



COLLEGE of SOCIAL AND APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY RELATIONS
AND APPLIED NUTRITION

FRHD*4020 Family Theory COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2020

1. CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course analyses theoretical approaches and concepts in the study of the family.

Credit Weight: 0.5 credits

Course Hours: 3-0 (36 lecture; 0 lab/seminar)

Pre-Requisite(s): 12.50 credits including FRHD*1020

Co-Requisites(s): None

Restriction(s): This is a Priority Access Course. Enrolment may be restricted to particular programs or specializations or semester levels during certain periods. Please see departmental website for more information.

2. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an overview of contemporary theories about families that are used by social science researchers, policy-makers, academics, and service-providers who work with family members and practice in a primarily Western context. These theories reflect various macro-level (population trends and patterns) and micro-level (family members' experiences and meaning-making) perspectives on family life.

Students will learn to use theory as a 'tool' or 'lens' for viewing families in order to address problems, understand dilemmas, or identify resiliencies. We will consider how these theories fit for families in a contemporary Canadian context. In particular, we will examine two groups of traditionally marginalized families (Indigenous families and newcomer families from collectivist cultures), and how Indigenous knowledges and collectivist perspectives on families and relationships can serve to extend and augment the family theories presented in this course.

3. TIMETABLE

Lecture: **Fridays, 2:30 – 5:20; most classes will be 2 hours in length to allow for 1 hr of structured online course activities that can be completed on your own time**

Location: **Lectures ONLINE – connect using Zoom through courselink site. You are expected to attend lectures in real time and to sign in using your uoguelph email address.**

Final Exam: **NO EXAM**

4. INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

Course Instructor: Dr. Lynda M. Ashbourne, PhD, RP, RMFT, Associate Professor, FRAN

Indigenous Unit Instructor: Dr. Kim Anderson, PhD, Associate Professor, FRAN

Email: lashbour@uoguelph.ca kimberle@uoguelph.ca

Expect email response by next working day, during daytime working hours, do not expect a response on weekends. Please put course code FRHD*4020 in subject line.

Telephone: 519-824-4120 ext. Please use email only for contact during F'20 semester

Office: not accessible during F'20 semester

Office Hours: **ONLINE: TUESDAYS 10:00-11:30 am (use Zoom link on Courselink Content tab)**

Teaching Assistant: Leslie Vesely, MSc.CFT student

Email: [ivesely@uoguelph.ca Please put course code FRHD*4020 in subject line.]

5. LEARNING RESOURCES

Required Resource(s):

Allen, K.R., & Henderson, A.C. (2016). Family Theories: Foundations and applications. West Sussex: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.

https://www.campusebookstore.com/integration/AccessCodes/default.aspx?bookseller_id=247&Course=FRHD*4020&frame=YES&t=permalink

NOTE: You are expected to complete required readings from this text BEFORE CLASS EACH WEEK.

While required text is available in e-book format through U of G library, use is limited to 3 users at a time, so this will limit availability to all students for completing weekly readings – you might consider sharing the cost of purchasing this text with 1-2 other students.

Additional readings as assigned (available online through library course reserve ARES, with access through Courselink [Content Tab] as well)

Recommended Resource(s):

APA 7 Style Guide [Style & Grammar Guidelines] <https://apastyle.apa.org/>

OR/ Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL): APA 7 Style Guide

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/apa_changes_7th_edition.html

If you are thinking about graduate school in the area of family science, or looking for more detail re: family theory and its application, you can check out the Sourcebook of Family Theory & Research (2005) in ebook format through the library

<http://sk.sagepub.com.subzero.lib.uoguelph.ca/books/sourcebook-of-family-theory-and-research>

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 the theoretical frameworks currently used by social scientists and practitioners to understand families.
3. Describe how theoretical frameworks and concepts contribute to and shape family therapy, research, and policy design/interventions with respect to specific family issues.
4. Demonstrate, in writing and discussion, a curiosity and critical perspective toward family theories, the context in which they were developed, and how they are applied in research, practice, and policy. This will include particular attention to the areas of potential discrepancy between these theories and Indigenous knowledge and collectivist concepts of families.
5. Describe how Indigenous knowledge and collectivist concepts about families reflect aspects of family relationships, intergenerational roles and responsibilities, and family life that are distinct from or not captured by current family theories.
6. Reflect on your own conceptual biases and theoretical assumptions related to families.

7. TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Week	Topics	Assigned Readings	Notes & Due Dates
<p>For this course, each week begins on Friday with lecture (2:30 – 5:20 pm if no online component; 2:30 – 4:20 pm if there is an online component to complete on your own time after lecture).</p> <p>Online activities and Weekly Theory Highlights related to lectures are due Tuesdays (5 pm).</p> <p>Other assignments are due Thursdays (5 pm).</p> <p>You are expected to read the required readings and prepare questions before the next lecture.</p>			
1 Sept 11	Course Introduction Overview of Family Theories & Intro to Theorizing	COURSE TEXT: Chapter 1	Critical Reflection: Part 1 (pre-reflection intersectionality) due <u>Thursday, Sept 17th 5 pm</u>
2 Sept 18	Indigenous Knowledge	Indigenous Unit Instructor: Dr. Kim Anderson <i>Readings TBD</i>	
	Online: Indigenous Theory	See Courselink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Sept 22nd 5 pm</u>
3 Sept 25	Functionalist Theory Newcomer Canadians & Collectivist Cultures / Blogs	COURSE TEXT: Chapter 2 <i>+ readings TBD</i>	Weekly Theory Highlights due <u>Tuesday, Sept 29th 5 pm</u>
	Online: Collectivist Perspectives	See Courselink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Sept 29th 5 pm</u>

Week	Topics	Assigned Readings	Notes & Due Dates
4 Oct 2	Family Development Theory Life Course Theory	COURSE TEXT: Chapters 5 & 9	Weekly Theory Highlights due <u>Tuesday, Oct 6th 5 pm</u> Blog #1 (based on Week 2) due <u>Thursday, Oct 8th 5 pm</u>
	Online: Indigenous Perspective	See CourseLink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Oct 6th 5 pm</u>
5 Oct 9	Infographic Projects & Making Sense of Theory	TBD	No due dates during/following Thanksgiving break. Remember to prepare readings for Week 6 lecture.
6 Oct 16	Family Stress & Resilience Theory Family Systems Theory	COURSE TEXT: Chapters 11 & 6	Weekly Theory Highlights due <u>Tuesday, Oct 20th 5 pm</u>
	Online: Collectivist Perspective	See CourseLink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Oct 20th 5 pm</u>
7 Oct 23	Family Ecological Theory	COURSE TEXT: Chapter 10	Weekly Theory Highlights due <u>Tuesday Oct 27th 5 pm</u>
	Online: Indigenous Perspectives	See CourseLink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Oct 27th 5 pm</u>
8 Oct 30	Symbolic Interactionist Theory Social Exchange Theory	COURSE TEXT: Chapters 4 & 7	Weekly Theory Highlights due <u>Tuesday, Nov 3rd 5 pm</u> <u>Blog #2 (based on Week 3 or 6) due Thursday, Nov. 5th 5 pm</u>
	Online: Collectivist Perspective	See CourseLink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Nov 3rd 5 pm</u>
9 Nov 6	Review & Comparison of Theories Critical Perspective-taking	<i>Readings TBD</i>	
	Online: Critical Perspective-taking	See CourseLink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday Nov 10th 5 pm</u>

Week	Topics	Assigned Readings	Notes & Due Dates
10 Nov 13	Conflict Theory Feminist Theory	COURSE TEXT: Chapters 3 & 8	Weekly Theory Highlights due <u>Tuesday, Nov 17th 5 pm</u> Group Project: Infographic <u>due Thursday, Nov 19th 5 pm</u>
	Online: Indigenous Perspectives	See CourseLink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Nov 17th 5 pm</u>
11 Nov 20	Infographics Student Fair	No readings	Group Project: Share Infographic in class and provide <u>Peer Feedback, Nov 20th in class.</u> Blog #3 (based on Week 7 or 10) due <u>Thursday Nov 26th 5 pm</u>
12 Nov 27	Collectivist Communities & Indigenous Circles Canadian Families & Inclusion	No readings	Critical Reflection (Part 2) due <u>Tuesday Dec. 1st 5 pm</u>

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
Infographic Project (Group)	1, 2, 3	Submit Nov 19/20 5 pm (+ peer feedback during class Nov 20/20)	25
Blogs (3)	4,5	#1 Oct 8/20 5 pm #2 Nov 5/20 5 pm #3 Nov 26/20 5 pm	30
Critical Reflection – Part 1	6	Sept. 17/20 5 pm	5
Critical Reflection – Part 2		Dec. 1/20 5 pm	10
Weekly Theory Highlights	1,2,3	Tuesday 5 pm in Weeks 3,4,6,7,8,10	20
Online Class Participation	4	Wks 2-4 and 6-10	10
Total:			100%

9. COURSE STATEMENTS

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:

Late assignments will be accepted up to 5 days following the due date and will receive a penalty of 10% per day 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.

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.](#)

Turnitin Software:

In this course, your instructor will be using Turnitin, integrated with the CourseLink Dropbox tool, to detect possible plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration or copying as part of the ongoing efforts to maintain academic integrity at the University of Guelph.

All submitted assignments will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com site.

A major benefit of using Turnitin is that students will be able to educate and empower themselves in preventing academic misconduct. In this course, you may screen your own assignments through Turnitin as many times as you wish before the due date. You will be able to see and print reports that show you exactly where you have properly and improperly referenced the outside sources and materials in your assignment.

Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website [hyperlink to the website] and circulated by email.

<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>

Illness

The University will not require verification of illness (doctor's notes) for the fall 2020 or winter 2021 semesters.

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 in-course requirements due to illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing with name, ID#, and email contact. [See the undergraduate calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration.](#)

Drop date:

Students have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. 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 book their exams at least 7 days in advance, and not later than the 40th Class Day.

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 detailed 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.