

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: FAMILIES AND INTIMATE RELATIONSHIPS
Status: Definitive
Code: **5006SOCIO** (117667)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2012

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team	Leader
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Academic Level: FHEQ5 **Credit Value:** 24.00 **Total Delivered Hours:** 58.00
Total Learning Hours: 240 **Private Study:** 182

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	26.000
Online	10.000
Seminar	22.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	AS1	Book review, 2000 words	50.0	
Essay	AS2	Essay	50.0	

Aims

- 1. To introduce students to a sociological approach to the study of intimate relationships and personal life.*
- 2. To provide students with an understanding of theoretical developments and debates in the field of intimate and family relationships.*

3. *To explore the relationships between issues of sexuality, consumption, emotions and other aspects of 'personal' lives.*
4. *To situate discussions of family, intimate and personal relationships in a cultural and historical context.*

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Describe and analyse empirical evidence on personal and family relationships.
- 2 Understand and evaluate competing theoretical perspectives on intimacy.
- 3 Demonstrate critical awareness of the range of methods used in researching personal life.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Book Review 2000 words	1	
2,500 words	2	3

Outline Syllabus

Introduction to the sociology of personal life
Analysis of the sociological debate on contemporary intimate relationships
Case studies of various forms of personal relationships, including: parent and child, heterosexual and same-sex couples, marriage and civil partnership and friendship.
Evaluation of sociological research on intimate relationships
Guidance and formative feedback on assessments including structured assessment workshops

Learning Activities

Teaching will be a relevant combination of lectures and classroom group and individual activities, library and IT searches, formative feedback and assessment workshops.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Beck, U. & Beck-Gernsheim, E.
Publishing Year	1995
Title	The Normal Chaos of Love.
Subtitle	

Edition	
Publisher	Cambridge: Polity Press.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Evans, M.
Publishing Year	2002
Title	Love:
Subtitle	An Unromantic Discussion.
Edition	
Publisher	Cambridge: Polity Press.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Giddens, A.
Publishing Year	1992
Title	The Transformation of Intimacy:
Subtitle	Sexuality, Love and Eroticism in Modern Societies.
Edition	
Publisher	Cambridge: Polity Press.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Jamieson, L.
Publishing Year	1998
Title	Intimacy:
Subtitle	Personal Relationships in Modern Societies.
Edition	
Publisher	Cambridge: Polity Press.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Morgan, D.H.J.
Publishing Year	1996
Title	Family Connections:
Subtitle	An Introduction to Family Studies.
Edition	
Publisher	Cambridge: Polity Press.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Morrill, Calvin, Snow, David A. & White, Cindy H.
Publishing Year	2005
Title	Together Alone:
Subtitle	Personal Relationships in Public Places.
Edition	
Publisher	CA: University of California Press.

ISBN	
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Course Material	Book
Author	Richardson, D.
Publishing Year	2000
Title	Rethinking Sexuality.
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Sage.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Scott, J. Treas, J. & Richards, M. (eds).
Publishing Year	2004
Title	The Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Families.
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Oxford: Blackwell.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Silva, E. & Smart, C.
Publishing Year	1999
Title	The New Family?
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Sage.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Smart, C.
Publishing Year	2007
Title	Personal Life.
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Cambridge: Polity Press.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Weeks, J. Heaphy, B. & Donovan, C.
Publishing Year	2001
Title	Same Sex Intimacies:
Subtitle	Families of choice and other life experiments.
Edition	
Publisher	London: Routledge.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Pahl, R.
Publishing Year	2000
Title	On Friendship
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Cambridge: Polity Press
ISBN	

Notes

This module will explore sociological debates around family life and intimate relationships. The lectures will assess the impact of wider social changes over the past half century on the level of individual lives and personal relationships. A wide range of contexts will be examined, including marriage, parent-child relationships, friendship and same-sex relationships. We will also explore the methodological challenges associated with studying personal relationships and students will be expected to engage with theoretical debates.