better communication.

### **Topic and Reading Schedule**

<b>Week of</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>
September 10	General Introduction	
September 17	Variations & Trends in the Family	Chapt. 1 Baker
September 24	Theories of the Family	Chapt. 2 Baker
October 1	Theories of the Family	Chapt. 2 Baker
October 8	Methods of Family Sociology	
October 15	Social & Economic Origins of the Family	Chapt. 3 Baker
October 22	Work & Family Structure	Chapt. 6 Baker
October 29	<b>Midterm Examination #1</b>	
November 5	Reproductive & Genetic Technology	
November 12	Families & Ethnicity	Chapt. 7 Baker
November 19	Choosing A Mate & Marriage	Chapt. 4 Baker
November 26	Raising/Socializing Children	Chapt. 5 Baker
December 3	Adolescence & the Family	
January 7	Midlife & Aging Families	Chapt. 11 Baker
January 14	Undoing the Family	Chapt. 8 Baker
January 21	Families with Violence	Chapt. 9 Baker

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<b>January 28</b>	<b>Midterm Examination #2</b>	
February 4	Family Policies	Chapt. 10 Baker
February 11	Rural Farm Families	
February 18	<b>Reading Week</b>	
February 25	Groups 1,2, 3, 4	
March 4	Groups 5,6, 7, 8	
March 11	Groups 9,10, 11,12	
March 18	Groups 13, 14	
March 25	The Future of the Family	Chapt. 12 Baker

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## BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

### 1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> . If it is not possible to have an SMC completed by the attending physician/nurse practitioner, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. All documentation is to be submitted to an Academic Advisor.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full statement of University policy regarding extensions of deadlines or makeup exams can be found at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2013/pg117.html>

### 2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, [www.registrar.uwo.ca](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca), for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

### 3. ABSENCES

**Short Absences:** If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

**Extended Absences:** If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

### 4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

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Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

### **Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

### **Computer-marked Tests/exams:**

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

## **5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS**

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar.

## **6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES**

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

## **7. SUPPORT SERVICES**

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at [http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar\\_services/index.html](http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar_services/index.html) . The Western Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

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Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.

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