

OT 330: OUR FAMILIES, OURSELVES

Class Time

Wednesdays 6:00-8:50 pm DMC 100 (47723)

Instructor: Kristy Payne, OTD, OTR/L

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Office: THH B4

Office Hours: Available by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course addresses daily life in contemporary families through the examination of family structures, processes, and occupations. The course is designed to provide an exploration of the meanings embedded in the activities that constitute family life. This analysis will draw on multiple perspectives including cultural and family systems, developmental approaches, occupational science and occupational therapy, feminist theory, psychology, sociology, anthropology, and social policy.

Definitions of families in an ever-changing cultural world, from colonial times to the present; relevance of meaningful activities to family life, values and structure.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course students will be able to...

- Articulate the influence of social, political, psychological and ecological contexts on family life.
- Describe a variety of family structures and processes.
- Analyze cultural influences on family life.
- Describe the meaning of family occupations and the occupational construction of families.
- Reflect and summarize a variety of experiences and occupations of families whose members live with illness or disability.
- Describe parenting practices and theories throughout the age span.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Reading

Available at University Bookstore or other bookstores

1. Zinn, M., Eitzen, D., Wells, B. (2016). *Diversity in families, Tenth edition*. Boston: Allyn & Bacon.
2. Selected readings posted on Blackboard

Please complete assigned readings and exercises as scheduled and be prepared to discuss them in class, lead class discussions, and consider the material in your assignments as they relate to you and your occupations.

GRADED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Participation

Participation in class discussion is an important part of this course, so please reflect on readings and come to class ready to contribute. Your regular attendance, engagement, and involvement in class material are crucial to your grade. Please be prepared to contribute to each class session by applying material to you and your occupations.

2. Student-Facilitated Discussion

Facilitators will prepare and outline one class discussion using the Learning Through Discussion (LTD) method as assigned (see example on BB). We will post your outline on BB in advance of class, so please submit to instructor two days in advance. See Blackboard for description and rubric.

3. Take-Home Exams

You will complete two take-home exams this semester. Information will be provided in class and on Blackboard.

4. Family Genogram and Reflection Paper

An example will be given in class. Students will complete a genogram, write a 5-7 page paper on the process of collecting and interpreting the data, and share findings in class. Detailed instructions will be discussed in class.

Some questions to consider for your reflection paper:

- What discoveries did you make doing your genogram?
- What patterns or themes of family occupations (careers, leisure pursuits, interests, etc.) did you uncover?
- Who in your family is the designated story-teller or keeper of the family history? Did you talk to people in your family you have not discussed family history with before?

5. Final Projects

Students will work in small groups and determine a topic of interest related to class content that is **approved by the instructor**. Students will select 3 scholarly, peer-reviewed articles and compile findings into a brief oral presentation to be given in class the day of the final. Detailed instructions will be discussed in class.

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Assignment	Points
Participation	10
Student-Facilitated Discussion	15
Facilitation Outline (must be submitted to Blackboard on day of presentation for full credit)	5
2 Take-home Exams	30 (15 pts each)
Genogram Presentation	15
Genogram Reflection Paper	15
Final Presentations	10
Total	100

GRADING SCALE:

- A 93-100
- A- 91-93
- B+ 89-90
- B 84-88
- B- 81-83
- C+ 79-80
- C 75-78
- C- 73-74
- D+ 70-72
- D 69-71

