



COLLEGE of SOCIAL AND APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY RELATIONS
AND APPLIED NUTRITION

FRHD 4020 Family Theory

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2022

1. CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Credit Weight:	0.5 credits
Course Hours:	3-0 (36 lecture; 0 lab/seminar)
Pre-Requisite(s):	12.50 credits including <u>FRHD*1020</u>
Co-Requisites(s):	N/A
Restriction(s):	This is a priority access course

2. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines theories about families that are used by social science researchers, policy-makers, and service-providers. It emphasizes the role of culture and critical approaches to understanding family and kinship relations and the role of theory in advancing equity, as well as social and environmental justice.

3. TIMETABLE

Lecture:	T,TH 4-5:20
Location:	CSRC 117
Final Exam:	None

4. INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

Course Instructor:	Dr. Andrea Breen
Email:	abreen@uoguelph.ca
Telephone:	519-824-4120 ext. 53967
Office:	MINS 233
Office Hours:	By appointment

***Please note:** Students can expect a response to email within 1 business day. Email will not be checked evenings or weekends.

Indigenous Unit Instructors: Dr. Kim Anderson (kimberle@uoguelph.ca) & Sarina Perchak

Teaching Assistant: Sarina Perchak
Email: sperchak@uoguelph.ca
Office Hours: By appointment

5. LEARNING RESOURCES

Required Resource(s):

Allen, K.R. & Henderson, A.C. (2022) *Family theories today: A critical intersectional approach*. Cognella.

Additional learning materials will be posted on Courselink.

Recommended Resource(s):

N/A

6. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the completion of the course, successful students will be able to:

1. Describe what theory is and how it can be used to analyze family experience
2. Identify and compare theoretical frameworks used by social scientists and practitioners
3. Describe how theoretical frameworks and concepts shape research and practice with families
4. Demonstrate an understanding of critical approaches to theorizing the family, including appreciation of how social structures of power and marginalization are reflected in and reproduced by dominant theories
5. Demonstrate an understanding of how Indigenous approaches to family and kinship challenge dominant (Eurocentric) theorizing related to family
6. Reflect on your own theoretical biases and developing orientations related to families
7. Demonstrate effective written communication skills
8. Develop effective oral communication skills
9. Develop your participation skill set through personal goal setting and reflection

7. TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Date	Topics	Assigned Readings & Guest Speakers	Notes & Due Dates
Sept. 8th	Introduction to the course	No Assigned Readings	
Sept. 13th	What is Theory?	Text Chapter 1	Theory Assignment 1 (“pre-assignment”) due on Wednesday September 14 th @ 11:59 pm Virtual class via Zoom

Date	Topics	Assigned Readings & Guest Speakers	Notes & Due Dates
Sept. 15th	Conflict Theory	Text Chapter 3	Virtual class via Zoom
Sept. 20th	Symbolic Interactionism	Text chapter 4 Leveto. (2018). Toward a sociology of autism and neurodiversity. <i>Sociology Compass</i> , 12(12), e12636–n/a. https://doi.org/10.1111/soc4.12636	Participation Goals Assignment Monday September 19 th @ 11:59 pm
Sept. 22nd	Family Developmental Theory	Text Chapter 5	
Sept. 27th	Family Systems Theory	Text Chapter 6	
Sept. 29th	Life Course Theory	Text Chapter 9	
Oct. 6th	Special Topic: Children of Incarcerated Parents	Guest speaker: Jessica Reid Readings will be posted on Courselink	Virtual class (via Zoom)
Oct. 13th	Family Ecological Theory	Text Chapter 10	
Oct. 18th	Kinship with all our Relations	Guest Instructor: Sarina Perchak Readings will be posted on Courselink	Theory assignment 2 due October 17 th @ 11:59 pm
Oct. 20th	Kinship with All our Relations	Guest Instructor: Sarina Perchak Readings will be posted on Courselink	
Oct. 25th	Feminist Theory	Text Chapter 8	Virtual class (via Zoom)
Oct. 27th	Feminist Theory	Readings will be posted on Courselink	
Nov. 1	Queer Theory	Text Chapter 13 Additional material to be posted on Courselink	

Date	Topics	Assigned Readings & Guest Speakers	Notes & Due Dates
Nov. 3	Critical Race Theory	Text Chapter 12 Additional material to be posted on CourseLink	Theory assignment 3 due November 4 th @ 11:59 pm
Nov. 8	Critical Posthumanism(s)	Laing. (2021). On being posthuman in human spaces: critical posthumanist social work with interspecies families. <i>International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy</i> , 41(3/4), 361–375. https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSSP-09-2019-0185	
Nov. 10	Reflection on Theory	No Assigned Readings	
Nov. 15	Indigenous Families	Guest Instructor: Dr. Kim Anderson Readings to be posted on CourseLink	
Nov. 17	Indigenous Families	Guest Instructor: Dr. Kim Anderson Readings to be posted on CourseLink	
Nov. 22nd	Special Topic: Indigenous Families in the Child Welfare System	Guest Speaker: Stephanie Bryenton (Child Protection Worker, Two Row Understanding Services Team Readings to be posted on CourseLink	Virtual class via Zoom
Nov. 24th	Topic TBD (depending on class interest)	Readings to be posted on CourseLink	Theory assignment #4 due November 25 th @ 11:59 pm
Dec. 1	Wrap-Up	No Assigned Readings	Participation Reflection due December 8 th @ 11:59 pm

Note: This is a tentative schedule; however, due to various unknown factors there may be changes. Any changes will be announced during class and an announcement will be posted on the CourseLink site.

8. ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Assessment	LOs Addressed	Due Date	% of Final
Theory Assignment 1	7	September 14	5
Participation Goal Setting	9	September 19	5
Theory Assignment 2	1, 2, 3, 6, 7	October 17th	25
Theory Assignment 3	4, 5, 6, 7	November 4th	20
Theory Assignment 4	3, 4, 5, 6, 7	November 25th	25
Participation	8, 9	December 8th	20
Total:			100%

9. COURSE STATEMENTS

Land Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that the University of Guelph resides on the ancestral lands of the Attawandaron people and the treaty lands and territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit. We recognize the significance of the Dish with One Spoon Covenant to this land and offer our respect to past, present and future First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples on these lands. We strive to fulfill our responsibilities towards ending the ongoing violence of Colonization. Critical to this is working hard to understand and unsettle white supremacy and Eurocentrism in our ways of thinking and our practices as a community of teachers and learners.

Course Website:

There is a course website at <http://courselink.uoguelph.ca>. All components of this course will be housed on the CourseLink site including this course outline, assignments, and links to further resources. Your assignments will be submitted through the Dropbox function. Marks and feedback will also be released on the site. Please familiarize yourself with this website as soon as possible and visit it regularly throughout the semester.

Late Assignments:

All deadlines have a grace period of 48 hours. This means that there will not be docked marks if you submit before the extra 48 hours period expires. Please, do not treat the grace period as the deadline, because it is not. The deadline is a hard deadline, and the grace period is in place to account for potential difficulties and life events that can occur at the time of the hard deadline.

Emails asking for late submission during the grace period are not needed and will not be answered: just submit within the grace period. CourseLink will say that it is late, but if it is within 48 hours of the deadline is within the grace period and it is not late.

No extensions over the grace period will be given. You can submit the assignment after the grace period has expired; however, your mark will be docked 10% per day including weekends EXCEPT under documented grounds for compassionate consideration. Assignments submitted more than one week late without documented grounds will receive a grade of zero. If you are going to

hand an assignment in late, you must contact your course instructor to inform them when you will be submitting your assignment. This policy is in place to guarantee fairness for all students.

Receipt of Grades:

After you receive a grade on CourseLink, please review your feedback. Any inquiry or dispute over the grade must be made within two weeks from the date they are posted. If you fail to protest any grade during this time limit, changes to the grade will not be considered. [Grades will be based on the Grading Procedures outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar.](#)

10. UNIVERSITY STATEMENTS

E-mail communication:

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

When you cannot meet a course requirement:

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for [Academic Consideration](#).

Drop date:

Courses that are one semester long must be dropped by the end of the last day of classes; two-semester courses must be dropped by the last day of classes in the second semester. The regulations and procedures for [Dropping Courses](#) are available in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Copies of out-of-class assignments:

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Accessibility:

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required, however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 14 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

More information: www.uoguelph.ca/sas

Academic misconduct:

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The [Academic Misconduct Policy](#) is outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Recording of materials:

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources:

The [Academic Calendars](#) are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.

Disclaimer:

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via Courselink and/or class email.

This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

Illness:

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

COVID-19 Safety Protocols:

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links:

- <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/>
- <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces>

Please note, that these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health or government directives.