

**FAMILY STUDIES 1015A, SECTION 530
FALL 2015**

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

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Office:

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Office hours: Thursday 5:30 PM – 6:20 PM or by appointment

Class time/room: Thursday 6:30 PM – 9:30PM / BR 18

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Intimate relationships, like those found between marital or dating partners, are examined from a social science perspective, looking at love, mate selection, attachment, loneliness, conflict, relationship dissolution, and factors contributing to successful long-term relationships. Other close relationships also are considered, such as those between friends or parents and children.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of terminology, concepts, and theories associated with studying intimate relationships.
2. Be able to identify and explain how relationships form and are maintained.
3. Recognize dysfunctional communication patterns and be able to describe corrective measures.
4. Be able to identify and discuss communication methods and patterns that affect relationships.
5. Discuss the impact of interdependency and reflect upon one's own attitudes and values regarding relationships.
6. Explain the nature of friendship across the adult life cycle.
7. Identify and explain the similarities and differences between various types of love.
8. Summarize the role of sexuality, including attitudes and behaviours as they relate to intimate relationships across the adult life cycle.
9. Recognize and distinguish between the various types of stressors and strains within intimate and close relationships.

10. Identify the nature, course and outcomes of conflict in close relationships.
11. Recognize and describe the differences between conflict and power & violence.
12. Identify and describe factors that contribute to the dissolution and loss of intimate relationships, as well as identify the factors that maintain and enhance intimate relationships.

REQUIRED TEXTS

De Becker, G. (1998). *The Gift of Fear: Survival Signals that Protect Us from Violence*, Dell Publishing Company, ISBN 9780440508830

Miller, R. (2015). *Intimate Relationships*, Seventh Edition. McGraw Hill Ryerson. ISBN 9780077861803

E-MAIL

I will not be answering questions regarding course material (e.g., definitions of concepts, differences between theoretical perspectives, etc.) via e-mail. I find that these types of questions are best answered by meeting in person. Please use e-mail for addressing administrative issues about the course and arranging to meet with me. I will do my best to respond to e-mail messages within 24 hours. Please use your UWO email account.

OFFICE HOURS

Please do not hesitate to come to see me during my office hours. I am here to help with any questions you might have. This time not only serves as a great way to clarify understandings of the course material, but I also enjoy talking with students about sociology and family studies in general; educational pursuits; and career aspirations. If you are unable to make it to my office hours please contact me so that we can arrange a mutually agreed upon time.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

Please respect your classmates and your instructor during our time together. To help and encourage everyone to stay focussed and on-track, please keep cell phones turned off and put away, avoid whispering with your neighbours, and please use computers only for class related activities. If there is a problem with classroom conduct you may be asked to leave for the duration of the lecture.

Please note that given the nature of this course and possible disclosure of personal information and/or issues, recording devices will not be allowed for any portion of the lectures. Please refrain from sharing others personal information when outside of the classroom forum. This will be discussed further during the first day of the course.

This class will allow many opportunities for class interaction and discussions. I encourage and welcome your active participation.

LEARNING RESOURCES

Taking a vested interest in ones learning is a key to academic success. Some of the specific things that you can do to help with learning in this course and others include: (1) Regularly attending class; (2) Staying on top of your readings; (3) Keeping good lecture and reading notes; (4) Participating in the applied learning exercises; (5) Meeting with your professor during office hours when you need extra help or would like to discuss the course material on a more sustained basis; and, (6) Staying organized and on top of your assignment(s), and developing and executing good study habits (e.g., reviewing your material on a regular basis).

ASSIGNMENTS / GRADES

The policies governing requests for accommodation for course components worth 10% or more of the course grade are outlined in the Academic Policies section included at the end of the course outline (i.e., exam makeups and late assignments are only possible with permission from an academic advisor, normally given only with documentation of a medical or personal emergency).

A+ 90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A 80-89	Superior work, which is clearly above average
B 70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C 60-69	Competent work, meeting all requirements
D 50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F below 50	Fail

Note: The instructor, if needed may amend this syllabus.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING STRUCTURE

<u>Course Requirements</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Mid-Term Exam 1	October 8	25%
Mid-Term Exam 2	November 12	25%
Presentation	As assigned	15%
Final Exam	December 11-22 Date set by Registrar	35%

Mid-Term Exam 1 & 2 (25% each)

The format of the in-class mid-term exams will be short answer and multiple choice questions based on **all course-related material** including assigned readings, class lecture material, class discussions, student presentations and guest presentations.

Group Presentation (15%)

There are a total of 14 groups with each group consisting of 5 group members. In the syllabus, your group number identifies which date you are presenting on as well as the chapter you are responsible for presenting from De Becker's book.

Presentation requirements and grading rubric will be discussed at the first class and subsequently posted to OWL.

Final Exam (35%)

The **cumulative** final exam will include multiple choice, and short answer questions. Although the exam is cumulative, there will be a greater emphasis on the material covered from November 12th to December 3, 2015.

NOTE: All supplementary course material (e.g. guest speakers, videos, class discussions) is subject to testing on any exam.

COURSE POLICIES

Materials on OWL

OWL will be used in this course. Lecture material will be posted on OWL before class. This material is intended only as a guide to the class/course content and should not be considered as a substitute for class attendance.

Slides should not be considered sufficient enough for studying for examination purposes. Reading assigned chapters in full is the expectation for examination purposes.

Missed Assignments / Exams

Students, who fail to appear for an examination as indicated in the class schedule, will not be allowed to write a make-up examination unless the steps detailed below for academic accommodation have been followed.

Similarly, missed assignments may not be made up later and will result in the reduction of marks unless you receive academic accommodation through an Academic Advisor.

There will not be any make-up examinations or extra work for the purpose of improving grades.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Readings
Sept. 10	Course Introduction Choosing of presentation groups, 5 students per The Building Blocks of Relationships (Miller)	Chapter 1
Sept. 17	Attraction (Miller) In the Presence of Danger (De Becker)	Chapter 3 Chapter 1
Sept. 24	Communication (Miller) Group 2 (De Becker)	Chapter 5
Oct. 1	Interdependency (Miller) Groups 3, 4 (De Becker)	Chapter 6
Oct. 8	Friendship (Miller) and GUEST SPEAKER Exam (25%) in first hour of class in auditorium CH 1, 3, 5, 6 from Miller and CH 1 De Becker plus Presentations from G 2, 3, 4	Chapter 7
Oct. 15	Love (Miller) Groups 5, 6 (De Becker)	Chapter 8
Oct. 22	Sexuality (Miller) and GUEST SPEAKER Group 7 (De Becker)	Chapter 9
Oct. 29	No Class: fall study break	
Nov. 5	Stresses & Strains (Miller) Groups 8, 9 (De Becker)	Chapter 10
Nov. 12	Conflict (Miller) Exam (25%) in first hour of class in auditorium CH 7, 8, 9, 10 from Miller and Presentations from G 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	Chapter 11
Nov. 19	Power & Violence (Miller) G 10, 11 (De Becker)	Chapter 12

Date	Topic	Readings
Nov.26	Dissolution & Loss of Relationships (Miller) G 12, 13 (De Becker)	Chapter 13
Dec. 3	Maintaining & Repairing Relationships (Miller) G 14, 15 (De Becker) Exam Review	Chapter 14
	Last class	
Dec.11- 22	Final Exam (35%) Cumulative Exam but CH 11, 12, 13, 14 from Miller and G 10, 11, 12, 12, 14, 15 are weighted more heavily Written during the final exam period. Date and location set by the Office of the Registrar	

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/2015/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 workload 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, 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

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

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 might 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://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. The Western Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.html>. 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.

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.