

What's Love Got To Do With It?

Faculty: Stephanie Coontz, x 6703; coontzs@msn.com

Teaching Assistant: Valerie Adrian, valadrian@gmail.com

Resource Librarian: Paul McMillan, x 6167

Meeting Times and Places:

Monday, 10-noon, 1-3: Seminar 2, C2107

Tuesday, 10-noon: C2107

Tuesday, 1-4: C3109

Wednesday, 10-1: A3105

Friday 10-1: C3109

Readings:

Mary Ryan, Cradle of the Middle Class – Out of print but available at Amazon.
ORDER THIS RIGHT AWAY!

Beth Bailey, From Front Porch to Back Seat

Gene Straten Porter, Girl of the Limberlost

Steven Mintz and Susan Kellogg, Domestic Revolutions: A Social History of Family Life

Beth Bailey, Sex in the Heartland (Harvard University Press)

Andrew Cherlin, Public and Private Families: A Reader IMPORTANT: Fifth edition only. Do not buy older used editions

Jeffrey Arnett, Emerging Adulthood (Oxford University Press)

Kathryn Edin and Maria Kefalas, Promises I Can Keep (University of California Press)

Andrew Cherlin, The Marriage Go Round

Week One, September 28-October 2

Monday:

Introduction to class, syllabus, expectations, and standards for credit and evaluation. Explanation of individual project and presentation component of class. Introduction of faculty and students

Tuesday:

Lecture on the variability of family life, sexual mores, and marriage

Seminar on the concept of “social construction,” having read West and

Zimmerman, pp. 47-56, and Schwartz and Rutter, pp. 132-40 in Cherlin reader

Wednesday: Library workshop, place TBA

Afterwards, go to library to research project topics and reconvene in Seminar 2, A3105 at 12:30 with 2 alternative choices for your topic

Make sure you pick up and make a copy of the *Intimate Matters* reading on reserve at the library

Friday:

Understanding historical and sociological approaches to family life

Discuss witchcraft accusations and colonial sermon (handouts)

Seminar on Cherlin, Marriage-Go-Round (hereafter MGR), pp. 3-35

Week II, October 5-9: Colonial and Precapitalist Families

Monday:

Lecture on colonial families

Seminar on *Intimate Matters*, pp. 3-38 (on reserve), and *Domestic Revolutions*, pp. 1-52, 67-80.

In seminar we will construct a fictional but typical family of one particular social group and region in the 17th century, and trace its formation and growth:

 Courtship, marriage, and sexuality: (How do the young man and women get together; decide on marriage, etc.?)

 Childbearing and childrearing

 Daily activities when the children are young: household composition; work routines, family routines, involvement with neighbors or community

 What happens as the children age into teenagers and young adults: Trace the growing up to adulthood experience of one girl in the household and one boy.

Tuesday:

1-3: Writing Workshop (Michael Radelich)

3-4: Lecture on Native American families

Wednesday:

Briefing paper due, 3-4 pages typed, double-spaced: What were the main features of colonial family life and gender roles? According to Mintz, what were the main changes that were happening by the early 19th century?

After a brief meeting, go to library and work on a preliminary bibliography and statement of major issues and debates connected to your individual project topic

Friday:

Seminar on Ryan, *Cradle of the Middle Class*, pp. 18-59

Turn in bibliography and prospectus for individual project

Week III, October 12-16: The Social Transformation of Middle-Class Families

Monday:

Preview of Ryan's argument

Seminar on Mintz, pp. 52-65 and Ryan, pp. 60-104

Tuesday:

Morning free to continue reading Ryan

1-3: Writing workshop

Wednesday:

Seminar on Ryan 105-144

Friday:

Seminar on Ryan, pp. 145-185, 230-42

Briefing Paper Due: Explain Ryan's major points about why and how the corporate family economy of frontier days changed over the course of the nineteenth century.

Week IV, October 19-23: Nineteenth-Century Families

Monday:

Lecture on 19th century family life and gender roles

Seminar on Cherlin, MGR, pp. 36-67 and Domestic Revolutions, pp. 83-105

Tuesday:

1-3: Writing workshop

Wednesday:

Paper due: Discuss the main differences in family functions, relationship, roles, and values between colonial days and the 1860s.

Meet in small groups about individual projects.

Friday:

Seminar on Porter, *Girl of the Limberlost*, and Bailey, *Front Porch to Back Seat*, pp. 13-24

Week V, October 26-30 – Family, Sex, and Marriage, 1900-1950s

Monday:

Lecture on changes in family and marriage in the early 20th century

Seminar on Mintz, pp. 107-201, Cherlin, MGR, pp. 63-86, and Cancian in Cherlin Reader, pp. 14-25. Paper topic announced. Start thinking about the points you want to make NOW.

Tuesday:

1-3: Writing workshop

3-4: Lecture on 1950s families

Wednesday:

Films and movies from the 1950s; bring potluck snacks and a list of 3 points you want to make in your paper.

Friday:

Seminar on Front Porch, pp. 13-140:.

Week VI, November 2-6: End of the “Golden Age”?

Monday:

Seminar on Bailey, Sex in the Heartland, pp. 1-74

Bring in 5 assertions you will make about the assigned paper topic (TBA) and 5 piece of evidence you will use to illustrate your points.

Work on thesis statements for papers

Tuesday:

No class so you can work on 3-5 page paper, due at 5 pm (no exceptions).

Wednesday:

No class so you can write up a report on your individual project, along with an annotated bibliography, due on Friday..

Friday:

Seminar on Cherlin, MGR, pp. 87-158, Mintz, pp. 203-37, and Sex in the Heartland, 75-153. Turn in project report.

Week VII, November 9-13: Class, Race, and Ethnicity in Love and Family Patterns

Monday: Papers returned with comments for revision

Seminar on Promises I Can Keep, pp. TBA and Cherlin, MGR, pp. 159-202

Tuesday: Down day to finish reading and prepare response to my comments

Wednesday, Seminar on Promises I Can Keep, pp TBA

Turn in a typed letter to me explaining precisely what you intend to do to respond to my comments on your paper and improve your next draft.

Friday:

Seminar on articles in Cherlin reader: Lareau, pp. 82-105; Hondagneu-Sotelo and Avila, pp. 108-121, Smock, Manning and Porter, pp. 155-67; Newman, pp. 233-50.

Week VIII, November 16-20: The Changing Life Course and Close Relationships

Monday: Stephanie and Valerie available for individual consultations about papers

Tuesday: Revised paper due at 4 pm (no exceptions).

Wednesday: Meet with students in your group to make final plans for your presentations.

Friday:

Seminar on Arnett, Emerging Adulthood, pp. 2-117 and Bengston in Cherlin reader, pp. 221-232.

Pick up practice questions for final exam

November 23-27: Thanksgiving Vacation

Week IX, November 30-December 4 – Review

Monday:

Practice session for final exams

Tuesday:

Speaking workshop and presentation previews

Wednesday: Study groups for final exam

Friday:

FINAL EXAM!

Week X, December 7-11: Student Symposium

Monday, Tuesday,(and Wednesday if needed):

Student Presentations

All students are required to turn in their reports and annotated bibliographies on Monday, regardless of when their presentation is scheduled.

Friday:

Seminar on Cherlin reader, pp. 357-371

Class summary and evaluation

Turn in a first draft, typed, of your self-evaluation for the class.

Week XI, December 14-17: Evaluation Week