

Unit Outline (Higher Education)

Institute / School:	Institute of Education, Arts & Community
Unit Title:	Sociology of Families and Relationships
Unit ID:	SOCIO3001
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	(BAXDC1003 or SOCIO1001 or SOSCI1002) (At least 30 credit points from BASOC or SOCIO or SOSCI subject-area at 2000-2999 level)
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	(SOCIO2001)
ASCED:	090301

Description of the Unit:

This unit provides a sociological perspective on families, relationships and intimate life. It explores a diverse range of theoretical perspectives, situating families in their international historical and cultural contexts. It covers all of the key stages in the life course including childhood, youth, partnering, parenting, and ageing, and critiques the positives and negatives of family life. The unit examines relationships beyond notions of family, heterosexuality, coupledness, and cohabitation. It examines diversity in families/relationships, separation and divorce, marriage, and de facto relationships, and explores the impact on society of transnational families, surrogacy, and assisted reproductive technologies.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

Work Experience:

No work experience

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the Unit but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above, has completed all major assessment tasks (including all sub-components where a task has multiple parts) as specified in the Unit Description and is not eligible for any other form of supplementary assessment

Course Level:

Level of Unit in Course	AQF Level of Course					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	✓	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Describe sociological concepts of socialization, class and gender, social and historical construction at an advanced level
- K2.** Identify the conceptual and theoretical frameworks for understanding families and relationships at an advanced level
- K3.** Define the diversity of family and relationship structures, their sociological contexts, and their roles in different cultures, times, and places
- K4.** Outline the interconnections between different social structures such as government, and religion, and the significance of the economy, policy, and technology, in shaping concepts of family and relationships.

Skills:

- S1.** Develop advanced sociological research, writing and referencing skills
- S2.** Analyze critically the connections between academic learning and observed life experience, at an advanced level
- S3.** Evaluate critically contemporary and historical issues and theories relevant to the sociology of families and relationships at an advanced level.

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Interpret critically at an advanced level, how cultural, technological, historical, and structural factors have influenced conceptualization of families and relationships
- A2.** Apply advanced critical thinking skills to key debates regarding family, relationships, kinships, and intimate life
- A3.** Use sophisticated research skills and sociological theories in deep analysis of contemporary issues related to families.

Unit Content:

Topics may include:

- Relationships and family over time
- Diversity in families and relationships
- Sociological perspectives on relationships and families
- Young people, relationships & sexuality
- Love, commitment and marriage
- Relating beyond the cohabitating couple
- Fertility, technology, and family change
- Parenting, children, and childcare
- Families and labour
- Separation, divorce, and reconstituted families
- Ageing, care and intergenerational relationships
- New families and new relationships
- Australian Indigenous kinships.

FEDTASKS

Federation University Federation recognises that students require key transferable employability skills to prepare them for their future workplace and society. FEDTASKS (**T**ransferable **A**tttributes **S**kills and **K**nowledge) provide a targeted focus on five key transferable Attributes, Skills, and Knowledge that are embedded within curriculum, developed gradually towards successful measures and interlinked with cross-discipline and Co-operative Learning opportunities. *One or more FEDTASK, transferable Attributes, Skills or Knowledge must be evident in the specified learning outcomes and assessment for each FedUni Unit, and all must be directly assessed in each Course.*

FEDTASK attribute and descriptor		Development and acquisition of FEDTASKS in the Unit	
		Learning Outcomes (KSA)	Assessment task (AT#)
FEDTASK 1 Interpersonal	Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively communicate, inter-act and work with others both individually and in groups. Students will be required to display skills in-person and/or online in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using effective verbal and non-verbal communication Listening for meaning and influencing via active listening Showing empathy for others Negotiating and demonstrating conflict resolution skills Working respectfully in cross-cultural and diverse teams. 	K1, S1, A2	Not applicable
FEDTASK 2 Leadership	Students will demonstrate the ability to apply professional skills and behaviours in leading others. Students will be required to display skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating a collegial environment Showing self-awareness and the ability to self-reflect Inspiring and convincing others Making informed decisions Displaying initiative 	S2	Not applicable
FEDTASK 3 Critical Thinking and Creativity	Students will demonstrate an ability to work in complexity and ambiguity using the imagination to create new ideas. Students will be required to display skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflecting critically Evaluating ideas, concepts and information Considering alternative perspectives to refine ideas Challenging conventional thinking to clarify concepts Forming creative solutions in problem solving. 	K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	AT1, AT2, AT3
FEDTASK 4 Digital Literacy	Students will demonstrate the ability to work fluently across a range of tools, platforms and applications to achieve a range of tasks. Students will be required to display skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finding, evaluating, managing, curating, organising and sharing digital information Collating, managing, accessing and using digital data securely Receiving and responding to messages in a range of digital media Contributing actively to digital teams and working groups Participating in and benefiting from digital learning opportunities. 	K1, S1, A1	AT1, AT2, AT3

FEDTASK attribute and descriptor		Development and acquisition of FEDTASKS in the Unit	
		Learning Outcomes (KSA)	Assessment task (AT#)
FEDTASK 5 Sustainable and Ethical Mindset	Students will demonstrate the ability to consider and assess the consequences and impact of ideas and actions in enacting ethical and sustainable decisions. Students will be required to display skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making informed judgments that consider the impact of devising solutions in global economic environmental and societal contexts • Committing to social responsibility as a professional and a citizen • Evaluating ethical, socially responsible and/or sustainable challenges and generating and articulating responses • Embracing lifelong, life-wide and life-deep learning to be open to diverse others • Implementing required actions to foster sustainability in their professional and personal life. 	K3, K4, S2, S3, A2, A3	AT2, AT3

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, K3, K4, S3, A1	Weekly online quizzes developing comprehension of unit materials and relevant concepts related to the sociology of families and relationships.	Periodic online assessment	25-30%
K1, K2, K3, K4, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	Students develop skills in sociological research, writing and referencing, through the critical examination of issues, theories and policies regarding families and relationships in a cross-cultural context.	Policy report	30-35%
K1, K2, K3, K4, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	Students develop skills in independent research and critical analysis and the construction of an informed and substantiated argument.	Research Essay	35-40%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Refer to the [library website](#) for more information

Fed Cite - [referencing tool](#)