



**Brescia University College**  
**Family Studies 1010A (530): Introduction to Families in Canada**  
**Fall 2018**

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Dr. Stephen Lin                                      Office hours: after class or by appointment  
Email: clin64@uwo.ca  
Class time/room:  
Tuesdays 2:30pm – 4:30pm & Thursdays 2:30am - 3:30pm / BR 18

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**Course Description:**

This introductory course explains the field of Family Studies, examining the factors that shape family life, from individual psychology to group dynamics to social forces such as the workplace, the economy, and the government. Families are considered across the life course, and family diversity is highlighted.

**Course Objectives & Competencies:** By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- Express knowledge of Family Studies terminology, concepts, research methods, and theories (inquiry and analysis level 2, critical thinking level 2).
- Identify stages of family life (inquiry and analysis level 2, critical thinking level 2).
- Describe how family theories help us understand the characteristics and processes of families in different stages (inquiry and analysis level 2, critical thinking level 1).
- Understand how families are affected by social institutions (social awareness and engagement level 2, inquiry and analysis level 2, critical thinking level 1).
- Demonstrate an understanding of diversity in contemporary Canadian families (social awareness and engagement level 1, inquiry and analysis level 1, critical thinking level 1, valuing level 2).
- Understand some of the challenges facing Canadian families, such as poverty and violence (inquiry and analysis level 2, critical thinking level 1, problem solving level 2, valuing level 2, social awareness and engagement level 2).
- Demonstrate knowledge of ongoing changes in Canadian families (inquiry and analysis level 2, critical thinking level 1, valuing level 2).
- Reflect upon their attitudes and beliefs about families and family roles (critical thinking level 1, valuing level 1, self-awareness and development level 2).
- Develop skills in synthesizing Family Studies knowledge, and presenting it professionally and coherently (critical thinking level 1, inquiry and analysis level 2, valuing level 2, communication level 2).

**Prerequisite:** None

**Antirequisite:** FS 1020

**Required Text:** White, J. M., Martin, T. F., & Bartolic, S. K. (2013). *Families across the Life Course*. Pearson: Toronto.

## Reading and Participation:

It is expected that students will come to class prepared to discuss the assigned material. There is no attendance grade in this course, but failure to attend classes regularly will put you at a disadvantage. Much of the course is cumulative, so missing one class can cause problems for comprehending the material in the following classes

## Method of Evaluation:

In-Class Quiz (October 2)	15%
Midterm Exam (October 23)	25%
Family Life Course Assignment (December 6)	25%
Final Exam (cumulative, with more weights on final chapters)	35%

## Evaluation Breakdown (detailed information provided in class)

### **In-Class Quiz (Tuesday, October 2)**

This in-class Quiz is worth 15% of your total grade and will test students on the list of important theories and concepts related to family studies in the Canadian context. This quiz will cover the material from **chapter 1 to 3** and will consist of multiple short-answer questions. It will be held during the first half of the class on October 2.

### **Mid-Term Exam (Tuesday, October 23)**

The 2-hour mid-term exam is worth 25% of your total grade and will cover materials from **September 6 to October 18. You are expected to review lectures and chapter 1 to 5.** This exam consists of multiple-choice questions only.

### **Family Life Course Assignment (Thursday, December 6)**

This assignment (25%) is designed to help you to understand the history of your own family situations from various theoretical perspectives. You are expected to apply relevant theories, concepts and themes to describe the social dynamics of your family. You must discuss important transitions that your family have gone through in life, and how they impact you and other family members in various ways. Please be selective in terms of the information you would like to present to me since you do not have enough space to discuss everything you have witnessed and experienced in your family. This assignment should be **4** pages in length, double spaced with 12 font size. You must include an introduction that highlights the main ideas of your family situation and a conclusion that sums up your observation of your family situation. Please submit it to me via the online dropbox on OWL by **4:00pm on Thursday, December 6.** Late submission will be penalized by 5% per day.

### **Final Exam (TBA)**

This 2-hour final exam is worth 35% of your total grade and will cover all the materials from since the first class. Although this exam is **cumulative, more questions will be from chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and relevant lectures.** This exam will consist of multiple choice only.

## Weekly Reading and Important Dates

Date	Topic	Readings, Assignments, and Exams
Sept 6	Course Introduction	Purchase the textbook
Sept 11-13	Defining family	Chapter 1
Sept 18-20	Life course analysis	Chapter 2
Sept 25-27	Dating and mate selection	Chapter 3
Oct 2-4	Cohabitation	Chapter 4 ( <b>Oct 2: In-Class Quiz: 40 mins</b> )
Oct 9-11	Reading Week	None
Oct 16-18	Marriage	Chapter 5
Oct 23-25	<b>Oct 23: Midterm Exam Oct 25: Writing Workshop</b>	<b>Exam Coverage (Chapter 1-5)</b>
Oct 30-Nov 1	Having or not having children	Chapter 6
Nov 6-8	Parent-child relationships	Chapter 7
Nov 13-15	Social Institutions & families	Chapter 8
Nov 20-22	Divorce and repartnering	Chapter 9
Nov 27-29	Aging families	Chapter 10
Dec 4-6	The future of the family	Chapter 12 Family Life Course Assignment due (Dec 6)

### 2018-19 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

#### 1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation.

Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

Students must submit their documentation along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements for classes/labs/tutorials, arranging Special Exams or Incompletes, re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawals without academic penalty.

Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded from: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf) . The student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation.

The full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at: [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\\_12](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12)

## **2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS**

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates in the Academic Calendar, see the Sessional Dates tab at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/index.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=> ). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

### 3. ABSENCES

**Short Absences:** If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment.

Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

**Extended Absences:** If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

([http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading\\_68](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68) ).

### 4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at:

[http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\\_20](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20).

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

#### **Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

#### **5. Computer-marked Tests/exams:**

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

#### **PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS**

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, she may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal. For information on academic appeals you can consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar

[http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\\_14](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14).

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

#### **6. PREREQUISITES**

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

#### **7. SUPPORT SERVICES**

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>.

### **Mental Health and Wellness**

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can learn more about mental health and wellness at Brescia at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/mental-health-wellness/>. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness at Western, [http://uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/index.html](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html), for information about how to obtain help for yourself or others.

### **Sexual Violence**

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/sexual-violence/>.

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Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.