

SOC 169 - CHANGING AMERICAN FAMILY

INSTRUCTOR: C. Orona

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will cover family dynamics and issues using various sociological theories as our framework. Interwoven throughout the semester will be issues pertaining to gender, class, and ethnicity/race. Topics such as communication styles, courtship patterns, marriage, divorce and problems of health will be covered. Students can expect to take part in small group discussions, group exercises, and a group project. The focus is on understanding what happens in 'real' families by using a theoretical perspective to explain behavior. In addition, students can expect to learn about those social forces that influence family dynamics and decisions.

TEXTS AND READINGS: Winton, Frameworks for Studying Families

METHOD OF EVALUATION: Active and meaningful participation is a must and part of the grade.

Tests include objective, essay, and a final paper.