

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY: FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES

Women's Studies/Sociology 452 (3 credits)

Fall 2010 Extension (ON LINE COURSE)

<https://laulima.edu>

Instructor:

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Appointments available upon request

Course Description:

This course addresses sex-role socialization, motherhood, work-family conflicts, alternative family structures and interpersonal relationships in U.S. and other countries. The course objectives are to (1) analyze current feminist and sociological theoretical perspectives and empirical research findings on the study of human relationships within courtship, marriage, and the family as influenced by culture and society, (2) analyze how culture and society affect our interpersonal choices, values, and beliefs, and (3) enable each student to integrate her or his knowledge and demonstrated understanding of the course content through written assignments.

Required Texts:

- *Marriage and Family: Feminist Perspectives* created by me specifically for this course through McGraw-Hill publishing. Available at the bookstore. ISBN: 9780390274526
- *Blu's Hanging*, Lois Ann Yamanaka, Paperback: 272 pages, Publisher: Harper Perennial (July 1, 1998), ISBN-10: 0380731398, ISBN-13: 978-0380731398
- Additional readings are available on Laulima under "Resources" as Word documents and PDFs.
- Videos, audio lectures, and audio presentations by guest speakers are available on Laulima under "Resources". Be sure to have the readings with you when you listen to the lectures so that you can follow along with the discussion. All lectures will be uploaded on Laulima no later than Sunday 11:55pm (HST) of the week they are scheduled for.

Ground Rules:

1. Respect each other's confidentiality. What is disclosed in this course by guest speakers and class participants should be held in confidence.
2. Participate with an open mind.
3. Agree to disagree.
4. Have mutual respect.
5. No personal attacks.
6. If you are triggered, traumatized or reactivated by what we are discussing, hearing, or seeing – **do what you need to do to take care of yourself.**

Course Requirements:

- Weekly Assignments: These will account for 25% of your grade. Each Sunday I will post a set of questions to go with the week's reading. They will be posted under the "Assignment" on Laulima. The goal of this is to have 1:1 discussion between the instructor and student. I will give feedback and these assignments will give me a better understanding of where each student is excelling and struggling. There is no required word/page count for the assignments, but your answers should be clear and complete. Weekly assignments are due by

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the following Sunday at 11:55pm (HST). Partial points will be given to assignments turned in late.

- On line Discussion: This will account for 25% of your grade. Since this course takes place entirely online your active participation is crucial to the group experience as well as to your individual success in this course. Each week I will post discussion prompts and questions that I expect you to respond to and have an online discussion about. Questions will be posted under the “Discussion and Private Message” thread on Lualima and will be posted on Sundays. Students can then respond to each other and add additional questions. You are required to respond at least **three** times each week and each response should be approximately 100-150 words (at the minimum, feel free to write more). Like the weekly assignments, discussion posts should be submitted by the following Sunday at 11:55 pm (HST). Partial points will be given for less than three posts and/or late posts.
- Mid-term Essay Exam: Using the materials from this course, this paper should offer an in-depth/sophisticated analysis of the subject matter presented and include citations from class readings/discussions. It will account for 25% of your grade. It must be a **minimum** of 5 pages (not including references). Refer to the course outline for paper topic and due date.
- Final Essay Exam: Using the materials from this course, this paper should offer an in-depth/sophisticated analysis of the subject matter presented in class and include citations from class readings/discussion. It will account for 25% of your grade. It must be a **minimum** of 5 pages (not including references).

All papers must:

- Be typed in 12 pt. font (Times/Times Roman).
- Be doubled spaced.
- Have **one-inch** margins on all sides.
- Have the minimum number of pages required for the assignment. Papers falling short will be docked.
- Have the pages numbered.
- Use the materials from this course. You may include information from the videos, guest speakers, lectures and readings. The point of this course is to demonstrate your understanding of the course content. Along with the course material you may include citations from scholarly (peer reviewed) journals or texts as needed. Citations from random websites, Wikipedia or other unscholarly sources including TV shows, movies, the news and stories about your friends/family will not be accepted for the midterm and final essay exams.
- Be properly cited. Citations should include author last name and year of publication or date of lecture. Direct quotes from the readings should also include the page number. Anyone caught plagiarizing will receive an automatic F for the assignment and be referred immediately to the Vice Chancellor for Students.
- Be turned in on or before the time and day they are due (Refer to Course Outline below). All assignments are due based on Hawaiian Standard Time (HST). *Papers turned in late will be docked one letter grade for each day late.*
- Review *Rubric for Grading Papers* found in the Week 1&2 folder under “Resources”.

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Discussion “netiquette”:

It is important to note that this course will deal with ideas and issues that may challenge you, your values, and your beliefs or those of your peers. The topic of “the family” can provoke passionate feelings and responses. Many of us hold different views on many issues and no one in class should feel intimidated about expressing their opinions. However, it is vital that we remain respectful of others’ points of view. It is also important to keep in mind that we are all here to learn from each other. It is okay to “agree to disagree” on any subject.

To ensure maximum communication and minimum discomfort, please apply the following rules to online discussions: Ask questions so you can understand an opposing view rather than making judgments, do not use profanity (unless in a quote), do not use abbreviations or other e-mail short-hand (text-speak) in your communications, and do practice courtesy in all exchanges. Because this course is completely online, we have the luxury of brainstorming, writing, and editing all of our comments before submitting them online. Please be courteous and respectful in all your exchanges and remember the best critiques/arguments are articulate, clear, and backed up with evidence. Violations can result in your being excluded from the discussions and receiving a 0 for this portion of your grade.

Personal attacks will not be tolerated. Students are protected from harassment under the Student Conduct Code. Violation of this code can result in being expelled from this course as well as the institution. You may have your future registration for courses blocked until the matter is resolved. With this in mind, please refer to the course ground rules below. The Student Conduct Code can be found at http://www.studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code/.

Course Communication:

Regular communication is critical to success in this online course. I will communicate through e-mail and the online discussions. You can e-mail me at any time for any reason, and I will usually answer most e-mail within 24 hours on weekdays. Please check the course site several times a week and make it a habit to always check the announcements and messages whenever you log in. You are expected to respond in a timely manner (within 48 hours on week days) to any personal communications I send you. Repeated failure to respond will result in a lowered discussion grade.

Student Responsibilities:

- *Arrange for a back-up computer* in case of unforeseen technology disasters. No extension of deadlines will be granted for computer or Internet problems originating from the student's equipment or provider.
- Obtain all of the books and complete all of the assigned readings, watch all of the assigned videos and listen to all of the assigned lectures. You are expected to take notes on them, apply critical thinking, make connections between the assignments, and be able to discuss them in depth.
- Log on to Laulima several times a week to check for updates.
- Reply to any direct communications from the instructor within 48 hours.
- Conduct online dialogues according to netiquette standards.
- Do all of your own work or risk failing the course.

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- Refer to the assignment due dates in the syllabus. I will keep some assignments open for late submissions and these can show as “due dates” on Laulima. **You are responsible for following the due dates as noted in the syllabus regardless of what Laulima says.**

Technology requirements:

- You will need high-speed Internet connections for this course.
- You will need to locate a backup computer in case your current computer runs into problems. Having a broken computer will not be an acceptable excuse for failing to do assignments or for not turning them in on time.
- Many aspects of Laulima may not work with some browsers so to avoid problems, download the latest version of Mozilla Firefox (free) and make it your default browser for this course: www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/
- You have to be able to watch videos on YouTube, download and listen to MP3 files, and download PDF files.
- If you are experiencing technical difficulties do not contact me for help, instead contact Laulima via their home page and click on “request assistance” or contact the ITS help desk at help@hawaii.edu or by phone at 808-956-8883, neighbor islands can call toll free at 800-558-2669.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:

All submitted work must be your own! The ideas of others must be fully and properly cited in all of your papers. Academic dishonesty is punishable by grade reduction, course failure, and in serious cases, expulsion. If you have questions please refer to the UHM Student Conduct Code: http://www.studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code/.

Students with Disabilities:

If you feel you need reasonable accommodations because of the impact of a disability, please (1) contact the KOKUA Program at 956-7511 or 956-7612; and (2) speak with me privately to discuss your specific needs. I will be happy to work with you and the KOKUA Program to meet your access needs related to your documented disability.

Course grading procedure:

There are seven graded aspects to this course with a total number of 100 points based on:

Weekly Assignments	25 points	<u>Letter grades for point totals</u>			
On-line Discussions	25 points	A+	98-100	B-	80-82
Mid-term Essay Exam	25 points	A	93-97	C+	77-79
Final Essay Exam	<u>25 points</u>	A-	90-92	C	73-76
Total	100 points	B+	87-89	C-	70-72
		B	83-86	D	60-69

Course Outline and Assignments:

Documents, videos and lectures can be found under “Resources”, assignments under “Assignments” and on-line discussion posts under “Discussion and Private Messages” on Laulima. All required materials will be uploaded by the Sunday @ 11:55pm prior to the week they are due. For example, assignments due the week of Jan 18-22 will be posted by Jan 17.

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Week 1: August 23 – 29: Preparation for Course

- Carefully and thoroughly read the ENTIRE syllabus.
- Email me by August 29th with any questions or concerns about the syllabus, course content or requirements.
- Do the Laulima student tutorials found under “Student Docs” on Laulima’s main page (where you log-in). Be sure you are familiar with the following tools: Discussion and Private Message, Resources, Assignments, Mail Tool and Syllabus.
- Purchase required textbooks.
- Make sure you can open PDF files , listen to lectures in MP3 format, and watch videos via video links and MP4 files.
- Listen to:
 - Week 1 lecture
- Assignments:
 - None

Week 2: August 30 – September 5:

- Read:
 -
- Listen to:
 - Week 2 lecture(s)
- Assignments:
 - Week 2 Assignment **Due** , **not accepted after**
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by** , **not accepted after**

Week 3: September 6 – 12 (Monday the 6th Holiday):

- Read:
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- Listen to:
 - Week 3 lecture(s)
- Assignments:
 - Week 3 Assignment **Due, not accepted after**
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by** , **not accepted after**

Week 4: September 13 - 19

- Read:
- Watch:
- Listen to:
 - Week 4 lectures(s)
 - Week 4 Assignment **Due** , **not accepted after**
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by** , **not accepted after**

Week 5: September 20 - 26

- Read:
 -
- Listen to:

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- Week 5 lecture(s)
- Assignments:
 - Week 5 Assignment **Due , not accepted after**
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by , not accepted after**

Week 6: September 27 – October 3

- Read:
 -
- Watch:
- Listen to:
- Assignments:
 - Week 6 Assignment **Due not accepted after**
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by , not accepted after**

Week 7: October 4 – 10

- Read:
- Listen to:
- Assignments:
 - Week 7 Assignment **Due , not accepted after**
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by , not accepted after**

Week 8: October 11 – 17

- Read:
- Watch:
- Listen to:
 - Week 8 lecture(s)
- Assignments:
 - Week 8 Assignment **Due , not accepted after**
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by , not accepted after**

Week 9: October 18 – 24

- Read:
 -
- Listen to:
 -
- Assignments:
 - Week 9 Assignment **Due , not accepted after**
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by , not accepted after**

Week 10: October 2 – 31

- Read:
- Listen to:
 - Week 10 lecture(s)
- Assignments:
 - Mid-term Essay Exam **Due One letter grade (= 1 point) off for each day late**

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- Week 10 Assignment **Due , not accepted after**
- On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by , not accepted after**

Week 11: November 1 – 7 (Holiday November 2):

- Read:
- Listen to:
 - Week 10 lecture(s)
- Assignments:
 - Week 10 Assignment **Due , not accepted after**
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by , not accepted after**

Week 12: November 8 – 14:

- Read:
 -
- Watch:
 -
- Listen to:
 - Week 12 lecture(s)
- Assignments:
 - Week 12 Assignment **Due , not accepted after**
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by , not accepted after**

Week 13: November 15 – 21:

- Read:
 -
- Watch:
- Listen to:
 - Week 13 lecture(s)
- Assignments:
 - Week 13 Assignment **Due , not accepted after**
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by , not accepted after**
 - Final Essay Assignment Announced & Posted on Laulima

Week 14: November 22 – 28 (November 25-26 Holiday):

- Read:
 -
- Watch:
 -
- Listen to:
 - Week 14 lecture(s)
- Assignments:
 - Week 14 Assignment **Due , not accepted after**

Week 15: November 29 – December 5:

- Read:

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- Listen to:
 - Week 15 lecture(s)
- Assignments:
 - Week 15 Assignment **Due , not accepted after**
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by , not accepted after**

Week 16: December 6 – 9 (short week):

- Read:
 -
- Listen to:
 -
- Assignments:
 - On-line Discussion posts **Three posts due by , not accepted after**

Finals Week: December 13 – 17:

- **Final Paper due Wednesday, December 15 by 11:55 pm (HST) NO EXCEPTIONS!**