Contemporary Marriage and Families
CFT 360
Couple and Family Therapy Program

Instructor:     Class Time:     Class Room:
Office:     Office Hours:
Phone:     
Email:     

TA:     TA:
Email:     Email

Required Texts:

You may purchase at the UNLV bookstore or online. Please have it for the start of the class.

PowerPoints for CFT 360 are posted on Canva.

Course Description:
CFT 360 involves an analysis of historic and contemporary trends in marriage and family relationships in American society. It includes an examination of major family processes through the life cycle, including functional and dysfunctional patterns as well as the family’s interactions with individuals and communities. It also includes information on family development and parenting. The textbook for this course contains a great deal of information. You should read all the texts and the special “boxes” and all other material.

Course Objectives:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Interpret how macrosystems influence couple and family relationships.
2. Summarize historic and contemporary developments and issues pertaining to couple and family relationships.
3. Apply a variety of theoretical models to describe couple and family relationships.
4. Discover trends in the couple and family therapy treatment literature.

General Requirements & Policies:
Learning is a cooperative effort between each individual, the teacher, and the classroom community as a whole. You are expected to attend class each day having read the assigned material, being prepared with comments or questions about the readings. Preparation, discussion, and other class participation are important to both you and your classmates’ learning and development. This will be an active class with questions and class discussion.

Students are expected to:

1. Participate in class discussions. This includes your respectful thoughts, comments, and questions regarding the readings and materials presented in class. Some topics may be controversial. You are expected to be non-judgmental and respectful of your classmates. Your comments should be grounded in critical and scientific thinking. Personal opinions are also welcome but should be presented as such. It is important for all of us to examine our biases and opinions in order to find a rational conclusion.

**Policy for late assignments & unexcused absences:**

Students are expected to turn in assignments or take exams/quizzes on the assigned class period. Missing an assignment will result in a grade of 0, unless the students can provide written documentation consistent with UNLV policy.

**Cell Phones & Pagers:**

Please turn off cell phones and pagers during class, unless you have made arrangements with the instructor prior to the class period. Texting during class is strictly prohibited.

**Grading:**

Students will be graded according to their performance on exams. Grades will be calculated by a percentage of points earned in relation to the total points possible in the course. Grades will be based on the following percentages.

\[
\begin{align*}
93 – 100 &= A & 73 – 76 &= C \\
90 – 92 &= A- & 70 – 72 &= C- \\
87 – 89 &= B+ & 67 – 69 &= D+ \\
83 – 86 &= B & 63 – 66 &= D \\
80 – 82 &= B- & 60 – 62 &= D- \\
77 – 79 &= C+ & \text{Below 60} &= F
\end{align*}
\]

**Communication with professor:** The professor will use Canva and Email for communication. Any announcements will be sent via Canva and students may email the professor through Canva or Email. You should expect a reply within 24 hours unless the professor is out of town. If you do not hear back with 24 hours please re-send the email and call the professor that an email was sent or to speak to the professor.

**Additional Policies:**
Academic Misconduct Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the Campus community; we all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility, and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, and are encouraged to always take the ethical path whenever faced with choices. Students enrolling at UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s educational mission. An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another person, from the Internet or any other source without proper citation of the sources. See the Student Conduct Code, https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct.

Auditing Classes Auditing a course allows a student to continue attending the lectures and/or laboratories and discussion sessions associated with the course, but the student will not earn a grade for any component of the course. Students who audit a course receive the same educational experience as students taking the course for a grade, but will be excused from exams, assessments, and other evaluative measures that serve the primary purpose of assigning a grade.

Classroom Conduct Students have a responsibility to conduct themselves in class and in the libraries in ways that do not interfere with the rights of other students to learn or of instructors to teach. Use of electronic devices such as pagers, cellular phones, or recording devices, or potentially disruptive devices or activities, are only permitted with the prior explicit consent of the instructor. The instructor may rescind permission at any time during the class. If a student does not comply with established requirements or obstructs the functioning of the class, the instructor may initiate an administrative drop of the student from the course.

Copyright The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with, and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The University will neither protect nor defend you, nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional copyright policy information is available at http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright.

Disability Resource Center (DRC) The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A, Room 143, https://www.unlv.edu/drc, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. Students who believe that they may need academic accommodations due to injury, disability, or due to pregnancy should contact the DRC as early as possible in the academic term. A Disabilities Specialist will discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours, so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Final Examinations The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur on the date and at the time specified in the Final Exam schedule. The general schedule is typically available at the start of the semester, and the classroom locations are available approximately one
month before the end of the semester. See the Final Exam Schedule, https://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars.

**Identity Verification in Online Courses** All UNLV students must use their Campus-issued ACE ID and password to log in to WebCampus. UNLV students enrolled in online or hybrid courses are expected to read and adhere to the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/misconduct/policy, which defines, “acting or attempting to act as a substitute for another, or using or attempting to use a substitute, in any academic evaluation or assignment” as a form of academic misconduct. Intentionally sharing ACE login credentials with another person may be considered an attempt to use a substitute and could result in investigation and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Academic Misconduct Policy. UNLV students enrolled in online courses are also expected to read and adhere to the Acceptable Use of Computing and Information Technology Resources Policy, https://www.it.unlv.edu/policies/acceptable-use-computing-and-information-technology-resources-policy, which prohibits sharing university accounts with other persons without authorization. To the greatest extent possible, all graded assignments and assessments in UNLV online courses should be hosted in WebCampus or another UNLV-managed platform that requires ACE login credentials for access.

**Incomplete Grades** The grade of “I” (Incomplete) may be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session, but cannot complete the last part of the course for reason(s) beyond the student’s control and acceptable to the instructor, and the Instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. For undergraduate courses, the incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the period indicated, a grade of “F” will be recorded, and the student’s GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete grade do not register for the course, but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the “I” grade.

**Library Resources** Librarians are available to consult with students on research needs, including developing research topics, finding information, and evaluating sources. To make an appointment with a subject expert for this class, please visit the Libraries’ Research Consultation website: http://guides.library.unlv.edu/appointments/librarian. You can also ask the library staff questions via chat and text message at: http://ask.library.unlv.edu/.

**Missed Classwork** Any student missing class, quizzes, examinations, or any other class or laboratory work because of observance of religious holidays will be given an opportunity during that semester to make up the missed work. The make-up opportunity will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for Fall and Spring courses (except for modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for Summer and modular courses, of their intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit the Policy for Missed Work, under Registration Policies, on the Academic Policies webpage, https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531.
In accordance with the policy approved by the Faculty Senate regarding missed class time and assignments, students who represent UNLV in any official extracurricular activity will also have the opportunity to make up assignments, provided that the student provides official written notification to the instructor no less than one week prior to the missed class(es).

The spirit and intent of the policy for missed classwork is to offer fair and equitable assessment opportunities to all students, including those representing the University in extracurricular activities. Instructors should consider, for example, that in courses which offer a “Drop one” option for the lowest assignment, quiz, or exam, assigning the student a grade of zero for an excused absence for extracurricular activity is both contrary to the intent of the Faculty Senate’s policy, and an infringement on the student’s right to complete all work for the course.

This policy will not apply in the event that completing the assignment or administering the examination at an alternate time would impose an undue hardship on the instructor or the University that could reasonably have been avoided. There should be a good faith effort by both the instructor and the student to agree to a reasonable resolution. When disagreements regarding this policy arise, decisions can be appealed to the Department Chair/Unit Director, College/School Dean, and/or the Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee.

For purposes of definition, extracurricular activities may include, but are not limited to: fine arts activities, competitive intercollegiate athletics, science and engineering competitions, liberal arts competitions, academic recruitment activities, and any other event or activity sanctioned by a College/School Dean, and/or by the Executive Vice President and Provost.

**Rebelmail** Rebelmail is UNLV’s official email system for students, and by University policy, instructors and staff should only send emails to students’ Rebelmail accounts. Rebelmail is one of the primary ways students receive official University communications, information about deadlines, major Campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the University. Emailing within WebCampus is also acceptable.

**Tutoring and Coaching** The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching, and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, please visit the ASC website, [https://www.unlv.edu/asc](https://www.unlv.edu/asc), or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of SSC A, Room 254. Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library, and on the second floor of the College of Engineering building (TBE A 207).

**UNLV Writing Center** One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, [https://writingcenter.unlv.edu/](https://writingcenter.unlv.edu/), located in the Central Desert Complex, Building 3, Room 301 (CDC 3–301). Walk-in consultations are sometimes available, but students with appointments receive priority assistance. Students may make appointments in person or by calling the Center, 702-895-3908. Students are requested to bring to their appointments their Rebel ID Card, a copy of the instructions for their assignment, and two copies of any writing they have completed on their assignment.
Note: This syllabus is prepared as a guideline for the course. It is not a contract between the professor and student, and the professor reserves the right to modify the syllabus. Canva will contain all Power Points in order to help you study and prepare for exams and quizzes.

**Graded Assignments: Total 600 Points**

**Introduction: Total 20 POINTS**

As this is an online class, participation will involve active participation online. It is important we facilitate a comfortable and inviting environment to learn from one another. Your introduction will be **DUE September 1st, 2019 by 11:55 PM (UNLV time) under the Discussion tab.** For this assignment, please introduce yourself to the class with the following:

- Your name
- Major/minor
- Why you are taking the class?
- What do you hope to learn from the class?
- Something interesting about yourself!

**Measurement Procedure**: Students will be evaluated on the degree to which they follow the instructions provided.

**Course Participation (Discussion Postings) 10 Discussions: 5 POINTS each, Total 50 POINTS**

The participation grade for the class will consist of your **Posts** on our Discussion Board. There are 10 individual discussions. Please note the dates are found on the discussion board itself. This will demonstrate your comprehension of the information found within the corresponding chapter text(s) as well as your personal understanding and possible application of the information. Please be mindful that you are required to share only as much personal information as you feel comfortable with as the information will be visible to all students in our online classroom section. **Your post will be out of 3 points.**

You are also asked to provide a thoughtful reply to another cohort members discussion post. Your answer must contain a response to a point that they are making. **Your reply will be out of 2 points.**

**Both post and reply combine for a total of 5 possible points.** Discussion posts will be available the Monday they are due, and will close at 11:55 PM (UNLV time) on the Sunday.

Discussion posts are expected to be of high quality, including well-thought out ideas, clear expression of these ideas, and correct grammar and spelling. Specifically this means:
• Posts should be a minimum of 200 words
• Discussions should contain your opinion, rationale for your opinion, and citations as necessary
• Capitalization when appropriate
• Spell checking your work before submission
• Proper grammar, sentence and paragraph structure
• If you quote the text (more than six words in a row taken directly from the text) you will need to cite your work. This means at the end of the sentence stating the author’s name, year, and the page where you found the citation.
• If you have cited work, you then need to reference your work at the end of your writing. Reference all other materials as well as the text that you may use. This means giving credit to the author where you have found the information. This is done by both citing throughout and then referencing at the end of your work. Without this step you will be making the implication that you are responsible for/and the original author of the ideas and information. **You are expected to reference the text even with discussion posts/replies.**
• For assistance with proper citations and referencing: [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/02/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/02/)

**Measurement Procedure:** Students will be evaluated on the degree to which they follow the instructions provided and adhere to APA 6th edition style.

**Quizzes (4 Quizzes): 20 POINTS each, Total 80 POINTS**

There will be four quizzes given throughout this course. They will consist of 10 multiple choice and true/false questions based on the PowerPoints and readings. Quizzes will be available the Monday they are due, and will close at 11:55 PM (UNLV time) on the Sunday. Due dates are in the actual title of the quiz.

You will be given 20 minutes to complete the quiz. Once the quiz begins, you MUST complete it. You cannot stop it and come back to it later.

**Measurement Procedure:** Students will be evaluated on the degree to which they demonstrate understanding of the ideas and definitions presented in the assigned readings of the course text *Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society.*

**Exams (3 Exams): 100 POINTS each, Total 300 POINTS**

There will be three exams given in the course. The dates are as follows:

Date 1: September 29, 2019

Date 2: November 3, 2019
Date 3: November 24, 2019

You will be given 90 minutes to complete the exam. The exams consist of 50 multiple choice and true/false questions consisting of questions taken from the course text and PowerPoints. Once the exams begins, you MUST complete it. You cannot stop it and come back to it later. The exam will be available the Monday of the due date and close at 11:55 PM (UNLV time), no exceptions.

Measurement Procedure: Students will be evaluated on the degree to which they demonstrate understanding of the ideas presented in the text and PowerPoints.

**FINAL Research Paper: Total 150 POINTS**

There will be one research paper in the class. The paper will require you to use the UNLV library (online) to find research articles on a topic of your choice. Please see the handout called “Research Paper Requirements” for more information.

Your final paper will be due final’s week on December 12, 2019. You will submit the paper under the assignment tab listed FINAL RESEARCH PAPER. Availability to turn in your paper will open on November 27th and close on 11:55 PM December 12th 2019 (UNLV time). All papers must be submitted in .doc format.

**Sequence of Topics**

WEEK ONE: Introduction & Making Family Choices in a Changing Society

August 26th-September 1st 2019

*Week One Reading:*

1. Chapter 1 in “Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society”
2. Review accompanied PowerPoint for Chapter 1

*Assignments:*

1. Introduce yourself to the class. Please include the following: (10 points)
   a. Name
   b. Major
   c. Why you are taking this class.
   d. What you hope to learn from the class.
2. Discussion Activity (5 points)
   a. Please write your own definition of the term “family” in the discussion board labeled Discussion Activity 1.

WEEK TWO: Exploring Relationship and Families
September 2nd-September 8th 2019

**Week Two Reading:**

2. Chapter 3 in “Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society”
3. Review accompanied PowerPoints for Chapters 2 and 3

**Assignments:**

1. **OPTIONAL:** Submit extra credit by September 8th for 3 points. See Exploring Relationships and Families PowerPoint for extra credit instructions.
2. **Quiz 1**
   a. Quiz 1 will be over Chapters 1 and 2.
   b. Due September 8th at 11:55 PM (UNLV TIME)

**WEEK THREE:**

September 9th-September 15th 2019

**Week Three Reading:**

1. Chapter 4 in “Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society”
2. Review accompanied PowerPoints for Chapter 4.

**Assignments:**

1. Discussion Activity (5 points)
   a. On slide 8 of Our Sexual Selves, Part 2, please refer to the case study. How would you begin working with this couple in therapy? What would you do to guide them in their healing?

**WEEK FOUR:**

September 16th-September 22nd

**Week Four Reading:**


**Assignments:**

1. Discussion Activity (5 Points)
   a. Free discussion! Please write your discussion post based on anything you found interesting within the PowerPoints or readings pertaining to this chapter.
WEEK FIVE:
September 23rd-September 29th, 2019

Week Five Reading:
1. None

Assignments:
1. Exam 1
   a. Exam 1 will be over Chapters 1-5
   b. Due September 29th at 11:55 PM (UNLV TIME)

WEEK SIX:
September 30th-October 6th, 2019

Week Six Reading:
1. Chapter 6 in “Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society”
2. Review accompanied PowerPoints for Chapters 6

Assignments:
1. Discussion Activity (5 Points)
   a. Why do you think there are more unmarried individuals than ever before? Please use the textbook and/or other references to back up your explanation. Please do not forget to cite in-text and reference.

WEEK SEVEN:
October 7th-October 13th, 2019

Week Seven Reading:
2. Review accompanied PowerPoints for Chapter 7

Assignments:
1. Discussion Activity (5 Points)
   a. Please write from either the decline perspective or change perspective on the trend of individualized marriages. Use the textbook and other references as necessary to back up on your opinion on why or why not this trend is good for families/individuals.

WEEK EIGHT:
October 14th-October 20th, 2019
Week Eight Reading:

1. Chapter 8 in “Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society”
2. Review accompanied PowerPoints for Chapter 8

Assignments:

2. Quiz 2
   a. Quiz 2 will be over Chapters 6 and 7
   b. Due October 20th at 11:55 PM (UNLV TIME)
3. Discussion Activity (5 Points)
   a. On slide 10 of Deciding about Parenthood, Part 1, please refer to the YouTube video, and respond with your thoughts.

WEEK NINE:

October 21st-October 27th 2019

Week Nine Reading:

1. Chapter 9 in “Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society”
2. Chapter 10 in “Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society”
3. Review accompanied PowerPoints for Chapters 9 and 10

Assignments:

1. Discussion Activity (5 Points)
   a. What do you think are some issues that current parents face which previous generations did not? Are there advantages that most modern parents in the US have, compared to previous generations? Are there advantages previous generations had that current parents do not?

WEEK TEN:

October 28th-November 3rd 2019

Week Ten Reading:

1. None

Assignments:

1. Exam 2
   a. Exam 2 will be over Chapters 6-10
   b. Due November 3rd at 11:55 PM (UNLV TIME)

WEEK ELEVEN
November 4th-November 10th 2019

Week Eleven Reading:

1. Read Chapter 11 in “Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society”
2. Review accompanied PowerPoints for Chapter 11

Assignments:

1. Discussion Activity (5 Points)
   a. How do you think gender differences, or perceived gender differences influence relationship intimacy and communication?

WEEK TWELVE

November 11th-November 17th 2019

Week Twelve Reading:

1. Read Chapter 12 in “Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society”
2. Review accompanied PowerPoints for Chapter 12

Assignments:

1. Discussion Activity (5 Points)
   a. Free discussion! Please write your discussion post based on anything you found interesting within the PowerPoints or readings pertaining to this chapter.
2. Quiz 3
   a. Quiz 3 will be over Chapters 11 and 12
   b. Due November 17th at 11:55 PM (UNLV TIME)

WEEK THIRTEEN

November 18th-24th 2019

Week Thirteen Reading:

1. Read Chapter 14 in “Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society”
2. Review accompanied PowerPoints for Chapter 14

Assignments:

1. Exam 3
   a. Exam 3 will be over Chapters 11-14
   b. Due November 24th at 11:55 PM (UNLV TIME)

WEEK FOURTEEN
November 25th-December 1st 2019

Week Fourteen Reading:

1. None

Assignments:

1. None 😊

WEEK FIFTEEN

December 2nd-December 8th

Week Fifteen Reading:

1. Read Chapter 15 in “Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society”
2. Read Chapter 16 in “Marriages, Families, and Relationships: Making Choices in a Diverse Society”
3. Review accompanied PowerPoints for Chapters 15 and 16

Assignments:

1. Discussion Activity (5 Points)
   a. On slide 14 of Remarriage and Stepfamilies, Part 1, please refer to the case example. How would you address the presenting issues of the family?
2. Quiz 4
   a. Quiz 4 will be over Chapters 15 and 16
   b. Due December 8th at 11:55 PM (UNLV TIME)

WEEK SIXTEEN

December 9th-December 12th 2019

Week Sixteen Reading:

1. None

Assignments:

1. Final Research Paper
   a. Due December 12th at 11:55 PM (UNLV TIME)