

FYC3112 Family Problems and Interventions (5782) Fall 2017

Prerequisites

Because the information that we will be covering assumes that you already have certain knowledge, it is important for you to have already taken the following courses:

- FYC 3001 Introduction to Family, Youth and Community Sciences
- SYG 2000 Principles of Sociology, AND either
- SYG 2430 Marriage and the Family
- OR
- FYC 3101 Parenting and Family Development

Note that the instructor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus as needed (e.g., to correct unseen errors and adjust to speaker schedules). This is version 1 as of 7/27

Overview of Course

Course Description

This course focuses on major social and family problems contemporary families face, including poverty, violence, and care of dependent elders. The course takes a family strengths and resiliency perspective and emphasizes resources that help families withstand and overcome difficulties. This course highlights the role of society in constructing family problems.

Course Goal

The primary aim of this course is to answer the question, *“How can we, as professionals, help changing families address the problems in their lives and support family resilience?”* To answer this question, it will be important to understand diverse families, different stressors they face, how they manage and cope with stressors, and resources that are effective in reducing stress and supporting resilience. A second goal of this course is that you will build your competencies and skills for working with families and organizations, particularly empathy, critical thinking, and collaboration.

Key Concepts

1. Today’s U.S. families are diverse and changing.
2. Families experience numerous “problems” or stressors and changes throughout their lives.
3. Culture (in a broad sense) shapes family experiences and perspectives.
4. Theories of family stress, coping, and resilience help to explain and predict how families respond to stressors and changes in their lives.
5. Families can thrive when they have appropriate resources and coping strategies.

Course Information

FYC3112 Meeting Times

T Periods 6 - 7: 12:50-2:45

R Period 7: 1:55-2:45

Location: CSE E121

Instructor

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CFLE

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Office Hours

TBA

This course counts toward the Area of Specialization in Family Life Education for FYCS majors. Through this AoS, students are eligible to receive a UF certificate in family life education and professional certification by the National Council on Family Relations as a provisional Certified Family Life Educator after graduation. If you need more information about becoming a CFLE through FYCS, please contact Dr. Smith or your FYCS advisor.

6. Family professionals assist families in coping with stress through human services, family therapy, family life education, and family policy. The most effective interventions are those based on research showing what works well to help families address their problems.

Couse Objectives

When you successfully complete this course, you will:

1. Have a good picture of diversity and the “new normal” in U.S. family life.
2. Understand several of the most pressing challenges facing today’s U.S. families and, by extension, U.S. society.
3. Realize the importance of culture and context—including your own—for family problems, strengths, and resilience.
4. Apply theories of family stress, coping and resilience to case examples; and explain the key processes that enable families to cope with strains, stressors, and hardships in life.
5. Apply knowledge of family problems, family theory, and family interventions to determine how best to assist families.
6. Define and compare types of family interventions and apply family interventions appropriately to family examples.
7. Feel more confident about your knowledge for working with families.
8. Develop relevant professional skills: Manage assignments to meet set deadlines; follow ethical guidelines; continue to develop writing skills; build critical thinking skills; advance communication and interpersonal skills.

Required Texts and Readings

1. Price, C.A., Bush, K. R., & Price, S. J. (2016). *Families & Change: Coping with Stressful Events and Transitions* (5th Edition). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE. ISBN: 1483366766 Cover: paperback book
 - Make sure you get the **5th Edition (2016)** of this book! Get the blue cover, not the green cover.
2. Moore, W. (2011). *The other Wes Moore*. New York: Spiegel & Grau. Available in paper or ebook.
2. You will choose a book from a list of alternatives for the final project, a book analysis.
3. Other readings are also required and are listed on the syllabus by due date. Be sure to consult the syllabus for readings due on assigned days and instructions on where to find those readings (links to Internet sites, on CANVAS or ARES, or located at library desk reserves). The instructor may add new readings such as current events or recent research at any time!

Other Course Materials

In-class course materials include video viewing guides, worksheets, newspaper articles, discussion guides, speaker presentations, and quizzes. PowerPoint slides, when used, will be available on Canvas *after* class. Be prepared to take notes. Some classes will not use PowerPoint and instead will use videos, viewing guides, large and small group discussions, activities, and worksheets. If you miss class, get notes from a classmate.

Course Schedule

See the course calendar for details.

Week 1	Begin Unit 1, Family Changes and Challenges Course overview Changing families
Week 2	Growing family diversity Defining family problems and interventions Reflection Assignment #1 Due

Week 3	Begin Unit 2, Family theories—Lenses for Looking at Changes and Challenges Theories of systems and development
Week 4	Theories of stress coping and resilience; case example
Week 5	Culture, families, and intersectionality
Week 6	Crossing Borders Reflection Assignment #2 Due <i>The Other Wes Moore</i>
Week 7	Test 1 Begin Unit 3, Family Problems and Interventions Resilient Families (speaker)
Week 8	Frameworks for Understanding, Responding, and Supporting Marriage and Family Therapy (speaker) Family Life Education Human Services Family Policy Reflection Assignment #3
Week 9	Economic stress and poverty
Week 10:	Intimate Partner Violence
Week 11:	Physical and mental health
Week 12	Substance Abuse
Week 13	Aging and Caregiving
Week 14	Immigration Reflection Assignment #4 Thanksgiving break
Week 15	Wrap up Test 2
Week 16	Final papers (book analysis) due, in-class reports, and peer evaluations

Assignments and Grading

Assignment	Points
2 Exams (each @ 100 points)	200
Final Project Book Analysis	150
Reaction papers (4)	100
Quizzes & In-class work	150
<i>Total</i>	<i>700</i>

Exams: (Two in-class exams @ 100 points each = 200 points). The format will include short answers, essays/long answers, multiple choice, definitions, and true/false questions. There will not be a study guide.

TARGET Exam Dates (I may adjust the dates if needed)

Exam 1- Tuesday October 3 (tentative)

Exam 2- Thursday November 30 (tentative)

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- **What happens if you miss an exam?** See policy on make-up exams under Course Policies below.
- **When is the final?** The final project is the second book analysis that asks you to apply and demonstrate mastery of major course concepts. Treat this project as your final in seriousness and scope.
- **Will there be a study guide for exams?** Students will be responsible for creating a study guide of their own. The instructor will not provide a study guide.

EXAM POLICIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Be on time (or a little early) and ready to begin. ✓ Sit every other seat as much as possible. ✓ SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE. (Do not leave it on vibrate) ✓ Leave all coffee/tea and sports drinks and snacks at home. You may have a water bottle. ✓ Put all bags, cell phones, and any other materials under your desk and not visible. ✓ Use the restroom prior to the test because you will not be dismissed during the test. ✓ Do not wear a hat or cap—this applies to men <i>and</i> women. ✓ Bring a #2 pencil; essays will be written in pencil. ✓ Bring your UF ID; sign the back of the bubble sheet when you take the test. ✓ Do your own work without assistance from others, and affirm that you have followed this honesty policy on the test with your signature. ✓ Come prepared to write!

Meet with the instructor or TA during office hours to review your exams to improve learning and performance on the next exam. Students may not have a cell phone on, take photos, or make notes about their exam.

Final Project Book Analysis (150 points):

This project functions as a final exam. Analyze a book selected from a short reading list, extensively and thoroughly applying the course material.

The following are DUE December 5

1. BOOK ANALYSIS submitted on time to Canvas. (100 points)
2. IN-CLASS REPORT (25 points): Short written report of your book analysis--bring a hard copy of the report to class . Verbal presentation of your written report in small groups in class. You must be present to get credit. Students arriving late will have points deducted.
3. IN CLASS PEER EVALUATION (25 points): Peer evaluations of *your* contribution to the group discussion; your evaluations of all of your group members' contributions (forms provided in class); and on-time attendance. Yyou must be present to get credit

Refection/Reaction Papers (4@25 points each=100 points).

Four written assignments ask you to reflect on and apply what you are learning from readings and class material. Bring a hard copy that you can use to guide your discussion in small discussion groups in class. Detailed instructions and rubrics will be on Canvas.

- Submit to Canvas on time. Late assignments will not be accepted and therefore you will lose points!
- Bring a hard copy to class.

Reaction Paper #1: "Changing Families & the New Normal" DUE August 31 (Canvas and in class)

Reaction Paper #2: "The Other Wes Moore: Crossing Borders" DUEW September 26 (Canvas and in class)

Reaction Paper #3: "Case Analysis and Interventions" DUE October 19 (Canvas and in class)

Reaction Paper #4: "Immigration" Due November 21 on Canvas only (**at noon**) Video available at Marston library reserves or on-line—plan get your paper in to Canvas no later than 2:45 pm this day, our usual class time.

Quizzes and In-class work (150 points, DUE periodically on unannounced and announced days).

Expect 11 in-class quizzes worth 10 points each throughout the semester. These may be at the beginning or end of class, and take the form of any of the following: one-minute reflection papers, open-ended questions asking you to summarize readings or key concepts, and multiple choice or fill in the blank for definitions. The goal is to help you focus in on important content, apply course concepts, develop awareness, make connections between course material and your professional development, and prepare for exams and your final project! You **MUST** keep up with readings and pay attention in class to do well on quizzes.

In-class assignments usually are worksheets, small-group discussions and reports, or other activities designed to understand and apply key concepts or issues and prepare for exam questions. To be a top-notch performer:

- Keep up with the course readings and comment on these in class.
- Participate actively in class activities and discussions.
- Be curious: ask questions of speakers and the instructor.
- Knowledgeably answer questions if called upon.

Letter Grades by Percentage and Points

Percentage	Grade	Points (700 total)
94	A	
90-93.9	A-	
87-89.9	B+	
84-86.9	B	
80-83.9	B-	
77-79.9	C+	
74-76.9	C	
70-73.9	C-	
67-69.9	D+	
64-66.9	D	
60-63.9	D-	
<60	E	

Extra Credit

Getting to know you (GTKY) (may do ONLY ONCE – can add 5 points to your total grade). Please come to meet with me in my office for a 10-15-minute visit and go over your GTKY paper. Sign up in class for appointments during the first few weeks of class. Let me know if you cannot make any of the available times and I will work with you to set up a time that fits your schedule. To get the extra credit, you must complete this assignment by September 30. *If you sign up to attend a session and do not come to the session or arrive late, it may not be possible to reschedule, so make sure to show up! Please cancel the appointment if you are unable to attend.* **Please do not ask for additional extra credit opportunities.**

Course Policies

Classroom Demeanor

Please behave in a manner that is respectful of each other and the instructor.

- Be on time and ready to work; do not leave early. This is rude and disruptive. You will lose attendance points for either.
- Keep the dialogue respectful of your peers *and* of the instructor. Talking about families is not easy. Be sure to be objective, nonjudgmental, and non-confrontational.
- Put aside distractions and be ready to participate in class. Turn off your cell phone. Keep conversations with others at a minimum during class time.
- Only use a computer or tablet for note taking! I will ask students who are using devices for other purposes to put it away completely. Continuing to ignore this instruction will result in loss of points for in-class work.

NOTE: Poor classroom behavior has several possible results: a warning; a meeting with the instructor; the loss of participation points; referral to the Dean; or removal from class if necessary, per UF policy.

Course Communication

1. Check your ufl email and the Canvas announcements page every day for notices about class.
2. When emailing, please use the Canvas website and use only your .ufl account. I will not respond to emails from g-mail or another server/provider. If you have not received a reply, please email again or see the instructor after class.
3. Come by during office hours to discuss concerns, resolve questions about grades, or talk about course material. I would prefer to talk about concerns in person.

Attendance policies

General

The University has an attendance policy. **“Students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. Absences count from the first class meeting.** In general, acceptable reasons for absence from or failure to participate in class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays, and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused. Other reasons also may be approved. Class attendance is expected. Absences count from the first class meeting. You earn points almost every class period for in-class assignments, attendance, or quizzes.”

First Class

The University's first classes attendance policy is: "If a student does not participate in at least one of the first two class meetings of a course or laboratory in which they are registered, and he or she has not contacted the department to indicate his or her intent, the student can be dropped from the course. Students must not assume that they will be dropped, however. The department will notify students if they have been dropped from a course or laboratory." Make sure you sign the attendance sheet/turn in worksheets the first week of class.

Excused absences

The excused absence policy is consistent with university policies that can be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>. Written, professional documentation (only for reasons approved by the University) is required before your absence or immediately upon return to class. Be sure to review this policy for illness policy, religious holidays, the 12-hour rule, and other policies.

Late Assignments Policy

Submit your assignments to Canvas and bring a hard copy to class if requested. The instructor will not accept late assignments unless there is an approved excused absence per UF policy.

Policy on Make-up Work

- Students must arrange with the instructor to make up any assigned material including tests and written work. Students will have one week to complete any makeup assignment, if approved.
- Students must provide written, professional, verifiable proof of their need to miss the assignment that is consistent with UF attendance policies.
- Students who know of their absences in advance (e.g., athletes, conference presenters) will work with the instructor in advance of absences to arrange the time and instructions for make-up work.

UF Policies

Services for Students with Disabilities

Please see the instructor about accommodations ASAP so we can make arrangements. You are required to speak to the instructor in person! *Students with disabilities should follow the procedure required by the DRC (below) as early as possible in the semester.*

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation

- 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

Academic Honesty

- Complete all written work yourself, independently, without input about your work and words from others in any form (text, email, social media post or message, etc.).
- Turn in all your written work to Canvas through the *Turn-It-In* Anti-Plagiarism software. If you do not submit your written work to Canvas/*Turn-It-In* by the deadline posted on Canvas, your assignment will not be accepted and you will lose the points for that assignment.

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity." You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent

with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>.

Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism, defined in the University Honor Code. "A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to: (1) Quoting oral or written materials including but not limited to those found on the internet, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution; (2) Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student." (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>.)

I will vigorously uphold this policy at all times. Students are expected to do their own work, use their own words in papers, and reference outside sources appropriately, following APA guidelines (APA Publication Manual, 6th Ed.). Students who do not follow APA guidelines for quoting others' material and who violate the University's plagiarism policy will receive a zero for the assignment and will be referred the Dean of Students Office and the student judicial court.

Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing concerns, crises, or problems that interfere with their general wellbeing are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/
 - Counseling Services
 - Groups and Workshops
 - Outreach and Consultation
 - Self-Help Library
 - Wellness Coaching
- U Matter We Care, www.umatter.ufl.edu/
- Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu/
- The University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies. <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Note from your instructor: Sometimes the volume of requests for on-campus counseling makes it difficult to get in. The Alachua County Crisis Center provides emergency assistance and on-going counseling: 352-264-6789 and see <http://www.alachuacounty.us/Depts/CSS/CrisisCenter/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx>

Academic Resources

- E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learningsupport@ufl.edu.
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.
- Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.
<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>
- Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
<http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>
- Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
<http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaint Process

Students wishing to file a complaint about the course should seek help from the appropriate resource located through the following link: Residential Course: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

Online Course Evaluation Process

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open for students to complete during the last two or three weeks of the semester; students will be notified of the specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

Software Use

All faculty, staff and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Materials and Supplies Fees

There are no additional fees for this course.