COURSE INFORMATION
- SOCI 3000: Sociology of Marriage and Family
- FALL 2015
- SOCI 3000, Section 900, 950 3 credit hours
- Office Hours: Monday 11:30 am -2:00 pm, and by appointment

Professor / Instructor Contact Information
- Ami Moore, PhD  Associate Professor
- Office: Chilton 390G
- Phone: 940.565.4267
- Fax: 940.369.7035
- Email address: amoore@unt.edu
- Office Hours: Monday 11:30 am -2:00 pm, and by appointment.

About the Professor / Instructor
Welcome to SOCI 3000 (Sociology of Marriage and Family). My name is Dr. Ami Moore. I will be your instructor of record for SOCI 3000 for this semester. I am Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology. I am a social demographer and teach several Sociology courses.

Materials – Text, Readings, Supplementary Readings


Articles are located on Blackboard

Course Description

This course is designed to help you understand the history of the family as a social institution and contemporary family issues. Of course, all of us are experts to some degree on family and family-related issues. We have lived in families and/or have our own families. Thus, we have observed family dynamics and may have compared our own family experiences to others. HOWEVER, in this class, we will use sociological theories and research to analyze the social forces that impact this social institution called ‘the family’.
Learning Objectives

At the end of the course, students will be able to:
1. understand why the American family is not monolithic
2. place their own personal experiences of the family in a larger social context
3. place present-day family issues in their historical and social contexts
4. understand current family changes and stresses.
5. understand and explain sociological theories of family.

Teaching Philosophy

Online classes are very fast paced, thus, it is important for students to stay up with assignments and complete them on time. You CANNOT procrastinate. To do well in this class, students should ask questions whenever they have one, and do all the assignments ON TIME (discussions, quizzes, video evaluations, and exams). Please **PROOF-READ** your work before submitting it as your grades will be partially based on the clarity of your writing. Your grades in this course will be based on discussions, quizzes, video evaluations, and exams.

1. There will be three discussions for the term.
2. Discussions will be posted on the Discussions tab.
3. There will be three video assignments which will be posted on the Assignments tab.
4. There will be three exams posted on the Assessment tab
5. There will be a quiz for every module posted on the Assessment tab
6. Quizzes and exams will be on the Assessments tab. There will be NO MAKE-UP quizzes.
7. Each assignment will turn on at a particular time and be available for 72 hours.
8. Assignments CANNOT be made up after they turn off.
9. Your assignments MUST be posted during the allotted time.
10. No work will be accepted after the deadline.
11. **PLEASE do not e-mail me your assignment, I will not read it.**
12. I will read each and every post and provide feedback when necessary.
13. Please be courteous in the Course-room. Do not post anything offensive, threatening, inflammatory, or illegal. Also, do not call people names if you disagree with their views.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS / ASSISTANCE

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparation for the technological aspect of the course.

UIT Help Desk: [http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)
Hardware and software necessary to use Bb Learn: [http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/bblearn/](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/bblearn/)
Necessary plug-ins:  [http://goo.gl/1lsVF](http://goo.gl/1lsVF)
Internet Access with compatible web browser
Headset/Microphone (if required for synchronous chats)
Word Processor
[Other related hardware or software necessary for the course]

**Minimum Technical Skills Needed:**

*Examples include:*

- Using the learning management system
- Using email with attachments
- Creating and submitting files in commonly used word processing program formats
- Copying and pasting
- Downloading and installing software
- Using spreadsheet programs

**ACCESS & NAVIGATION**

**Access and Log in Information**
This course was developed and will be facilitated utilizing the University of North Texas’ Learning Management System, Blackboard Learn. To get started with the course, please go to: [https://learn.unt.edu](https://learn.unt.edu)

You will need your EUID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your EUID or have forgotten your password, please go to: [http://ams.unt.edu](http://ams.unt.edu).

**Student Resources**

As a student, you will have access to:

- Student Orientation via Blackboard Learn. It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials within the Orientation to better equip you in navigating the course.

- Blackboard’s [On Demand Learning Center for Students](http://ams.unt.edu). It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials to better equip you to navigate the course.

- From within Blackboard, you will have access to the “UNT Helpdesk “ tab which provides student resources and Help Desk Information.
Being a Successful Online Student

- What Makes a Successful Online Student?
- Self Evaluation for Potential Online Students

How the Course is Organized

Fifteen chapters are covered during the semester. There are weekly quizzes, 3 exams, 3 discussion fora, and 3 video evaluation assignments.

What Should Students Do First?

First, make sure you read the syllabus and understand its content. Make note of the deadlines. Ask the instructor questions if you have any.

How Students Should Proceed Each Week for Class Activities

There are weekly readings that you need to keep up with in order to do well in this class. If you have problems or questions, email me at: amoore@unt.edu. Make note of deadlines which are organized weekly in this class.

Student Technical Support

The University of North Texas provides student technical support in the use of Blackboard and supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940.565-2324
In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Regular hours are maintained to provide support to students. Please refer to the website (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/hours.htm) for updated hours.

Student Support Services

Also known at the University of North Texas campus as SSS. All activities and services provided by SSS are intended to help students progress through their degree to an on-time graduation. Please refer to the website (https://trio.unt.edu/sss) for detailed list of services.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Readings and Assignments: Students are expected to do all assigned readings for each week and be prepared to share their views on the different issues raised in the readings.

1. Quizzes: (20 points—EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITY). There will be NO make-up quizzes. A quiz will be given weekly, starting Sept 2, 2015. Questions will be drawn from materials covered (textbook, videos, discussions, etc.). The quiz will be posted for 72 hours. However, you will have between 10 and 25 minutes to take the quiz (depending on the number of questions) once you begin. Also, you will have only ONE attempt. The quizzes will turn on from Wednesdays (6:00 pm) to Saturdays (6:00 pm). You must complete the quiz during this time.

2. Video Evaluations: (75 points total)—Three videos will be shown in this class. The purpose is to provide students with an opportunity to think about and comment on particular issue(s) that is/are being covered. You are required to submit at least a one-page typed-written (font size =12) reaction paper of the video.

General guidelines for all the video evaluations

While you’re viewing a video, think about and write down the following:

a. What are the most important points or ideas in the video?
b. What significance do these ideas have for a course of this nature?
c. Write a brief response to at least one major issue discussed. Use your sociological imagination here. Make sure you integrate relevant concepts and theories that you learn in the textbook, videos, notes, etc. to substantiate your views.
d. Do you think the video is relevant to the class topic under discussion (here you state if the video presents anything to illustrate or explain a point raised in the text or in class discussion? Did the video make you look at anything differently?) If you think the video is not relevant to the topic, feel free to say so but you must be certain to explain your position.
e. Did you find anything problematic?

Video 1—Monday, Sept 14 (6:00 pm) to Thursday, Sept 17 (6:00 pm)—See Assignments tab

Video 2—Monday, Oct 26 (6:00 pm) to Thursday, Oct 29 (6:00 pm)—See Assignments tab

Video 3—Monday, Nov 16 (6:00 pm) to Thursday, Nov 19 (6:00 pm)—See Assignments tab
3. **Discussions:** (75 points total). Discussion questions are posted in the Discussions tab. You are required to POST in your comments, read all of the posts of your classmates, and reply to two of the posts that you read. Please make sure you hit ‘QUOTE’ when you are replying to someone’s post or mention the name of the person whose post you are responding to, otherwise, I will not be able to follow what you are saying.

In your discussions, be as detailed as possible. Refrain from answers like “I agree”, “yes, this is true”, etc. Please make sure you explain why you agree or think the posting is good or true. Whatever you say, make sure you explain why you think the way you do. What I will be looking for in the postings is how well students integrate concepts and theories learned in the text into their discussions. **Show off your Sociological Imagination!!!** Students will have **Fridays from 6:00 pm to Mondays 6:00 pm** to post and reply to two of their group members’ posts. After 6:00 pm on Mondays, you will NOT BE ABLE to post your answer to the discussion question. **NOTE:** You have to post your answer for the discussion question(s) FIRST before you see the posts of your classmates.

- 90%-100% -- Very detailed answer. Answer/post has an extensive use of relevant textbook material — concepts and theories.
- 80%-89% -- Detailed answer. Answer/post contains a high level of use of textbook material — concepts and theories.
- 70%-79% -- Moderate answer. Answer/post has a moderate use of relevant textbook material — concepts and theories
- 60-69% -- Basic answer. Answer/post contains a superficial knowledge of relevant textbook material — concepts and theories.
- 59% and below – Answer/post has little to no knowledge of relevant concepts/theories.

**Discussion 1:** Friday, Sept 4 (6:00 pm) to Monday, Sept 7 (6:00 pm) — See Discussion tab

**Discussion 2:** Friday, Oct 9 (6:00 pm) to Monday, Oct 12 (6:00 pm) — See Discussion tab

**Discussion 3:** Friday, Nov 6 (6 pm) to Monday, Nov 9 (6 pm) -- See Discussion tab
4. **Examinations. (300 points)**—There will be three exams given during the semester on the dates specified in the schedule (see below). You have a 72-hour window for the exam. However, you will have a certain amount of time to take the exam once you begin it. Also, you will have only ONE attempt once you begin an exam.

**Exam 1:** Monday, Sept 28 (6pm) to Thursday, Oct 1 (6 pm)—located in Assessments tab

**Exam 2:** Monday, Nov 2 (6pm) to Thursday, Nov 5 (6 pm)—see Assessments tab

**Exam 3:** Sunday, Dec 6 (6pm) to Thursday, Dec 10 (6 pm)—see Assessments tab (NOTE—no make-up for final EXAM)

**Missed assignments.** You will be given an opportunity to make up for only ONE missed exam, discussion, and/or video during **PRE-FINALS WEEK**. However, you will have only **24 hours** to make up for a missed assignment instead of 72 hours. Dates for make-up assignments will be posted. Make-up assignments will be given during **PRE-FINAL WEEK** only. **I do not need to know if you missed an assignment. Please do not e-mail to inform me about your missed assignment.** Make-up assignments will **NOT** cover the same materials that you missed. Please check announcements and your e-mail daily. There is **no make-up exam for final exam**.

**Please remember:** I do not give “extra credit” opportunities to any single student, otherwise I will need to do so for the entire class. Also, do not make up stories about having problems with Blackboard, because I will track your time log and history.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Information will be sent to students via their e-mail (please check your e-mail daily) and posted on Blackboard- check the Announcements tab daily.

**Interaction with Instructor Statement:** The primary means to contact me will be via e-mail: amoore@unt.edu or telephone: 940.565.4267. However, I prefer e-mails since I try my best to respond to students within 24 hours, even on weekends. In case, I do not reply to your e-mail within 48 hours, please e-mail me again. I am also available during my office hours. You may call or just come in. I will send out an e-mail in case I cannot hold office hours. Nevertheless, I am in and out of the office most days, but it is always good to let me know ahead of time when you plan to meet with me.

**ASSESSMENT & GRADING**
1. **Assessments**
   **Quizzes:** (20 points—EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITY). There will be NO make-up quizzes. A quiz will be given for every module, starting Sept 2, 2015. Questions will be drawn from materials covered (population handbook, textbook, articles, and videos). The quiz will be posted for 72 hours. However, you will have between 10 and 25 minutes to take the quiz (depending on the number of questions) once it begins. Also, you will have only ONE attempt once you begin a quiz. The quizzes will be turned on from **Wednesdays (6:00 pm) to Saturdays (6:00 pm). You must complete the quiz during this time.**

2. **Video Evaluations:** (75 points total)--Three videos will be shown in this class. The purpose is to provide students with an opportunity to think about and comment on particular issue(s) that is/are being covered. You are required to submit at least a one-page typed-written reaction paper of the video.

3. **Discussions:** (75 points total). Discussion questions will be posted throughout the semester (see calendar). You are required to POST in your comments, read all of the posts of your classmates, and reply to two of the posts that you read. Please make sure you hit ‘QUOTE’ when you are replying to someone’s post or mention the name of the person whose post you are responding to, otherwise, I will not be able to follow what you are saying.

4. **Examinations.** (300 points total)—There will be three exams given during the semester on the dates specified in the schedule. You have a 72-hour window for the exam. However, you will have a certain amount of time to take the exam once you begin it. Also, you will have only ONE attempt once you begin an exam.

*This course is made up of a series of assignments and assessments to assist you in achieving the course learning objectives/outcomes. You have readings for each week and will work on various combinations of assignments, activities, discussions, etc. which will be made available to you on a specific date for 72 hours.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READING</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug 24-29</td>
<td>Seeking: finding happiness</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aug 30-Sept 5</td>
<td>Understanding: Learning about behavior</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sept 6-12</td>
<td>Gender: Meanings of masculinity …</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sept 13-19</td>
<td>Involvement: Dating, pairing, …</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sept 20-26</td>
<td>Love: The many faces</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sept 27-Oct 3</td>
<td>Ex <strong>am 1</strong> (will cover chapters 1-5)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Monday, Sept 28 (6:00 pm) – Thursday, Oct 1 (6:00 pm)</td>
<td>Communication: Realizing effective …</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oct 4-10</td>
<td>Sexuality: Interpersonal sexuality, …</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 11-17</td>
<td>Marriage: The ultimate commitment?</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Oct 18-24</td>
<td>Variations: Non-marital families and …</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reproduction: Decisions about … Chapter 10

Exam 2 (will cover chapters 6-10)

Monday, Nov 2 (6:00 pm) – Thursday, Nov 5 (6:00 pm)

Parenting: Children, families, & Generation Chapter 11

Work: Economics, jobs, and … Chapter 12

Crises: Managing stress, disaster, … Chapter 13

Uncoupling: Separation and divorce Remarriage: Reinvented, renewed, and .. Chapter 14 Chapter 15

PRE-FINALS WEEK

Make-up assignments

Final Exam (will cover chapters 11-15)

Sunday, Dec 6 (6:00 pm) – Thursday, Dec 10 (6:00 pm)

Grading
The final grade will be assigned based on the following scale which uses a point system:

A = 450—405 points
B = 404—360 points
C = 359—315 points
D = 314—270 points
F = 269 points & below.

You will need to sum up all your points and divide the total by 450, the result will show you what your final grade will be.
Turnitin Submission Instructions and Information

Participation / Discussions
Information about the student’s responsibility in the course discussions; grading and posting criteria; how to post to the online discussion board, etc. Also include etiquette/protocol for participating in the online discussion board. For examples, see:
- http://online.uwc.edu/technology/onlineEtiquette.asp

Online Tests/ Quizzes (to include final or proctored exam information)
(Descriptions and details if any. For example: You can access quizzes/exams by clicking the Assessments link on the course menu or see the quiz/exam icon on the designated page. Each quiz is timed and can be accessed only one time within the scheduled time window. Please read the on-screen instructions carefully before you click “Begin Assessment”. After each quiz is graded and released, you may go back to the Assessments page and click “View All Submissions” to review your exam results. (Add if Blackboard Quiz tool is to be used).

COURSE EVALUATION

Course evaluation is usually conducted during the last 2 weeks prior to final exams. I will post information about the date for evaluation on Blackboard and e-mail each student when it becomes available.

SCHOLARLY EXPECTATIONS

In keeping with the norms of higher education, any student found guilty of academic dishonesty may receive a failing grade for the course and be reported to their college dean. Refer to your student handbook for complete provisions of the policies and procedures set forth by UNT.

RESOURCES

Links to Academic Support Services, such as Office of Disability Accommodation, Counseling and Testing Services, UNT Libraries, Online Tutoring, UNT Writing Lab and Math Tutor Lab can be located within Blackboard Learn on the “Academic Support” tab.

UNT Portal: http://my.unt.edu

UNT Blackboard Learn Student Resources: Technical Support: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/
UNT Library Information for Off-Campus Users:  
http://www.library.unt.edu/services/facilities-and-systems/campus-access

UNT Computing and Information Technology Center:  
http://citic.unt.edu/services-solutions/students

UNT Academic Resources for Students:  http://www.unt.edu/academics.htm

Computer Labs: [provide information if departmental labs are available for use to students].  
General access computer lab information (including locations and hours of operation) can be located at: http://www.gacl.unt.edu/

COURSE POLICIES

Assignment Policy
See the assignment schedule for due dates which are in this syllabus and also posted on Blackboard.

Instructor Responsibilities and Feedback

- The primary means to contact me will be via e-mail: amoore@unt.edu or telephone: 940.565.4267. However, I prefer e-mails since I try my best to respond to students within 24 hours, even on weekends. In case, I do not reply to your e-mail within 48 hours, please e-mail me again. I am also available during my office hours. You may call or just come in.

Late Work
Late assignments will not be accepted in this class.

Class Participation
Students are required to login regularly to the online class site. The instructor will use the tracking feature in Blackboard to monitor student activity. Students are also required to participate in all class activities such as discussion board.

Virtual Classroom Citizenship
The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment. Please use proper netiquette when interacting with class members and the professor.

Incompletes
I rarely give an incomplete. Please refer to UNT policy on requesting incompletes.

Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties
Copyright Notice
Some or all of the materials on this course Web site may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies. [Additional sample statements can be located at: http://copyright.unt.edu/content/sample-copyright-notices] Additional copyright information may be located at: http://copyright.unt.edu/content/unt-copyright-policies.

Undergraduate Online Course Attendance Policy

Information about the University of Texas’ Attendance Policy may be found at: http://policy.unt.edu/policy/15-2-5

Administrative Withdrawal

Syllabus Change Policy
This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties
[Sample statement: The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or 940.565.2324. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time. (Revise as needed)]

UNT POLICIES

Student Conduct and Discipline: Student Handbook.
Please refer to the UNT Faculty Handbook or your department regarding the Student Code of Conduct Policy.

Academic Honesty Policy
Please refer to the UNT Faculty Handbook or your department regarding the Academic Policy. A sample statement may include the following:
"You are encouraged to become familiar with the University's Policy of Academic dishonesty found in the Student Handbook. The content of the Handbook applies to this course. Additionally, the following specific requirements will be expected in this class: (enter specific
requirements). If you are in doubt regarding the requirements, please consult with me before you complete any requirements of the course."

ADA Policy

As per the Office of Disability Accommodation, a syllabus for a course SHALL include the following statement:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://disability.unt.edu/. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

Add/Drop Policy

Please refer to the UNT Faculty Handbook or your department regarding the Add/Drop Policy.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses:

Federal Regulation


The paragraph reads:

(G) For F–1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination
or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F–1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.