GROSSMONT COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

Curriculum Committee Approval: 04/26/2022

GCCCD Governing Board Approval: 06/14/2022

FAMILY STUDIES 115 – CHANGING AMERICAN FAMILY

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units

FS 115 Changing American Family 3

Semester Hours

3 hours lecture: 48-54 hours 96-108 outside-of-class hours 144-162 total hours

1. Prerequisites

None

Corequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

None

1. Catalog Description

A survey of the contemporary American family with emphasis on changes in form, functions and expectations. The history of the family, both public and private, will be considered and examined in relation to the effects of class, ethnicity and social policy. The effects on the family of common life events experienced by individuals and family members will be covered including sexuality, mate selection, marriage, childbearing, the working family, divorce, domestic violence and aging. The future of the family including implications for the individual and society will be discussed.

1. Course Objectives

The student will:

* 1. Examine, compare, and contrast the family in historical perspective to today’s families—both public and private.
  2. Analyze the effects of ethnicity, class and social policy on the family.
  3. Recognize and describe how changing demographics and role expectations may affect family forms.
  4. Describe and discuss different paths to family formation including sexuality, love and marriage.
  5. Recognize and examine the effects of power and conflict on families in relation to work, domestic violence, divorce and remarriage.
  6. Formulate a personal conceptual framework of growth and development of families throughout the family life cycle.
  7. Review current research in the area of family life.
  8. Analyze future trends for the family.

1. Instructional Facilities

Standard classroom.

1. Special Materials Required of Student

Electronic storage media.

1. Course Content
   1. The family as an American institution.
   2. Historical perspective on family.
   3. Family in the context of ethnicity and class.
   4. Social policy.
   5. Changes in family function, form and structure.
   6. Paths to family formation: sexuality, mate selection, and/or marriage.
   7. Effects of power and conflict on families.
   8. Work and families.
   9. Domestic violence.
   10. Divorce and remarriage.
   11. Effects of generations upon the family.
   12. Social change and the future of families.
2. Method of Instruction
   1. Lecture.
   2. Individual instruction.
   3. Group discussion.
   4. Computer (Internet) assignments.
   5. Videos and speakers.
3. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

a. Several midterms and one final examination (objective and essay).

b. Research papers, observation(s) and written reports on selected topics (Research changes in family structure from generation to generation)

c. Reflection writing assignments

d. Surveys

1. Outside Class Assignments
2. Observations.
3. Research papers (Research changes in family structure from generation to generation).
4. Report preparation on selected topics (Family interviews)
5. Assigned reading in text.

11. Representative Texts

a. Representative Text(s):

Cherlin, Andrew. *Public and Private Families*. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill, 9th edition. 2021.

1. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

None

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

Analyze the effects of ethnicity, class and social policy on the family.