



The University of Western Ontario
SOCIOLOGY 2134B-001
Issues Facing Modern Families
Winter 2025

Delivery Method - in-person

Instructor: Dr. Mila Kolpashnikova

Department of Sociology

Email: kkolpash@uwo.ca

This is a DRAFT only. Please see the course site for the final version.

Course Description:

This course examines the most pressing issues facing modern families today. We will cover the distribution of paid and unpaid work within families, intergenerational relationships, family policies, and adversity within families.

Anti-requisite(s): Sociology 2235.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

Upon the completion of this course, students should:

1. Critically apply core theoretical frameworks and concepts to social aspects of family.
2. Relate sociological concepts and research to real-life family-related situations.
3. Take a multifaceted perspective to issues facing modern families.
4. Critically interpret quantitative and qualitative data related to family research presented in lay and academic sources.
5. Improve proficiency in oral communication.

Course Material:

All required readings, assignment prompts, and other course materials will be made available on Brightspace. No textbooks need to be purchased for this course.

Communication:

Students are responsible for checking the course OWL Brightspace site (<https://westernu.brightspace.com/d2l/login>) on a regular basis for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class.

Method of Evaluation:

The evaluation methods described in the course outline are essential requirements for the course.

Assessment	% of the Final Grade	Notes	Due
Midterm Exam 1	30	50 multiple choice questions, 1 hour	January 30, in class
Midterm Exam 2	30	50 multiple choice questions, 1 hour	February 27, in class
Final Exam	40	60 multiple choice questions, 1 hour	TBA

For the closed-book midterm exams, you will have 1 hour in class to complete 50 multiple-choice questions, non-cumulative. Electronic devices will not be permitted. This is a paper and pen exam. Please remember to bring your own pencils to the exam.

Instructors are permitted to designate one assessment per course per term as requiring supporting documentation to receive academic consideration. For this course the Midterm Exam 2 (February 27) has been designated as requiring supporting documentation.

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test or exam will be required to write a makeup exam. There will be **only one makeup examination for each scheduled examination**. The makeup examination for the in-class midterm examination will be held during the Department Makeup Exam scheduled on **TBA**. Failure to write the exam on the date of the make-up exam will result in a zero grade for that evaluation.

For the closed-book final exam, you will have 1 hour in-person to complete 50 multiple-choice questions, non-cumulative. Electronic devices will not be permitted. This is a paper and pen exam. Please remember to bring your own pencils to the exam.

Student Absences:

If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness or other serious circumstances, please follow the procedures below.

University policy on academic considerations are described [here](#). This policy requires that all requests for academic considerations must be accompanied by a self-attestation. Further information about academic considerations, and information about submitting this self-attestation with your academic consideration request may be found here. Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the

instructor, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course outline.”

Students must familiarize themselves with the [Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#). Students missing course work for medical, compassionate or extenuating circumstances can request academic consideration by completing a request at the central academic consideration portal. Students are permitted one academic consideration request per course per term without supporting documentation. Note that supporting documentation is **always** required for academic consideration requests for examinations scheduled by the office of the registrar (e.g. December and April exams) and for practical laboratory and performance tests typically schedule during the last week of the term. Students should also note that the instructor may designate one assessment per course per term that requires supporting documentation. This designated assessment is described elsewhere in this document. Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor of this course, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course outline. Supporting documentation for academic considerations for absences due to illness should use the [Student Medical Certificate](#) or, where that is not possible, equivalent documentation by a health care practitioner.

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test or exam will be required to write a makeup exam. Course professor or teaching assistant(s) may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup exam. Students should be aware that the make-up test will not necessarily be in the same format, be of the same duration, or cover the same material as the original test.

Course Schedule and Readings:

Weekly readings will be provided on Brightspace.

Academic Policies:

Please review the Department of Sociology “[Important Academic Policies](#)” document

https://sociology.uwo.ca/undergraduate/courses/Academic_Policies.pdf for additional information regarding:

- Scholastic Offences
- Plagiarism
- Copyright
- Course Selection
- Absence from Course Commitments
- Missed Tests and Exams
- Religious Accommodations
- Accessibility Options
- Mental Health
- Gender-Based and Sexual Violence statement

