

**Hunter College Spring 2003 Sociology 201: The Family T&F 11:10-12:25**  
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**Office: 1617A West Bldg Office Hours: T&F 12:25-1:25 pm**

**Course Description:** This course examines contemporary family issues from a sociological perspective. The class is not an exhaustive review of the field, rather, it is an in-depth look at some important issues that affect families today. We will touch upon history, politics, culture, gender, sexuality, the economy, racism, and social policy. We will also discuss the research strategies researchers use to collect data and draw conclusions.

**Course Requirements:** The class requires regular attendance, class participation, a sociological autobiography discussing your own family, a midterm, a sociological analysis of a book that addresses family related issues, and a final.

The autobiography will be no more than 5 pages long, and the book analysis will be no more than 5 pages long (typed, double-spaced, font 12 point, 1 inch margins). Both papers will need to show familiarity with course material and offer some original thought. The midterm and final will consist of multiple choice and or true/false questions.

Deadlines are important. Late work will not be accepted without a physician's documentation of serious illness or injury!

The point structure of the course is very important. If you miss a single paper or a single exam—you will still have 80% of your points toward your final grade. I do not give INC—therefore you will be given whatever grade corresponds to your point accumulation.

<b>Grading Policy</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>% of Grade</b>	<b>Grading</b>
Attendance	100	10	925-1000 A
Class participation	100	10	900-924 A-
Autobiography	200	20	875-899 B+
Midterm	200	20	825-874 B
Book Review	200	20	800-824 B-
Final	200	20	775-799 C+
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>100% of Grade***</b>	<b>700-774 C</b>
<b>***NO GRADE of INCOMPLETE will be given.</b>			<b>600-699 D</b>

**Class Materials – available at Shakespeare and Co. (on Lex bet 68<sup>th</sup>&69<sup>th</sup>)**

Required Readings:

Maxine Baca-Zinn and D. Stanley Eitzen *Diversity in Families* 6<sup>th</sup> ed. (B&E)

One of the following novels/plays:

*A House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

*Bone* by Fae Myenne Ng

*Clover* by Dori Sanders

**Schedule:**

**Week 1** 1/28 & 1/31 What is Family?  
B&E - Chapter 1

**Week 2** 2/4 & 2/7 The Historical Family  
B&E – Chapter 2

**Week 3** 2/11 & 2/14 The Historical Family/ Family and Societal Upheavals  
B&E – Chapter 3; Begin Chapter 4

- Week 4** 2/18 (\*\*No Class)& 2/21 (\*\*No Class) -Work on autobiographies
- Week 5** 2/25 & 2/28 Family and Societal Upheavals  
B&E – Chapter 4  
2/25 Autobiographies due in class; papers can also be submitted early
- Week 6** 3/4 & 3/7 Race, Class and Gender  
B&E – Chapter 5
- Week 7** 3/11 & 3/14 Family and Work  
B&E – Chapter 6  
3/11 film – Living on the Edge
- Week 8** 3/18 & 3/21 Review and Midterm  
3/18 Review  
3/21 Midterm; B&E chapters 1-6
- Week 9** 3/25 & 3/28 The Social Construction of Intimacy  
B&E – Chapter 7
- Week 10** 4/1 & 4/4 Contemporary Marriages  
B& E – Chapter 8  
4/4 film - Chore Wars: The Battle Over Who Cleans the Toilet
- Week 11** 4/8 & 4/11 Parents and Children  
B&E – Chapter 9
- Week 12** 4/15(No class) & 4/18 (No class)
- Week 13** 4/22(No class) & 4/25(\*\*No class)
- Week 14** 4/29 & 5/2 Violence in Families & Divorce and Remarriage  
B&E – Chapter 10 & 11  
4/29 Book Analysis due in class or before
- Week 15** 5/6 & 5/9 New Family Arrangements and Family Policy  
B&E – Chapter 12
- Week 16** 5/13 Review; B&E Chapters 7-12
- FINAL EXAM Tuesday 5/20 9-11am**