Sociology 174  
Sociology of the Family  
Spring 2006  
Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30 – 1:45pm  
Haines Hall A2  
Instructor: Ana Maria Goldani  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 2:30-4:30pm,  
261b Haines Hall  
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Course Overview:
This course examines selected topics and research in the area of sociology of the family. Contemporary issues on family include history, myths and controversies about families; gender and the household division of labor; the role of the state and social policy responses to family diversity. During the quarter we will explore how family changes and individual’s life courses interconnect and influence each other and the implications of these linkages for women, men, and children. Of particular interest will be how gender, social class and race and ethnicity affect this relationship.

Required Texts:
The readings below are the required texts for the course. The two books can be purchased at either ASUCLA store or your neighborhood or web bookstore. The books will also be available on reserve at Powell library. The reading packet is available at UCLA Academic Publishing Services, Ackerman Union A237 (A-Level).

3. Course Reading Packet for Sociology of the Family (Soc174).

Please Note: Some videos not mentioned in the Syllabus will be shown and discussed in class. They will be part of the evaluation.

Course Requirements:
The course consists of weekly lectures and class discussions. The lectures are meant to supplement rather than supplant the readings. As a result, students are expected to attend the lectures, read assigned texts prior to our class and attend and actively participate in class discussions.

**Mid-term Examination:** There will be one mid-term exam given in class on Thursday, May 4th, 2006. The exam will consist of short answer and short essay questions covering the lectures, assigned readings and discussions for the first half of the term.

**Final Examination:** The final exam is not cumulative. It will cover the lectures, assigned readings, and discussions from the second half of the semester. Similar in format to the mid-term, it will consist of a mix of short essays and short answers. The final exam is scheduled for Thursday, June, 8th, 2006.

**Book Assignment.** Students are required to write a memo on one of the two assigned books. It will follow a guideline that will be provided by the professor. Memo is due in the Sociology main office, 2nd Floor Haines Hall, by 4pm, June 6th, 2006. Please be mindful of the due dates, of the book review because it will be graded down one third of a grade (B becomes B-) for each day late. Electronic submissions will not be accepted.

**Final grades are determined as follows:** Mid-term exam 40%, Final exam 40%, Book Assignment 10% and Participation 10%.
Lecture and Reading Schedule:

Week 1.  Family and Social Change. (April 4 and 6)
Readings:

Week 2. Perspectives in the Study of Family. (April 11 and 13)
Readings:

Week 3. History, Myths and Controversies of Family Changes. (April 18 and 20)
Readings:

Week 4. Gender and the Household Division of Labor. (April 25 and 27)
Readings:
Stephanie Coontz. 1992. The Way We Never Were. American Families and the Nostalgia Trap. Chapters, # 7, #8,
Week 5. Review Session and Mid-term Exam. (May 2 and 4)  
Week 6. Families Today, The State and Social Policy. (May 9 and 11)  
Readings:  

Week 7. Complexities of Caregiving. (May 16 and 18)  
Readings:  

Week 8. Social Policy, Children and their Families. (May 23 and 25)  
Readings:  

Week 9. The future of the Family. (May 30 and June 1)  
Readings:  

Week 10. Course Review and Final Exam. (June 6 and 8)