SYLLABUS IDEAL PROGRAM SOC204 MARRIAGE & FAMILY - COURSE SYLLABUS

Dear Student,

Please read the following course syllabus carefully, especially the course dates, times and location. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to communicate with the IDEAL office, your academic advisor, or the instructor.

The IDEAL degree-completion program is designed with the adult learner in mind. Adult learners approach learning with specific goals, want to be able to directly apply new learning to their work and personal lives, and tend to learn best when the coursework is problem-centered so that they are actively engaged in the learning process. In addition, adults bring rich and varied experience to the classroom, which becomes a valuable learning resource for other students.

The IDEAL Program assumes joint responsibility in the learning process. The activities and assignments in our classes build on the shared experience of all learners in each class. This is why each student's preparation, participation and interaction in class activities and discussions are critical to the success of each course. The accelerated format of each course requires a significant amount of time outside the classroom to prepare for and complete the course assignments. This varies between students and courses; however, students typically spend a minimum of ten-twelve hours per week on course material.

To participate in the IDEAL Program, it is expected that you will do the following:

- 1. Attend every class session. Be on time.
- 2. Obtain the required course materials prior to the first class session.
- 3. Complete the first assignment prior to the first class session and all subsequent assignments to the best of your ability.
- 4. Participate in the class discussions and demonstrate respect and consideration to the instructor and other students when they express themselves in discussion.

If you cannot perform these four expectations, it is recommended that you drop the course.

Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade (for example if the student earned a grade of "B" in the course, the final grade would be a "C"). If a student misses two or more classes a grade of F will be entered as their final grade.

Cheating and Plagiarism

It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with and adhere to the standards set forth in the policies on cheating and plagiarism as defined in Chapters 2 and 5 of the Key to UB http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2623.asp or the appropriate graduate program handbook

E-mail correspondence

It is imperative that you check your UB e-mail on a regular basis. All written correspondence, to include IDEAL and the University will be sent to you through his e-mail. The University can no longer correspond to your personal e-mail account(s).

Ethics Statement of Confidentiality

An integral component of an IDEAL course is student and faculty expression of personal experiences for the purpose of facilitating coursework. Students enrolled in the program are expected to honor confidentiality as it pertains to student disclosure. Shared information, comments, or opinions expressed by another student or the faculty member during the course of classroom discussion should never be used in a manner which is intended to humiliate, embarrass, harass, damage, or otherwise injure other students in their personal, public, or business lives. In addition, confidentiality must be upheld by not disclosing any information that would identify any particular individual.

The IDEAL Program

SOC204 MARRIAGE & FAMILY Instructor Information

Instructor: Tony Devine. Ed.D Email: tdevine@bridgeport.edu

Course Information

The Ideal Program will communicate the following in advance of the course:

- Course Dates- Tuesdays, October 1 October 29, 2013
- Course Location- Waterbury Campus
- Time- 6pm 10pm

Course Description: This course examines marriage and family life with an emphasis on healthy marital and family patterns across the life-span within a cross-cultural context. Issues explored include: review of relevant research in specific areas of marriage, the social purpose of marriage, sexual intimacy, mate selection, conditions for lifelong partnership, conflict resolution and communication strategies in families, divorce, marital stages and parenting.

Purpose and Objectives: The desire for lifelong intimate partnership is an ideal sought by most persons since over 90% of adults marry at least once in their lifetime. In this course you will think about the meaning and purpose of marriage and family relationships from a variety of perspectives. You will review relevant theory, research and reflection on marriage that will help you understand how a resilient marriage and family may be formed and maintained. You will begin to articulate your own views on marriage and family in a final reflection paper. Upon completion of the course students should be able to

- Cite working definitions of marriage and family
- Identify the emotional growth opportunities of marriage and family relationships
- Identify and apply principles of conflict resolution to a case study
- Increase discernment of the conditions that give rise to enduring partnerships
- Describe four alternatives to divorce
- Critically review an article, website, chapter or literature selection
- Apply perspectives and frameworks for studying marriage and the family
- Demonstrate knowledge of the role of marriage in society
- Give examples of gender and cultural differences in behavior
- Describe three ways of preparing for parenthood
- Respond to arguments for and against monogamy and/or cohabitation

- Identify options for dating and the mate selection process that reveal character
- Synthesize a personal view of the family that emphasizes strengths
- Identify effective strategies for nurturing resilient family dynamics

Required Texts:

Marriages and Families: Intimacy, Diversity, and Strengths, 7th Edition, (2011) ISBN-13 9780078111570 McGraw-Hill Higher Education

Devine, T. Seuk, J.H., Wilson, A., Eds. (2000) Cultivating Heart and Character: Education for Life's Most Essential Goals. Charlotte, NC: Character Development Publishing. ISDN: 1892056151.

NOTE: The Professor will have copies of Cultivating Heart and Character available on the first day of class for those students who may have difficulty acquiring this text.

To order textbooks, go to the bookstore website at http://bridgeport.textbooktech.com/Select IDEAL Campus and login to the bookstore. Select the course and follow instructions.

WEEKLY AGENDA: TOPICS, READINGS, AND ASSIGNEMNTS

Note: All weeks refer to COURSE WEEKS and NOT CALENDAR WEEKS.

Week 1: The Social Context of Marriage and Family

READINGS

Marriage and Families: Intimacy, Diversity and Strengths

Chapter 1: Perspectives on Intimate Relationships

Chapter 2: Cultural Diversity: Family Strengths and Challenges

Chapter 3: Understanding Marriage and Family Dynamics

Cultivating Heart and Character

Chapter 19. Why Marriage?

ASSIGNMENTS - DUE BY FIRST WEEK OF CLASS

- Come to class having completed all Week 1 readings, and prepare to discuss.
- Topic, Title and Objectives for Final Research Paper for input and approval

Week 2: Dynamics of Intimate Relationships

READINGS

Marriage and Families: Intimacy, Diversity and Strengths

Chapter 4. Communication and Intimacy

Chapter 5. Conflict and Conflict Resolution

Cultivating Heart and Character

Chapter 14. Family Roles and Moral Growth

Chapter 17. The Spouse's Sphere of Love

Chapter 28. Causes and Resolution of Conflict

ASSIGNMENTS

- Topic, Title and Objectives for Final Research Paper Review
- Student Presentations
- Chapter Review due.

Week 3: Sexuality and Intimacy

READINGS

Marriage and Families: Intimacy, Diversity and Strengths

Chapter 6. Sexual Intimacy

Chapter 9. Friendship, Intimacy, and Singlehood

Cultivating Heart and Character

Chapter 23. An Ethic of Responsible Sexual Love

ASSIGNMENTS

- Reading Quiz (Based on Weeks 1-3 Readings)
- Student Presentations

Week 4: Resilient Marriages

READINGS

Marriage and Families: Intimacy, Diversity and Strengths

Chapter 8. Managing Economic Resources

Chapter 11: Marriage: Building a Strong Foundation

Cultivating Heart and Character

Chapter 21. Character and Skills for Resilient Marriages

ASSIGNMENTS

Student Presentations

Week 5: Parenting and Strengthening Families

RFADINGS

Marriage and Families: Intimacy, Diversity and Strengths

Chapter 12. Parenthood: Choices and Challenges

Chapter 16. Strengthening Marriages and Families

Cultivating Heart and Character

Chapter 22. Parenting with Love and Authority

ASSIGNMENTS

- Final Essay or Research Paper Due
- Student Presentations
- Group Project

Assessment

In class student presentations	15
Chapter Review	15
Article review	15
Reading Quiz	15
Team Projects	15
Final Research Paper	25
Total Possible Points	100

Letter Grading Scale:

% of Points Earned	Letter Grade
100-94	A
93-90	A-
89-87	B+
86-84	В
83-80	B-
79-77	C+

% of Points Earned	Letter Grade
76-74	С
73-70	C-
69-67	D+
66-64	D
63-60	D-
Below 60	F

Chapter Review

The goal of your review is to concisely summarize and evaluate the chapter so that others who may not be familiar with the content can determine the key ideas and concepts. The reviews generally follow the following format:

- ➤ A summary of the major parts/sections of the chapter
- An critical evaluation of the content of the chapter (strengths/weaknesses, agree/disagree and why)
- Relating student's experiences and perspectives (professionally and/or personally) with the content.

These assignments are designed to help you digest the material covered, and improve your facility in handling academic content. These reviews are to be two-three pages, typed double spaced and 12 point font. No folders or title pages are required. No extra research is required for these assignments – the emphasis is on analysis and using ideas from the course texts. While you are free to include outside information, no extra credit will be given for the additional material. The task will be to make use of assigned readings and class materials. More details on the assignments will be provided. Use APA style for references. Late papers or assignments will be docked 10% per diem

Student Presentations

Each student will make a class presentation of one chapter from the text. The chapter you will present on will be decided upon during the Week 1 class. Prepare well for the class presentation. You can use audio/visual aids, PowerPoint, handouts, etc. to support your presentation. It is advisable to create an outline. The content/criteria are similar to the

chapter/article review outlined above. Plan on 5-7 minutes for your presentation. For this presentation, consider yourself an 'expert' on the content, and be prepared to respond to student comments and questions following your presentation.

Final Research Paper

Pick a topic that you think is a pervasive issue of Marriage and Family. The purpose of this paper is that you go deep into a narrow and specific aspect of Marriage and Family that is of professional, academic or personal interest to you. Within the topic area, create a specific and focused title for your proposed paper and a corresponding outline. Bring the topic, title and three objectives to the Week 1 and 2 classes for input and approval by the professor.

Paper Guidelines:

References:

- Three or more articles from media sources (newspaper, magazine, online media site, etc.)
- Three or more books and/or research/scholarly papers from reliable and sophisticated sources (journals, periodicals, texts, etc.)

Using these sources in addition to the assigned course texts, write a 5-7 page, double spaced, and 12 point font (not including title and reference pages) paper that covers the following:

- General overview of the issue
- How is the issue represented currently is the field?
- What are the origins of the issue?
- What is the current research about this issue?
- Describe how current innovative solutions are impacting the issue?
- What are people and/or systems doing to make changes?
- Wrap up your paper with a well written conclusion

Your paper must have a minimum of six sources listed on your reference page and each must be cited within the text of your paper. In a limited way, tie in your personal and professional experiences/observations/perspectives related to the topic and title. Keep in mind that this is a research paper and not a personal reflection of experiences. Use APA style for references and proofread the paper prior to submission.

Team Projects

During the first class, students will be divided into small teams. Your team will be a source of support during the course. The team will be assigned one or more team projects and resulting presentations. This will be discussed further in the first class.

Attendance & Participation

Participation, attendance and discussion are central to the success of the course. Students will therefore be expected to attend and participate fully in classes. Class attendance is mandatory. The register will be taken at the *start* of every class. The following are consequences of missing classes or arriving late or leaving early:

• Missing a class: Full Grade Reduction

- Arrive between 6:15 7:00PM: ¼ Grade Reduction
- Arrive between 7:00 7:45PM: ½ Grade Reduction
- Arrive after 7:45PM: Full Grade Reduction
- Leave after 7:00PM: ¾ Grade Reduction
- Leave after 7:45PM: ½ Grade Reduction
- Leave after 8:45PM: ¼ Grade Reduction

Websites:

www.healthymarriageinfo.org

National Healthy Marriage Resource Center

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/healthymarriage/

ACF Healthy Marriage website:

ACF African American Healthy Marriage (AAHMI)

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/healthymarriage/aa hmi/AAHMI.html

http://ssw.unc.edu/jif/aahmi/

AAHMI Connecting Research to Practice Conference

www.smartmarriages.com

Website of the Coalition for Marriage, Family and Couples Education

www.divorcebusting.com

Website dedicated to finding alternatives and strategies to avoid divorce

www.saafamilies.org

Step Family Association

www.buildingrelationshipskills.org

Connections Relationship Program for teens and young adults

Complete all reading assignments in a timely manner to be prepared for class discussion, group work, reading quiz, student presentations and the final research paper.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Attendance Policy

Classroom attendance is an integral part of the academic experience; therefore, students are expected to attend all class sessions. If an absence is unavoidable, the student, prior to class, should advise the instructor. Arrangements should be made at that time for additional assignments if appropriate. It is also expected that students arrive on time and not leave until the class is dismissed. Tardiness will result in a reduced grade for the course. If you cannot attend every class session you should consider dropping the course.

IMPORTANT:

- Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade (for example if the student earned a grade of "B" in the course, the final grade would be a "C").
- Missing two or more class sessions will be cause for a failing grade.

Incomplete grade

An incomplete <u>may be</u> given, at the discretion of the instructor, to those students who fail to complete assignments due the <u>last day</u> of your course. These would include absence from a final examination or inability to complete terminal assignments (papers, presentations) due to illness, employment conflicts, etc.

Incompletes will not be given to a student who fails to complete any assignment during the term. At the discretion of the instructor, these assignments could be completed no later than the last scheduled day of your class.

Drop Procedures

To drop a course, you must complete and submit a Schedule Change Request Form. The form can be accessed at the following web page:

http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2595.asp

Starting Fall 2012

- Add and/or Drop a course after the start date.....\$30.00 per transaction
- Drop prior to the start of classes......100% Tuition Refund
- Drop prior to the third class session......50% Tuition Refund

**Please note students <u>will not be</u> automatically dropped for missing the first class. Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade. If you have to miss the first class, or the first week of class for online classes, *you must contact your instructor* in writing before or after the first class/first week. However, a grade reduction will apply.

Please print and complete the form and fax the form to the IDEAL Office: 203-576-4537. Prior to dropping a course, the student should contact their IDEAL Academic Advisor to understand the implications to financial aid and/or degree plan progress.

Please review the Academic Calendar to see the fees for a drop and the impact on tuition. The Academic Calendar can be found at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2595.asp

Cell Phones

Cell phones must be turned off while in the classroom. A cell phone call is disruptive and disrespectful to the other students in the class.

Academic Dishonesty

We are committed to intellectual integrity in our academic pursuits; therefore, the IDEAL program prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is normally defined as, but not limited to, the following two categories:

Cheating – Using inappropriate sources of information in an assignment or on a test. The following are examples of cheating taken from real student experiences:

Case #1: A student is enrolled in an introductory computer-programming course. He has coworkers who program in the same language as his final project. As the end of the term approaches, he wonders how he will find the time to get the project finished, and asks one of his co-workers for help. His co-worker hands him a disk with a complete program similar to the kind required for the course project. The student makes minor modifications to the program, and submits it under his own name.

Case #2: A student enrolled in a religious studies course has never taken a humanities or history course, and is unsure about how to structure a research paper. She is doing research on the World Wide Web, and comes across a paper written by a student from another university. Using her computer mouse, she copies and pastes the document into her word processor. She goes to great lengths to re-word the paper in her own style, but essentially leaves the content and organization the same.

Plagiarism – Intentional as well as unintentional failure to acknowledge sources as well as the use of commercially available so-called "research papers" without full recognition of the source. Presenting as one's own, the ideas, words, or products of another. The following are examples of plagiarism taken from real student experiences:

Case #3: A student is conducting research for a Civil War research paper. He has reviewed work on the Internet as well as in the library. Finding helpful information, he has summarized his findings without citing his sources. He believes that minor paraphrasing is all that is necessary.

Case #4: A student is writing a paper that requires her to address specific topics and problems in the assigned course textbook. She takes the information directly from the textbook with slight modification, without giving any citation. She thinks that since it is the course textbook, she doesn't have to use quotations or citations.

Academic dishonesty applies to all courses, assignments or exams completed by students and submitted as their own original work, whether in person or by electronic means. The University does not tolerate cheating in any form. It is a serious breach of conduct with serious consequences. Instructors have the right to determine the appropriate penalty for academic dishonesty in their own classes; generally, however, such acts will result in a failing grade for the assignment and/or the course. The penalty for subsequent acts of academic dishonesty may include expulsion.

More information on how to recognize plagiarism can be found at this site: http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/plagiarism_test.html

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

The Academic Resource Center is available for IDEAL students seeking help in their studies. The Center is staffed by writing professionals and peer tutors. More information can be found at: http://myub.bridgeport.edu/academics/academicrescenter/Pages/default.aspx The Center is located in the Wahlstrom Library, Room 506. Hours of operation are Mondays –Thursday 9am – 6pm and Fridays 9am – 1pm. Make an appointment or walk-in: Telephone: 203-576-4290. **Online Tutoring** is available at: www.etutoring.org. To use this free service you must have a UBNet account.

Obtaining a UBNet Account

Every registered student should obtain a UBNet Account. The account allows you to access your grades, access library services, access online tutoring, access the computers in computer labs, and provides an email account in which the University sends out information. Go to: http://www.bridgeport.edu/ubnet - Click on "New UBNet Account" and follow the instructions.

The @bridgeport.edu email address is the official email the University uses to send information to you. You can have your Bridgeport.edu email forwarded to any other email account you use. Following the activation of your UBNet account (takes 24 hours), login at:

http://www.bridgeport.edu/email and click on "forwards" at the top of the page. Follow the directions to forward email messages to your other account.

Accessing Your Grades & Schedule Online

The WebAdvisor online information system allows students to search for available classes, check grades, view semester class schedule and verify your personal profile. Grades are generally posted 2-3 weeks following the end of a course. Information on WebAdvisor is password protected and requires you to use your UBNet username and password. To access WebAdvisor, go to:

http://www.bridgeport.edu/webadvisor

- 1. Login in with your UBNet username and password.
- 2. Click on "Student Menu."
- 3. Click on "My Grades."

If you are carrying a financial balance, access to WebAdvisor will be restricted.

Using the Library

You can access the library through the library's website: http://www.bridgeport.edu/library. Research tools available:

- Search for books held at the library.
- Search the online databases for your academic field; business, counseling, human services, psychology, etc.
- Send questions to the Reference Librarian for assistance in research topics and searching strategy.

To access the online journals for research purposes, you will need a UBNet account (see above).

Using Computers

Open access computer labs are available at three campuses:

- Bridgeport 1st floor of the Wahlstrom library. Check library hours of operation at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/library.
- Stamford Room D; Check open hours at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/stamford
- Waterbury Computer Lab; Check open hours at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/waterbury

Course Cancellations/ Weather Policy

Any emergency necessitating the canceling of courses will be announced by the University through the Emergency Notification Telephone Line, (203) 576-4159. Please call this number for information on course cancellations. Also, information will be posted under "Latest News" on the UB home page, (www.bridgeport.edu). Canceled classes will be made up either the week following the end of the course or in consultation between the instructor and the students as to day and time availability. Course cancellations are also announced on television and radio stations.

Please note each campus makes weather cancellations independently. You should always check with the specific campus staff. It is best to call the campus emergency phone.

Bridgeport – 203-576-4159 Waterbury - 203-573-8501 Stamford – 203-358-0700

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Office	Contact	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport Campus Security		(203) 576-4911	ubsecurity@bridgeport.edu
Bursar	Robinson Hernandez	(203) 576-4692	bursar@bridgeport.edu
Cashier	Lana Mistry	(203) 576-4682	cashier@bridgeport.edu
Financial Aid		(203) 576-4568	sfs@bridgeport.eud
Registrar		(203) 576-4642	registrar@bridgeport.edu
Emergency Notification Phone		(203) 576-4159	
Distance Education Office		(203) 576-4853	ubonline@bridgeport.edu
IDEAL Office	·	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu

CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

Campus	Address	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport	126 Park Avenue Bridgeport, CT 06604	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu
Stamford	5 Riverbend Drive Stamford, CT 06750	(203) 358-0700	ubstamford@bridgeport.edu
Waterbury	84 Progress Lane Waterbury, CT 06705	(203) 573-8501	ubwaterbury@bridgeport.edu
Woodbridge	6 Lunar Drive Woodbridge, CT 06525	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu
IDEAL Office		(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu

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To fill out your financial aid report to the Federal Government, please go online to www.fafsa.ed.gov. The school code for the University of Bridgeport is 001416. Federal Student Aid Information: 1-800-433-3243.