

Miami-Dade Community College
SYG 2430 - MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

Course Description: This course examines the family as a social institution, its origins and developments, its structures and functions, its interrelation with other social institutions and its role in contemporary civilization. It explores factors contributing to or acting against successful, stable marriage, including the issues of human sexuality, the child rearing process, adjustment and conflict, as well as money management.

3 credits

Prerequisites and Corequisites: None

Course Competencies:

- Competency 1.** THE STUDENT WILL DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INSTITUTION OF THE FAMILY BY:
- a. recognizing the main types of family structures around the world.
 - b. analyzing the change in the functions performed by the family, particularly in the United States.
 - c. examining the major trends experienced by the American family in this century.
- Competency 2.** THE STUDENT WILL SHOW AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE COURTSHIP AND MATE SELECTION PROCESS DETERMINING A SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE BY:
- a. identifying the main courtship patterns present in the world today.
 - b. describing the evolution, characteristics and functions of courtship in the U.S.
 - c. recognizing the main features determining marital compatibility in our culture.
 - d. listing the main danger signals in the courtship process in the U.S.
- Competency 3.** THE STUDENT WILL IDENTIFY KEY FACTORS OF HUMAN SEXUALITY AND THE REPRODUCTIVE PROCESS BY:
- a. describing the main features of the reproductive systems of human males and females as well as their main functions and their uniqueness, in contrast with that of other mammals.
 - b. examining the sexual response cycle.
 - c. distinguishing the main stages of the gestation process, the different forms of baby delivery and contraceptive methods.
 - d. identifying the most important sexually transmitted diseases, their prevention and possible cure.
- Competency 4.** THE STUDENT WILL EXAMINE THE SATISFACTORY CHILD REARING PROCESS BY:
- a. exploring the evolution of the child rearing process in the U.S.
 - b. identifying key factors determining a successful child rearing process.
 - c. examining the connection of this goal and the issues of the working mother and the use of child day care centers.

Competency 5. THE STUDENT WILL REVIEW THE ISSUES OF ADJUSTMENT, CONFLICT AND DIVORCE IN FAMILY LIFE BY:

- a. identifying the critical stages of adjustment in the life of a couple.
- b. exploring the roles of sex, money and communication in marital conflict.
- c. listing the main avenues or techniques to handle marital conflict constructively.
- d. examining the main features of the divorce process and its consequences.

Competency 6. STUDENTS WILL DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE OF THE ISSUE OF MONEY MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE FAMILY BY:

- a. exploring the existence of a crisis on this matter in the U.S. and its importance in marital stability.
- b. identifying some of the most common errors made by couples on this issue.
- c. recognizing the most important guidelines determining successful money management patterns within the family.
- d. listing some of the main avenues of help for couples with serious financial difficulties.