Family and Consumer Sciences Department
Course Name/Number: FCS 2400-50 Family Relationships

SYLLABUS: FCS 2400: FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS (GE *SS)
SEMESTER: Fall 2015
Instructor: Lynette G. Bogucki, MSW, SSW
Contact Info: Phone: 435-619-6714 (text only)
Email: Lbogucki@dixie.edu
Office Hours: By Appointment
Class Hours: MWF 8:00 AM – 8:50 AM
Class Room: North Instructional Building Room 107
Credit Hours: 3.0
Prerequisites: None

Course Description: Family Relationships is an introductory course on the study of family systems, sociology of the family, and interaction patterns within families. It includes an analysis on research methods of studying the family, conceptual theories for understanding family dynamics, and family systems theory. Other topics covered will be resource management within the family, parent-child relationships, marriage relationships, patterns of problem solving within families, and the study of family change and transition.

FCS Department Objectives:
Students taking courses in FCS will:
1. Study currently accepted theory within the discipline.
2. Expand understanding of theory using applications and exercises that personalize the depth of knowledge and understanding.
3. Complete assignments demonstrating professional practices specific to the discipline.
4. Analyze course concepts against previously held schema prior to experience in the course.
5. Demonstrate the ability to think critically through writing assignments.
6. Achieve a passing grade on the comprehensive final exam for the course.

Course Objectives:
Social Science General Education Objectives:
1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of human development and the human condition.
2. Students will recognize the ideas, people, and events in the past that are generally thought to be important to society and civilization.
3. Students will develop informed points of view based on knowledge in psychological, social, economic, and/or political theory which can be expressed orally or in writing.

Upon completion of this course, the student will:
1. Describe methods for studying the family and frameworks for evaluating family relationships.
2. Develop a better understanding of self and personal interaction within relationships.
3. Gain an increased awareness of gender related issues and articulate how these issues impact family.
4. Consider and explain current studies on communication and conflict resolution skills that contribute to successful family living. Students will practice these skills in course assignments.
5. Recognize areas of risk in families and relationships and name resources to diminish the likelihood of problems.
6. Discuss issues of human reproduction and human sexuality within relationships.
7. Explain theories of parent-child relationships and styles of parenting.
8. Recognize the signs of violence and stressors in relationships and give methods for protecting at-risk individuals within the family.
9. Define current patterns of transition and change within families, including divorce, separation, remarriage, blended families, and explain the impact of these changes on the individuals within the family.
10. Discuss research findings on the distribution of resources within the family and family dynamics for managing resources.
11. Articulate in conversation and/or in writing, traditional, as well as, current sociological theories explaining family dynamics, family systems, and family development.

**Assignments**

**Written Assignments and Exercises:** These are all short *typewritten papers* that will help you apply course concepts in a personal manner. These are the core of what will bring you personal growth during this class.

| Written Assignments: These are 1-2 page responses to guest speakers, classroom activities, and videos. There are 4 assignments required to complete during the semester. They are worth 10 points each. Instructions will be given during class time. |
| Projects: These are often interactive; you will be completing some of these exercises with another person. There are 4 assignments required to complete during the semester, three are worth 25 points and the third worth 50. |
| Written Assignments: |
| 1. Video Response Paper 1 |
| 2. Video Response Paper 2 |
| 3. Class Guest Speaker Response Paper 1 |
| 4. Class Guest Speaker Response Paper 2 |
| Projects: |
| 1. Intimacy |
| 2. Genogram (worth 50 points) |
| 3. Married Couple Interview |
| 4. Current News Presentation |

In completing the written assignments and exercises, give a *typewritten personal response* to what you are learning from the experience. These will be graded as follows: 70% for completing the assignment/exercise, 10% on writing skills, and 20% on your personal investment in the experience. **Due dates are in the outline; if you are unable to turn in the assignments when due, please text or email BEFORE that date. If it is an emergency, please text or email me.** Otherwise, **NO assignments will be accepted late. You can ask, but the answer will still be NO.**

**Quizzes:** Quizzes **cannot** be made up. You must be in class to take them.

**Chapter Tests:** Chapter tests will be given as scheduled on the course outline. The lowest scored test will be dropped before final grades are posted at the end of the semester. Unless previously arranged with the instructor, tests cannot be made up at a later time. There are **NO** make-up tests that have not been previously arranged with the instructor. **Due dates are in the outline; if you are unable to take a test on the scheduled date, please text or email BEFORE that date. If it is an emergency, please text or email, and a determination will be made whether the test can be taken. Please bring scantrons for each chapter test.**

**Comprehensive Final Exam:** There will be a comprehensive final for this class. If you focus on the concepts as we encounter them in class, you will find yourself prepared for the final. There WILL be a study guide.

**GRADING:** Your grade will be determined by the percentage of points earned out of the total possible for the required assignments. If you would like to meet with me regarding your current grade or if you have any questions about assignments, please text or email me. I will be happy to set up an appointment with you.

**Points will be accumulated as follows:**
Tests                          25 points  
Written Assignments          10 points  
Projects                       25 points  
Exercises                     10 points  
Final Exam                  100 points  
Quizzes                        5 points  
Genogram                      50 points  

The grade earned is based upon the following percentages:  
A = 95%-100%  B+ = 88-90%  C+ = 78-80%  D+ = 68-70%  
A- = 91%-94 %  B = 84-87%  C = 74-77%  D = 64-67%  
B- = 81-83%  C= = 71-73%  D- = 61-63%  

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Failure to comply with academic integrity, honesty, and behavior standards of Dixie State University may result in course failure or administrative withdrawal from the class. Do not cheat. Inappropriate classroom behavior may also result in an administrative withdrawal. You will be notified of your withdrawal in this way:  
1. A verbal request to comply with behavioral expectations of the class.  
2. On written ‘warning’ letting you know that you have not made the required behavioral change.  
3. Administrative withdrawal.

Special Class Notes:  

1. In the Family Relationships Class we address issues of human sexuality as related to family living. The presentations are respectful and presented sensitively. They reflect current sociological perspectives consistent with other institutions of higher learning as well as current research. If these topics are offensive to a student, that student can negotiate with the instructor to personalize the assignments. Another option is to reconsider enrolling in this course. If these issues are of concern to you, you should look through Chapter 7 in the textbook, Sexuality and Sexual Expression throughout Life, to prepare you for these topics and decide if they are acceptable classroom material for you.  

2. Attendance Policy- There is no attendance requirement for the class. However, if you choose not to attend, you will lose points for missed quizzes, for classroom activities, and for the assignments that are due that day.

3. Confidentiality- Often in a class about relationships students exercise their right to participate by disclosing personal information that is sensitive by nature. We respect these disclosures by not revealing personal information about others outside of class. You may speak about concepts and ideas, about our stories, but you may not connect these with a person or name.

Important Links:  

As a student at Dixie State University, you have access to several helpful resources:  

- Library  
- Computer Lab (located at the Smith Computer Center and the Library)  
- Disability Resource Center - Provides services and accommodations to students with disabilities.  
- IT Student Help Desk - We provide support for the following: Blackboard Vista, Dmail, wireless, software resources for students, and student laptop lease program.  
- Online Writing Lab - Many writing classes utilize this site. Among other things, students can use the Online Writing Lab to submit papers electronically to the Writing Center.  
- Testing Center  
- Tutoring Center - Free and open to all students. Improve your study skills and clarify concepts and class material.
• **Writing Center** - "Our mission is to help you become a better writer by approaching your assignments as a process of invention, writing, and revision."

See our [Campus Map](#) for the location of these and other resources.

**Policies and Statements**

• **Disability Statement:**

  If you suspect or are aware that you have a disability that may affect your success in the course you are strongly encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) located at the North Plaza Building. The disability will be evaluated and eligible students will receive assistance in obtaining reasonable accommodations. Phone # 435-652-7516.

• [Academic dishonesty / Academic integrity policy](#)

• Reference to "[Policy for Absences Related to College Functions](#)"

• [Disruptive behavior policy / classroom expectations](#)

• **Dmail:**

  You are required to frequently check your Dmail account. Important class and university information will be sent to your Dmail account, including DSU bills, financial aid/scholarship notices, notices of cancelled classes, reminders of important dates and deadlines, and other information critical to your success at DSU and in your courses. To access your Dmail account, visit [go.dixie.edu/dmail](http://go.dixie.edu/dmail). If you do not know your Dmail username or you have forgotten your PIN, visit [go.dixie.edu/mydixie](http://go.dixie.edu/mydixie) and follow the respective instructions.

DSU seeks to provide an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have been the victim of sexual harassment/misconduct/assault we encourage you to report this to the college's Title IX Director, Cindy Cole, (435) 652-7731, [cindy.cole@dixie.edu](mailto:cindy.cole@dixie.edu). If you report to a faculty member, she or he must notify the Title IX Director about the basic facts of the incident.