# Contemporary Families in the United States CRN 20372

# HDFS 201 Fall 2018: T R 1:00 p.m. MKH 203

**Instructor:** Liz Pearce, Ed.M.

**Office:** NSH 116

**Phone:** 917-4904 (office)

**E-mail address:** pearcel@linnbenton.edu

**Office Hours:** [Click here to make an appointment on my calendar](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/selfsched?sstoken=UUd5ZjhLcFk5TzVifGRlZmF1bHR8YWVmZjUzZTRlNDk0ZTRkNjg2MWIyMzc2ZjUwMzQ1ZWI). I am glad to speak with you by via [ZOOM](https://www.zoom.us/?zcid=1173&gclid=CjwKEAjwgIPOBRDn2eXxsN7S4RcSJABwNV90_AzDYn1JqqVgnTgKwAuJ3DfdWyd2jYWgmVWNkDolnBoClp_w_wcB) as available.

**Support Staff:** Aleta Fortier; Fortiea@linnbenton.edu; NSH 101; 541 917 4258.

## Course Description

An introduction to families with application to personal life. Focuses on diversity in family structure, social class, race, gender, work and other social institutions.

## Course Learning Outcomes

1. Use theoretical frameworks to interpret the role of the individual and family within social process and institutions.
2. Critique the nature, value, and limitations of the basic methods of studying individuals and families.
3. Using historical and contemporary examples, describe how perceived differences, combined with unequal distribution of power across economic, social, and political institutions, result in discrimination.
4. Explain how difference is socially constructed.
5. Analyze current social issues and place them in historical context(s).
6. Analyze ways in which the intersections of social categories such as race, ethnicity, social class, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability, and age are related to difference, power, and discrimination in the United States.
7. Synthesize multiple viewpoints and sources of evidence to generate reasonable conclusions.

**HDFS 201 Contemporary Families in the United States** fulfills the Social Processes and Institutions (SPI) and Difference, Power, and Discrimination (DPD) requirements in the Baccalaureate Core for Oregon State University.

Human beings are inevitably social, influencing and being influenced by social groups. The social sciences study social institutions and processes and deal with the human behaviors and values that form and change them, and are essential for an understanding of contemporary society.

The DPD requirement engages students in the intellectual examination of the complexity of the structures, systems, and ideologies that sustain discrimination and the unequal distribution of power and resources in society. The unequal distribution of social, economic, and political power in the United States and in other countries is sustained through a variety of individual beliefs and institutional practices. These beliefs and practices have tended to obscure the origins and operations of social discrimination such that this unequal power distribution is often viewed as the natural order. Examination of DPD course material is intended to enhance meaningful democratic participation in our college community and our increasingly multicultural U.S. society.

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## Class Structure

#### Outside of class

1. Start working at home after Thursday’s class. Open the Moodle class page, and read Liz’s Weekly Book or Lesson. It is at the top of the coming week’s section. The book contains Liz’s emphasis on the text readings and links to short readings and videos. Read, view and take notes.
2. Read your assigned textbook (Andrew Cherlin, *Public and Private Families*) and online readings, taking notes. Practice summarizing each section of the text to yourself in your own words. Read part of your chosen book on your own schedule, meeting course deadlines.
3. Complete your first attempt on the quiz. The quiz score demonstrates that you understand the definitions and terms in the reading.
4. If needed, take the quiz a second time prior to Tuesday’s class. (The quiz will close Tuesday at noon. Quizzes are never reopened).

#### In Class

1. Attend class. Every day. Arrive early and be present the entire class period.
2. Tuesday is the set up for that week’s “Weekly Wonder” which is the graded activity that takes place Thursday in class. It’s your chance to solidify all that you have read and absorbed by articulating your ideas and questions, working with others on the concepts, and being challenged by Liz’s supplementation of the material and questions.
	1. Distill and Discuss: you and a small group of peers will collaborate to distill the weekly readings and then share your work with the rest of the class. This activity demonstrates that your group can analyze the readings and identify the main ideas.
	2. MIni-lecture: Liz will lecture on the readings and additional course concepts not presented in the textbook.
	3. Class discussion: The class will participate in examining materials more deeply via in class anonymous polling, videos, predictive analysis, and discussion. This discussion helps you to connect the readings you’ve done at home with the ideas learned in class.
3. Thursday is the Weekly Wonder. Via lecture, guided questions, and collaborative work with a small group of peers you will analyze and apply cumulative course materials, with an emphasis on this week’s topic.
	1. Mini-lecture: Liz will lecture on the “BIG IDEAS” of the concepts and ideas related to this week’s topic.
	2. Collaborative work: your small group will work with guided questions.
	3. Share your work with peers. Via Coffee Shops, Gallery Walk, or Group presentations, you will communicate what you have learned to others. For example: in the “Coffee Shops” activity, each table will analyze a different newspaper article related to contemporary family life in the US and this week’s topic. You will explain the article analysis to two other students, each of whom has read a different article.
	4. Weekly Wonder upload. In the final part of class, Liz will provide one question that ties together the weekly concepts. You will word process your answer (usually 300 words or fewer) and upload your response to Moodle as a Turnitin submission. You may discuss the question with your peers, but must upload work in your own words. Your individual writing demonstrates your synthesis of the cumulative material with an emphasis on connections among concepts. Your grade will be a combination of participation points and qualitative points based on your written response.

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## Required Materials

* + Cherlin, A. J. (2017). *Public and Private Families: An Introduction* (**8th Ed.**) Boston: McGraw Hill (Using the 7th edition is fine as well, although there are some terminology/content differences).
	+ Two readings:

Rank, Mark R. (2003). [“As American as Apple Pie”.](http://socialstratification.files.wordpress.com/2008/10/poverty_contexts_american_apple_pie.pdf) *Contexts, 2 (3).* 41-49.

Johnson, Allen (nd).  [“The Social Construction of Difference”.](http://www.odec.umd.edu/CD/UNIVERSAL%20READINGS/The%20Social%20Construction%20of%20Difference%20Johnson.pdf) 15-20.

* + Your choice of a book: *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age,* by Amani Al-Khatahtbeh, 2017 (memoir); *Killers of the Flower Moon,* David Grann*,* 2017 (nonfiction); *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson, 2014 (memoir)*; The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas*,* 2017(novel); *What Night Brings* by Carla Trujillo*,* 2003 (novel)

## Evaluation

1. Open note/Open book Quizzes: Quizzes (taken online) are due by 12:00 p.m.Tuesday each week. The quiz is designed to demonstrate your completion of text and Moodle lesson reading. Completing the reading will enable you to take part in class activities with the baseline knowledge needed in order to complete the WWs. You have two tries for every quiz and unlimited time, but the deadline is firm. Quizzes will not be made up or reopened; take your quiz early! Lowest quiz grade dropped. *(10 points per week x 9 = 90 points).*
2. Weekly Wonders: Each week (or so) you will earn 50 - 100 WW points. Points will be awarded on a combined basis of participation and quality of work. *(50 - 100 points per activity X 8 = 500 points).*
* Weekly Wonders will focus on the readings/lectures of the current week with an expectation that material from previous weeks has been understood and retained. Most WWs will involve critical thinking and the [higher levels of thinking as defined by Benjamin Bloom’s Taxonomy](https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/guides-sub-pages/blooms-taxonomy/) (analyzing, evaluating, synthesizing, creating).
* Most Weekly Wonders take place in class; partial makeups are available. If you must miss class for an extended period, be in touch with me and the Center for Accessibility Resources right away
* I do not accept any e-mailed assignments**.**
* I use Turnitin, a tool to educate students about using too much similarity (plagiarism) in written work.

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### **Evaluation Totals**

Quizzes 90

WWs 1,2,3,5,6(50 each)    250

WW4/Midterm 100

WW7 60

WW8 100

Total                    600

**540- 600 A**

**480 - 539 B**

**420 - 479 C**

**360 - 419 D**

**Under 360: F**

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### **Instructor’s Notes**

It is my purpose to help you understand the concepts in this class as deeply as possible.  I want you to retain these concepts in your long-term memory, as opposed to your short-term memory. To reach this goal, we will all engage in critical thinking. [What is critical thinking?](https://www.criticalthinking.org/pages/defining-critical-thinking/766) It is the ability to evaluate and examine multiple sources of information including your own biases, identify multiple causes and effects, and continually reassess as new knowledge is uncovered in order to form a viewpoint or conclusion.

The assignments are intended to help you make personal and cultural connections, and to support the development of your [sociological imagination.](http://sociology.about.com/od/Works/a/Sociological-Imagination.htm) How is what we are studying relevant to you? Can you look at your life experience from an alternative view? Making these kinds of connections is both more challenging and more rewarding than merely memorizing content.

Class time is valuable and I will be focused on teaching and learning during the time that we have together each week. Please feel comfortable eating, drinking, and leaving the room for the bathroom or communication needs.

If you distract me with unfocused behavior, I will call you on it. Be respectful. If you have personal business to attend to (e.g. phones calls/texting, conversations, or other class work**),** *take care of it outside of the classroom*. We will be using lots of electronic technology in this class; use it respectfully. Access to internet searches and applications will greatly enhance the course experience for all of us. I expect you to apply yourself to your education during class hours.*You are the person who has the greatest impact on your learning and on your grade*.

Ask questions pertaining to the class during class time. If it is a personal matter, tell me after class, telephone, or email me. Please head your emails with HDFS 201 F2F.

I make it a high priority to grade your work promptly. *Late work is an exception, and will be graded at my discretion, following the grading of all on-time work from all of my classes.* If you submit late work, it will be graded by Week 11. (Note the late work deadlines on the course calendar). Not all WWs may be fully made up.

### **Extra Credit**

Extra credit is at the discretion of the Instructor. Any Extra credit available to one student must be available to all students. [Click here to access extra credit opportunities.](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bgpHyPvxUS6GXu--wAQKNTOhwJpGPggZ6PMUmGXDkL0/edit?usp=sharing) **Extra credit will be graded during Week 11.**

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### LBCC Comprehensive Statement of Nondiscrimination

LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws.

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### Campus Resources

Many resources such as the Library, Learning Center, the Writing Desk, and Family Connections, are available to you as a student. They are described on the LBCC website.

Students who may need accommodations due to documented disabilities, or who have medical information which the instructor should know, or who need special arrangements in an emergency, should speak with the instructor privately during the first week of class. If you believe you may need accommodations, but are not yet registered with CFAR, please go to <http://linnbenton.edu/cfar> for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or food, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, is urged to contact a Student Resource Navigator in the Single Stop Office (T-112): Amanda Stanley, stanlea@linnbenton.edu, 541-917-4877. The navigator can connect students to resources. Furthermore, please talk with your instructor if you are comfortable doing so. This will enable them to provide any resources that they may have.

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## Vocabulary:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Social Process |  |
| Social Institution |  |
| Social characteristics/categories |  |
| Socially constructed |  |
| Social Construction of Difference |  |
| Sociological Imagination |  |
| Social Issue/Problem |  |
| Implicit Bias |  |
| Privilege and Oppression |  |
| Intersectionality |  |
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## Course Schedule HDFS 201 Fall 2018 F2F

* **Weekly Reading (Text, Moodle Lesson/Book)**
* **Quizzes due every Tuesday at 12:00 p.m. (except first week; quiz due Thursday).**
* **WWs due in class or via Moodle as per syllabus, subject to change.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Topic** | **Reading**  | **Work Due** |
| Part I (Weeks 1-2: Family variations; theories; studying families; social processes and institutions; social characteristics and social construction of difference; privilege and oppression; family structures; history of families and social policy.  |
| **1*****24-30 Sept*** | The study of families and theoretical perspectives; terminology and definitions | Syllabus, Chapter 1 & [The Social Construction...](https://drive.google.com/a/linnbenton.edu/file/d/0B05PTqQSjz1gcXpIekhCQnR1N2M/view?usp=sharing) article | **Quiz 1 due by *Thursday* 12:00 p.m.** |
| **2*****1-7 Oct*** | History of Families and Social Policy | Chapters 2 & 14 | **T: Quiz 2 (by 12:00 p.m.)****R: WW1/Slideshow Draft due in class** |
| **Week** | **Topic** | **Reading**  | **Work Due** |
| **Part II (Weeks 3-5) Social characteristics of individuals and families; implicit bias; intersectionality.** |
| **3*****8-14 Oct*** | Gender | Chapter 3; **first ⅓ of novel due** | **T: Quiz 3****R: WW2 in class**  |
| **4*****15-21 Oct***  | Social Class and Poverty | Chapter4 & [Apple Pie article](http://socialstratification.files.wordpress.com/2008/10/poverty_contexts_american_apple_pie.pdf)  | **T: Quiz 4;** [**https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html**](https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html)**R: WW3/In Class; Sit in Book Club Groups(Part I)** |
| **5*****22-28 Oct*** | Race and Ethnicity | Chapter 5; **second ⅓ of novel due**  | *(All late work from weeks 1-4 due by Tuesday 12:00 p.m.)* **T: Quiz 5; WW4 (midterm) prep** **R: WW3/In Class Book Clubs(Part II)** |
| Part III (Weeks 6-7): Family formation and development; love relationships. |
| **6*****29 Oct-******4 Nov*** | Sexualities, Dating, Union Formation & Dissolution | Chapter 6 & 7 | **T: Quiz 6****R: WW4/Midterm Question/ In Class: open note, open computer, open book** |
| **7*****5-11 Nov*** | *Continued* | Chapter 12 | **T: Quiz 7; Extra credit WW8 outcome demo due****R: WW5/In Class**  |
| Part IV (Weeks 8-10): Working families; children and parents; intergenerational relationships; intersectionality; difference, power and discrimination.  |
| ***8******12-18 Nov*** | Working Families | Chapter 8 | **T: Quiz 8; WW8 demo by Liz (in class); Finish WW5****R:WW6/In Class** |
| **Week** | **Topic** | **Reading**  | **Work Due** |
| ***9******19-25 Nov*** | Parent-Child Relations, the Elderly, and Families | Chapters9 & 10 | **T: Quiz 9; Finish WW6****R: No class** |
| ***10******26 Nov-2 Dec*** | *Continued* | **Finish novel** | *(All late work from weeks 5-9 and extra credit due by Tuesday 12:00 p.m.)***T: Quiz 10; Novel/memoir discussion** **R: WW7/In Class** |
| ***11******Dec 4th*** | Final (WW8) due: 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec 4th |  | **WW8 due by 3:00 p.m. No late assignments accepted.**  |

*The Instructor reserves the right to make changes in the course schedule. Changes will be announced in class and posted in the live link to this syllabus.*

My Moodle course page will be “under construction” this term. I am in process of changing books into lessons. Sometimes you will see a book icon (green) and sometimes a “lesson” that has a white icon with little rectangles. The icon will vary week to week, based on my progress, but the content is the same.  *Liz*