

**NorthWest Arkansas Community College**  
**Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Education and**  
**Wellness, Legal and Protective Services**

**SOCI 2043 (Marriage and Family)**

**Catalog Description:**

An analysis of dating, marriage, and parenthood patterns with emphasis on the contemporary American family.

**Prerequisite:**

SOCI 2013 or consent of the instructor.

**Credit Hours/Contact Hours/Load Hours:**

3/3/3

**Target Audience / Transferability:**

SOCI 2043 is an introduction to the sociology of marriage and family for general interest or for interested students from a variety of disciplines. Applies toward a general education requirements for baccalaureate degree granted by state funded colleges and universities. This transfers to four- year institutions.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Define marriage and family.
- Discuss the impact of the “information age” (cell phones, video games, computers, the internet) on intimate relationships.
- Evaluate whether courtship (dating) is necessary in relationships.
- Compare and contrast the “golden age” of the 1950s using “Father Knows Best” “Leave it to Beaver” to the family of Dr. Huxtable.
- Compare the position of women before the industrial revolution to now.
- Discuss whether cohabitation prevents divorce and whether it should be encouraged.
- Outline the pros and cons of “arranged marriages”
- Apply sociological theory of the marriage and family

**Topics:**

- Human intimacy and American ways of love
- Gender convergence
- Communications in intimate relationships
- Dating, single life and mate selection
- Marriage, intimacy, expectations, and the fully functioning person
- Human sexuality, family planning, and the challenges of parenthood
- Family life stages
- The importance of making sound
- The dual-worker family and family crises
- The dissolution of marriage, remarriage, and family law

**Forms of Assessment:**

The Department of Behavioral Sciences is committed to ensuring our students come away from our courses with a good general understanding of the material, and more specifically, achieving the college-wide objectives. (Students can read selections at the appropriate level of education and describe the main idea and supporting details. Students can evaluate written material objectively. Instructors will utilize the course textbook and possible outside readings for a better understanding of each topic). The Assessment Committee determines which of the many college-wide learning outcomes each course is to test. Each discipline decides upon the testing method for the semester.

