



COLLEGE of SOCIAL AND APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY RELATIONS
AND APPLIED NUTRITION

FRHD*4020 Family Theories COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2021

1. CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

- Credit Weight:** 0.5 credits
Course Hours: 3-0 (36 lecture; 0 lab/seminar)
Pre-Requisite(s): 12,00 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, policymakers, 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 critically consider 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:** **Thursdays, 2:30 – 5:20;** not recorded. *Note: most classes will be 2 hours in length to allow for 1 hour of structured online learning 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: none

4. INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

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

Email: lashbour@uoguelph.ca expect response by next working day, during daytime working hours, do not expect response on weekends. Put **course code FRHD*4020 in subject line.**

Telephone: 519-824-4120 ext. please **use email only** for this semester

Office: MACS 324 **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

Office Hours: **ONLINE (zoom link in courselink) Tuesdays 12 noon – 1 pm Sept 20- Nov 30**

Teaching Assistant: Maggie Addison, M.A. (PhD Student, FRHD)

Email: maddis01@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. *[note that this book is currently out of print as second edition is in preparation – the new publisher has provided us with a coursepack e-text for this year and this can be purchased directly through this link: <https://store.cognella.com/23712>, there may also be second-hand texts available through U of G Coop bookstore or other venues. The library has e-text in their holdings, and you can access these to download limited pages – the page limit will allow you to download weekly readings (limit is reset the following day, so planning ahead and downloading in advance should provide an excellent option for you.*

Note that readings from text and additional readings (see library course reserve Ares – link on courselink site) are REQUIRED, and you are expected to read these BEFORE CLASS.

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

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.

Week	Topics	Assigned Readings	Notes & Due Dates
<p>For this course, each week begins on Thursday with lecture (2:30 – 5:20 pm if NO out-of-class online activities; 2:30 – 4:20 pm if there ARE out-of-class online activities 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 9	Course Introduction Overview of Family Theories & Intro to Theorizing	COURSE TEXT: Chap 1	Critical Reflection: Part 1 (pre-reflection on intersectionality) due <u>Thursday, Sept. 16, 5 pm</u>
2 Sept 16	Functionalist Theory Newcomer Canadians & Collectivist Cultures / Blogs	COURSE TEXT: Chap 2 <i>+ readings TBD</i>	Weekly Theory Highlights: 1 theory highlight summary (Functionalist Family Theory) due <u>Tuesday, Sept. 21, 5 pm</u>
	Online: Collectivist Perspectives	See Courselink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Sept. 21, 5 pm</u>

Week	Topics	Assigned Readings	Notes & Due Dates
3 Sept 23	Indigenous Knowledge Guest Presenter: Jess Notwell, PhD candidate, SOAN	Required readings: (see ARES) Tam et al. 2017 Anderson, 2007 <i>TBD?</i>	
	Online: Indigenous Perspectives	See Courselink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Sept. 28, 5 pm</u>
4 Sept 30	Family Development Theory Life Course Theory	COURSE TEXT: Chap 5 & 9	Weekly Theory Highlights: 2 theory highlight summaries (Family Development; Life Course) due <u>Tuesday, Oct. 5, 5 pm</u> Blog #1 (based on Week 2 online activities, Part 1 OR Part 2) due <u>Thursday, Oct. 7, 5 pm</u>
	Online: Indigenous Perspectives	See Courselink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Oct. 5, 5 pm</u>
5 Oct 7	Infographic Projects & Making Sense of Theory	<i>TBD</i>	No due dates during/following Thanksgiving break. Remember to prepare readings for Week 6 lecture.
6 Oct 14	Family Stress & Resilience Theory Family Systems Theory	COURSE TEXT: Chap 11 & 6	Weekly Theory Highlights: 2 theory highlight summaries (Family Stress & Resilience; Family Systems) due <u>Tuesday, Oct. 12, 5 pm</u>
	Online: Collectivist Perspective	See Courselink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Oct. 19, 5 pm</u>
7 Oct 21	Family Ecological Theory Critical Perspective-taking I	COURSE TEXT: Chap 10 + <i>TBD</i>	Weekly Theory Highlights: 1 theory highlight summary (Family Ecological) due <u>Tuesday, Oct. 26, 5 pm</u> Blog #2 (based on Week 3 or 7) due <u>Thursday, Oct. 28, 5 pm</u>
	Online: Indigenous Perspectives	See Courselink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Oct. 26, 5 pm</u>

Week	Topics	Assigned Readings	Notes & Due Dates
8 Oct 28	Symbolic Interactionist Theory Social Exchange Theory	COURSE TEXT: Chap 4 & 7	Weekly Theory Highlights: 2 theory highlight summaries (Symbolic Interactionist; Social Exchange) due <u>Tuesday, Nov. 2, 5 pm</u>
	Online: Collectivist Perspective	See Courselink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Nov. 2, 5 pm</u>
9 Nov 4	Conflict Theory Feminist Theory	COURSE TEXT: Chap 3 & 8	Weekly Theory Highlights: 2 theory highlight summaries (Conflict; Feminist) due <u>Tuesday, Nov. 9, 5 pm</u> Blog #3 (based on Week 6 or 8) due <u>Thursday, Nov. 11 5 pm</u>
	Online: Indigenous Perspectives	See Courselink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Nov. 9, 5 pm</u>
10 Nov 11	Review & Comparison of Theories Critical Perspective-taking II	<i>Readings TBD</i>	Group Project: Infographic <u>due Thursday, Nov. 18, 5 pm</u>
	Online: Critical Perspective-taking	See Courselink	Online Participation Quiz closes <u>Tuesday, Nov 16, 5 pm</u>
11 Nov 18	Infographics Student Fair	No readings	Group Project: Submit Infographic to <u>dropbox and post on Discussion Board between 5 pm Wed. Nov. 17 and 10 am Thurs, Nov. 18.</u> Review all infographics on Discussion Board and provide <u>Peer Feedback, Nov. 18 (10 am – 5:30 pm).</u>
12 Nov 25	Collectivist Communities & Indigenous Circles Canadian Families & Inclusion	No readings	Critical Reflection (Part 2) due <u>Thursday, Dec. 2, 5 pm</u>

8. ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Assessment	LOs Addressed	Due Date	% of Final
Infographic Project (Group)	1, 2, 3	Submit no later than Nov. 18, 10 am (+ peer feedback 10 am – 5:30 pm Nov. 18 BONUS)	25
Blogs (3)	4,5	#1 Oct 7, 5 pm #2 Oct 28, 5 pm #3 Nov 11, 5 pm	30
Critical Reflection – Part 1	6	Sept. 16, 5 pm	5
Critical Reflection – Part 2		Dec. 2, 5 pm	10
Weekly Theory Highlights	1,2,3	Tuesday 5 pm in Weeks 2,4,6,7,8,9 [10 theory highlight summaries in total]	20
Online Activities Participation	4	Wks 2-4 and 6-10 (lowest grade dropped)	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.

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.

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).

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

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.