



# UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

**Spring 2020**

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

COURSE TITLE: SOCIOLOGY OF FAMILIES			
<b>Course Number</b>	SOCI371		
<b>Pre/Co-Requisites</b>	SOCI201		
<b>Instructor Name</b>	Dr. Alyssa Jovanovic	<b>Email</b>	alyssajill.jovanovic@ucalgary.ca
<b>Instructor Email Policy</b>	Feel free to contact me over email at any time. Please put your course number and section in your email's subject line, and include a proper salutation, your full name, student ID, and a proper closing in the body of your email. All other emails will be answered within one business day. I do not answer emails over the weekend. Please take that into account when emailing me questions pertaining to assignments or exams. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline first. <u>Questions that can be answered by consulting the course outline will not be answered.</u>		
<b>Office Location</b>	Virtual	<b>Office Hours</b>	As needed – Please email to set up a time to meet virtually or send me questions via email.
<b>Class Dates</b>	May 6 2020 – June 17 2020		
<b>Class Times</b>	Asynchronous Course Delivery – Weekly lectures loaded onto D2L every Monday morning		
<b>Class Location</b>	Online		

## Course Description

This course will help you to think critically about how ‘families’ are constructed and related to wider social structures. We will examine taken-for-granted views of the families, utilize multiple socio-historic lenses to critically analyze diversities in family forms, and engage your sociological imaginations to evaluate post-modern families. We will utilize various conceptual and theoretical tools to explore topics such as life course events, sexuality, dating and family formations, parenting, work/family interface, refugee and indigenous families, intergenerational relations and family transitions. We will also explore issues that can negatively affect family members such as poverty, violence and divorce. Finally, we will evaluate family policies and explore possibilities for future families.

## Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, you are expected to be able to:

- Evaluate and compare different meanings of ‘family’; make connections between historical and modern families; and critically analyze the social and cultural forms of family life.
- Explain why the ‘family’ is such an important unit of analysis; and interpret family trends, forms and processes in modern society.
- Evaluate contemporary sociological explanations for family formation and change.
- Critically analyze policies, theoretical issues and debates on contemporary families.
- Discuss and apply course material to your own family experiences.

## Course Format

This course will be delivered in an asynchronous format. By 9:00 am every Monday I will post the week’s lectures onto D2L. We will also be utilizing D2L’s discussion boards. Here I will post weekly topics for you to discuss the week’s content amongst your peers. These discussions are not part of your grade; however, they can be a valuable asset to your weekly reflection assignments that are graded.

## Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources

There is **one** required text for this course (Albanese, 2018).

Albanese, Patrizia. 2018. *Canadian Families Today: New Perspectives*. 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Edition. Don Mills: Oxford University Press.

Hard copies can be ordered from the University bookstore or from Amazon. E-book access for rent or purchase is also available at: <https://www.redshelf.com/book/829570/canadian-families-today-829570-9780199025770-patrizia-albanese> (Please note prices listed are in US\$)

## Schedule of Lectures and Readings

The expected weekly lecture dates and assigned readings are listed below, although unexpected circumstances may require some changes. Each week, lectures/content will be posted on D2L.

	TOPIC	READING
Week 1 - May 6	Course Introduction	
	<b>1. Conceptualizing Canadian Families</b>	
	Introduction	Albanese, Chap. 1
	Historical and Contemporary Variations	Albanese, Chap. 2
Week 2 – May 11	Same-Sex Marriage	Albanese, Chap. 3
	<b>2. The Life Course</b>	
	Intimacy, Commitment, and Family Formation	Albanese, Chap. 4
	Parenting Young Children	Albanese, Chap. 5
Week 3 – May 18	Families In Middle and Later Life	Albanese, Chap. 7
	<b>3. Family Issues</b>	
	Separation and Divorce	Albanese, Chap. 6
	Marriage and Death Rituals	Albanese, Chap. 8
<b>Week 4 – May 25</b>	<b>TERM TEST #1</b>	<b>Chapters 1-8</b>
Week 4 – May 27	Paid/Unpaid Work	Albanese, Chap. 9
Week 5 – June 1	Family Poverty	Albanese, Chap. 10
	Violence in Families	Albanese, Chap. 14
Week 6 – June 8	Refugee Families	Albanese, Chap. 11
	Indigenous Families	Albanese, Chap. 12
	Lack of Support	Albanese, Chap. 13
	<b>4. Problems, Policies and Predictions</b>	
Week 7 – June 15	Investing in Families and Children	Albanese, Chap. 15
	Future of the Family	Albanese, Chap. 16

## Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

You will be responsible for completing all readings specified in the course outline, as well as all lecture materials (including films, etc.). Exams will cover all material (textbook, slides, videos), and will involve a variety of question types. These may include multiple-choice, true/false, “fill-in-the-blank” and short essay.

The course grade will be determined as follows:

**Midterm Test (May 25 Written online via D2L Quizzes) . . . . . 35 %**  
**Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam (TBA – Written online via D2L Quizzes) . . . . . 35 %**  
**Weekly Reflection Assignments . . . . . 30 %**

### Weekly Reflection Assignments

Each week you will be responsible to answer questions related to the lecture topics/readings presented that week. These questions may require you to watch a video, engage with textbook/slide material, and provide evidence based on your own personal family experiences.

By 9:00 am Monday morning I will upload the weekly assignment to D2L Dropbox. Aside from the first week, you will have ONE WEEK to complete each assignment and submit via D2L Dropbox. I will not accept late submissions via email. Here is a weekly guide for these written assignments:

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Date Available on D2L Dropbox</b>	<b>Date Due on D2L Dropbox</b>
Assignment Week 1	Wednesday May 6 9:00 am	Monday May 11 9:00 Am
Assignment Week 2	Monday May 11 9:00 am	Monday May 18 9:00 am
Assignment Week 3	Monday May 18 9:00 am	Monday May 25 9:00 am
Assignment Week 4	Monday May 25 9:00 am	Monday June 1 9:00 am
Assignment Week 5	Monday June 1 9:00 am	Monday June 8 9:00 am
Assignment Week 6	Monday June 8 9:00 am	Monday June 15 9:00 am

Each week the questions posed will focus directly on the content covered that week. I will also open a weekly discussion board so you can connect with other students to ask questions, share opinions and debate relevant content to help complete these assignments. There will be a total of 6 written assignments each worth 5% (6x5% = 30%).

### Final Exam Information

A Registrar scheduled final exam will be booked for this course and it will cover Chapters 9-16. The date of the exam is still to be determined but will occur online sometime between **June 19-June 23**.

## Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

## Passing Grades

ALL tests and assignments must be completed to obtain a passing grade in this course. Please note that final grades are NOT negotiable. No grade will be increased beyond what a student has earned during the term and in the class. **Final grades will NOT be rounded off to the next higher grade.**

## Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.

## Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. **Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private

information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

### Research Ethics

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Faculty Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

### Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). **These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor.** The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### Recording of Lectures

Note that the audio or video recording of lectures and taking screenshots of PowerPoint slides during the lecture are not permitted without explicit authorization. The non-authorized media recording of lectures is inconsistent with the Code of Conduct and may result in discipline in accordance with the Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure. For more information click here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

### Sharing of Lecture Notes and Exam Questions

Note that publicly sharing lectures notes and exam questions on 3rd party sites such as OneClass, StudyBlue, Quizlet, Course Hero, etc. is not permitted. If you wish to use these helpful studying tools, make sure you adjust your privacy settings accordingly. Any violations are subject to investigation under the UofC Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy. For more information, click here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

## Academic Misconduct

Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

## Absences and Deferrals

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

**Deferred Final Exam Form:** Please note that requests to defer a Registrar scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar's Office. Further information can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

**Deferred Term Work Form:** Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It's available at:

[https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/1/deferred\\_termwork15\\_0.pdf](https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/1/deferred_termwork15_0.pdf)

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be forwarded to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

## Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

## Libraries & Cultural Resources

To contact your librarian or find out about the resources and services available to sociology students go to the Sociology Library guide: <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/sociology>

To access the main Library website go to: <https://library.ucalgary.ca>

## Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout

the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

### Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

### Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit [www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/) or email [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca).

### Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca); Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here:

<https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

### Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website:

<https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

### Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.