

# C-ID Descriptor

## Introduction to Marriage and Family

### Descriptor Details

- **Descriptor Title:** Introduction to Marriage and Family
- **C-ID Number:** 130
- **Units:** 3.0
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### General Description

Sociological analysis of family as an institution, including historical and recent changes, present nature and the socio-cultural and economic forces shaping these changes.

### Prerequisites

No information provided

### Corequisites

No information provided

### Advisories

No information provided

### Content

Course will include:

1. The Family in Historical Perspective
2. Traditional family and changing family forms
3. Gender roles and socialization

4. Communication patterns
5. Singlehood, Cohabitation and other non-marital options
6. Families and work
7. Family violence, crises and change
8. Parents and children
9. Raising children
10. Aging and family life
11. Future of the family

Other topics may include:

1. Dating and Mate Selection
2. Cross-cultural comparisons
3. Separation and divorce

### **Lab Activities**

No information provided

### **Objectives**

*At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:*

- Demonstrate an understanding of major sociological theories to the social institution of the family
- Identify and discuss the family from cross-cultural, historical, and political
- Identify the intersection among race, ethnicity, class, immigration status, age, class, gender, and sexuality within the family
- Identify and examine gender, age and socialization within the family
- Identify and understand the various kinship and family arrangements
- Describe and explain the basic dimensions of social inequality and social change

### **Evaluation Methods**

**May include:**

Objective exams

Written assignments  
Application exercises  
Research Project  
Field Journal  
Oral Presentations  
Reflection and discussion  
Small group activities  
Out-of-class activities

### **Textbooks**

Benokraitis, Nijole. *Marriages and Families: Changes, Choices and Constraints*  
Lauer and Lauer. *Marriage and Family: The Quest for Intimacy*  
Lamanna and Riedman. *Marriages and Families: Making Choices in a Diverse Society*.  
Olson, DeFraim & Skogrand. *Marriages and Families: Intimacy, Diversity and Strengths*  
Strong, DeVault & Cohen. *The Marriage & Family Experience: Intimate Relationships in a Changing Society*