COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces the study and practice of family, youth and community sciences. Presents analytic concepts used in the study of FYCS. Emphasizes the vulnerabilities and needs of U.S. children, youth, families and communities, and describes human services that maximize human potential and minimize personal and societal costs. Introduces the roles and skills of the human service professional.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The Principles of FYCS course is designed to:

- introduce the basic premises of research and theory in the study of family, youth and communities.
- present human ecological theory as related to FYCS.
- describe the status of families, youth and communities in the 21st century.
- identify programs designed to support families, youth, and communities.
- introduce theory, research, and policy associated with families, youth, and communities.
- familiarize students with peer-reviewed research, resource evaluation, and APA style references.
- reinforce intrinsic and extrinsic value associated with service learning.
- acquaint students with professions related to working with families, youth, and communities.

COURSE TEXT REQUIREMENTS

This course requires students to utilize one text. It is relatively inexpensive and can be found online as new or used. Please purchase this text early in the semester. Students must purchase the 6th edition.


COURSE POLICIES

1. Accommodations: FYCS strives to create an accessible and inclusive learning experience for diverse students. Students with disabilities are encouraged to connect with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). The DRC will engage with the student to identify any potential accommodations that may support the student’s success. Accommodations are changes in the learning environment that remove barriers and provide equitable opportunities for accessible learning. Given that barriers may vary from course to course, students should meet with their DRC Learning Specialist once a semester to adjust accommodations.

Accommodations listed in a DRC letter are not retroactive. The provision of accommodations commences when the student presents the instructor the accommodation letter. Students are
encouraged to present accommodation letters as soon as they receive one so the accommodations can be put in place as early as possible. Students must allow ample time for the instructor to review and discuss accommodations with the student prior to implementation. If the student requires additional time for examinations, the student must make arrangements with the DRC and notify the instructor at least one week prior to the examination.

2. **Grading**: Your grade is a direct result of the effort you put into this course. Each assignment has been assigned a possible point value. You will earn points as you complete each assignment. These points accumulate to create your final score. Assignments will be graded on the quality and content of the writing. Be sure to spell check, grammar check, and proofread your work before submitting. Points will be deducted for not following instructions, poor grammar, spelling errors, and lack of appropriate etiquette. For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see [https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/](https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment/Assessment</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affidavit of Good Moral Character Form</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Learning Information Form</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APA Style Quiz</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KEEPRA Team Project &amp; Peer Evaluations</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KEEPRA Team Project Presentation</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams 1 &amp; 2 (100 points each)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Learning Journal</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Learning Time Log</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total points</strong></td>
<td>700</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. **Grade adjustments**: It is unethical and in direct violation of the Honor Code to request an unjustifiable grade adjustment. Grades follow the above grading scale and are not rounded up. Please note that students have 1 week to review assignment/assessment grades/comments and contact the instructor with questions concerning the grade. Students who fail to review their assignment scores within one week of release of grades may not request retroactive adjustments on scores at the end of the term.

4. **Late Assignments**: Assignments are primarily submitted through Canvas. You are expected to complete all assignments within the course by the specified dates. Assignments that are submitted after the date and time provided in the syllabus will receive a zero (0) grade. That is, late assignments will not be accepted.
Please see university policy regarding university and medically-excused absences. In the event of an unforeseen emergency (death in the immediate family, sudden illness, etc.), please contact your instructor as soon as possible. Be proactive and forthcoming. Failure to communicate with your instructor may result in a zero (0) grade.

The Canvas app is a great tool for checking your mail, announcements, and viewing your grades. It is not a great tool for submitting assignments as the uploading procedure is very unreliable. To protect yourself in the event of any technical glitch, I strongly advise that you do not use the mobile app for submitting assignments. Additionally, I recommend taking and saving screenshots of all Canvas submission confirmations. Failure to document your submission will result in a zero (0) grade should there be a system error.

5. **Contacting your instructor:** Please contact your instructor through Canvas email (not @ufl email). Keep in mind that email exchanges between students, faculty, TAs, and staff are a form of professional correspondence and permanent documentation between two (or more) people, and they are NOT confidential. Be sure your emails are polite, professional, and well prepared before hitting send.

Although most faculty try to answer emails promptly, you should allow 2 business days before expecting a response. To maintain a work-life balance, instructors do not answer emails outside business hours.

6. **Email and web access requirement:** All students are required to have a UF email account and must be able to access Canvas. You are responsible for regularly checking the FYC 3001 Canvas site for the course calendar, lecture notes, required readings, announcements, and other course resources/materials. If you are experiencing issues with Canvas call 352-392-HELP or connect via email (helpdesk@ufl.edu). Phone and email support are available 24/7. **Do not contact your instructors or TA without a ticket number from the help desk.**

**ASSIGNMENTS** (see course calendar for all due dates)

1. **Affidavit of GM Character and Service Learning Information Form (25 points each):** Students are required to complete 25 hours of service learning this semester. Note that both forms must have original, authentic (ink-to-paper) signatures; digital signatures will not be accepted. All information on the Service Learning Information Form should be typed, except for the original signatures by both the student and the site supervisor. Both can be found on Canvas and must be submitted on Canvas by the due date and graded before you begin your service learning.

2. **Participation (75 points total):** Students are expected to demonstrate their understanding of course material through active participation in class daily. Students are expected to respond to oral and written questioning related to discussion topics. Points will be awarded via pop quizzes, reaction papers, class activities, and participation (up to 10 points each). If you miss the class participation portion or fail to turn it in on time, you will receive a zero (0). There are no make-ups- no exceptions. There will be approximately 8-10 opportunities during the semester to obtain participation points.

3. **APA Style Quiz (75 points):** This timed quiz will be administered through Canvas and will be open-book. You will have two (2) attempts at this quiz. Before you take the quiz, you will need to have access
to all required documents. More information will be provided in class. The quiz will be open for multiple days; once the quiz closes, there will be no additional opportunities to take the quiz.

4. **Exams (200 points total):** Two (2) examinations will be administered in class during the semester. Exams cover all material up to the exam date (i.e., not cumulative), including lecture content, videos, guest speakers, and required readings. The format of the exams may include multiple choice, matching, true/false, short answer, and fill in the blanks. Note: Once exams have been administered, no other exams will be distributed. Therefore, if you enter the classroom late, you will not be given the opportunity to take the exam. This means you must be present at the start of the exam. Please show up on time and come prepared. Students who miss an exam will not be provided with an opportunity for make-up unless arrangements were made in advance.

5. **Service Learning Time Log (25 points):** The Service Learning Time Log requires your site supervisor to verify completion of 25 hours. Only original signatures (not electronic signatures; ink-to-paper) will be accepted. Students who fail to submit a valid service learning time log and/or earn 25 hours will receive a zero on both the service learning time log and journal.

6. **Service Learning Journal (50 points):** This journal is a way for students to describe and reflect on their overall service learning experience. Details about this assignment will be provided on Canvas and in class. Students who fail to submit a valid service learning time log and/or earn 25 hours will receive a zero on both the service learning time log and journal.

7. **Team Project and Peer Evaluations (200 points total):** Details from this semester-long team project will be provided on Canvas and in class. You will also be provided with time in class to meet with your team and work on the project. This project includes a semester-long peer evaluation process, which will directly impact your grade. Failure to submit Peer Evaluations by the due date will result in a deduction of 50% of the earned points for that section—no exceptions. Proactive participation in this project is essential to your final grade.

8. **Team Project Presentation (25 points):** Each team will have 5-10 minutes (given the number of teams) to present their team project to the class. Each team member must be present for the presentation to receive credit. Moreover, to receive credit for your presentation, you must be present for all team project presentations (see course calendar for specific date). More information about the team project presentations will be provided in class.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Any assignments that you submit must be original works authored by you as an individual in the course. Your thoughts are unique and valuable, and assignments and examinations provide you with an opportunity to share your insights with your instructor. Please be mindful that as a result of the registration process at the University of Florida, any enrolled student is committed to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge:

...the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students who enroll at the University of Florida commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by the honor to take corrective action...
On all work submitted for credit by the students 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/project/quiz/exam. Furthermore, no student may work or collaborate with another person on any academic activity in this course. Should group work be assigned or this class policy change, I will provide that in writing on the individual assignment instructions.

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 will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration for disciplinary action. For more information, visit the Dean of Students website.

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATIONS

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of CALS and university criteria. Students will be provided this opportunity through an online platform. Information about this evaluation process will be emailed to all students towards the end of the semester. All students are strongly encouraged to provide feedback.

SOFTWARE USE

All faculty, staff, and students at the University of Florida 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. Disciplinary action will also be taken when appropriate.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

The University of Florida has support services available for all students. If you need additional support, you are encouraged to reach out to your instructor.

1. Counseling and Wellness Center (https://counseling.ufl.edu/) offers services and resources related to a variety of personal concerns, including but not limited to test-related stress, anxiety and depression, substance use, relationships, and sexual orientation and gender. All services are confidential. If a student is having a mental health emergency, they may call 352-392-1575 to speak to a crisis counselor.

2. Disability Resource Center (https://drc.dso.ufl.edu/) is available to students in need of support and/or accommodations for physical, learning, sensory, or psychological disabilities. 352-392-8565

3. GatorWell Health Promotion Services (http://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu/) is UF’s campus health promotion department. Services include: HIV testing, Quit Tobacco coaching, Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, Health Huts, and various other outreach/educational events. GatorWell also provides free condoms and other sexual health resources to students. Visit one of their three campus locations.

4. UF Computing Help Desk (http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/) is available to help students with technical issues, including Canvas. They are available 24/7 at 352-392-HELP.
5. U Matter, We Care (http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/) is an initiative committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if someone is in need. If someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to that person.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to change any aspect of this syllabus and to make appropriate updates. Changes to the syllabus, including the course calendar, will be communicated to students in a timely manner.