

Honors 240:002

Reading the Past: Families and Change Overtime

Fall, 2017

Professor Spencer Crew

Email: srcrow@gmu.edu

TR 10:30 –11:45 pm

East Building 122

Office Hours: East Building 207 B Tuesday and Thursday 12:00 – 1:00, and by appointment

NATURE OF THE COURSE AND ITS OBJECTIVES

The definition of family and the responsibilities of each member has evolved over the years. Often economic circumstances and the evolving social beliefs of the society cause these changes. This course will focus on the way the American family has changed since colonial days. In the process we will study how the responsibilities of women, children, and men have evolved and why. In addition we will learn how oral history can aid in researching family history.

EXAMINATIONS

Students are responsible for the material covered in lectures, readings, and class discussions. There are four writing assignments in the course including the final research paper.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is expected as lectures and discussions will cover ideas not in the readings. Attendance will factor in the final grade. Participation in class discussions also will influence the final grade. Students are to come to class on time, having read the assignments, and prepared to contribute to class discussions.

CALCULATION OF GRADES

There will be four written assignments in the class. They will include two short papers of four to eight pages, an oral history interview and a final paper of eight to twelve pages. We will discuss the specifics of these papers in class. The final grade calculation will be based on the following basis:

10% class participation and attendance

30 % first short paper

30 % second short paper

10 % elder paper (pass/fail)

20% final paper

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS

If you require any type of special accommodation, testing or otherwise, please see me privately at the start of the semester. You must provide proper documentation and we will then make any needed adjustments. Also, if you have other issues which arise

that will affect the quality of your work; contact me *as early as possible* so we can discuss how to take these challenges into account.

Drop/Add deadlines:

Last Day to Add:	September 5, 2017
Last Day to Drop (67% tuition penalty):	September 29, 2017
Selective Withdrawal Period:	October 2 –October 27. 2017

EVERYONE IS EXPECTED TO ADHERE TO THE HONOR CODE IN ALL THE WORK THEY PERFORM. VIOLATION OF THE HONOR CODE WILL RESULT IN FAILURE ON THE ASSIGNMENT OR FAILURE IN THE COURSE, DEPENDING ON HOW SEVERE THE INFRACTION.

TEXTS

Steven Mintz & Susan Kellogg	Domestic Revolutions A Social history of American Family Life
Peter N.Stearns	Childhood in World history
Laura Ingalls Wilder	Little Town on the Prairie

CLASSROOM TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

- Aug 29: **Introduction** Defining Family and family History
- The Modern Definition of Family by Alexandra Temblador (<http://thenextfamily.com/2015/01/what-does-todays-family-look-like/>) and on blackboard
- <http://chlt.flinders.edu.au/education/DLiT/2002/family/home.htm> (Read the introduction, family types/theories, parenting styles, and sibling relationships sections)
- Functional versus Dysfunctional Family (blackboard)
- Mintz, Introduction
- guttinganarticle.pdf (in blackboard)**
- JournalArticleanalysis.pdf (in blackboard)**
- Aug 31: **Early Families:** Stearns, Chapters 2, 3, and 4

- Sept. 5: **Families in the New World:** Mintz, chapter 1 and Demos readings (Demos folders 1 & 2)
- Sept. 7 **Native Americans:** Mintz, Chapter 2
; *“The Experiences of Eunice Williams”* (read Ewilliams document in blackboard)
Questions to research: Who is Eunice Williams and what is Kahnawake?
- Sept. 12 **African Americans:** Mintz, chapter 4
The Enslaved Family (blackboard)
- Sept. 14 **Andrea J. Loewenwarter**, *Historic Resources Specialist*, Office of Historic Resources, the City of Fairfax will talk about Historic Blenheim and Albert Willcox of Fairfax
- Sept. 19 **Democratic Family:** Mintz Chapter 3 ;
“The Cult of True Womanhood: 1820-1860”, Barbara Welter, *American Quarterly*, Vol. 18, No. 2, Part 1 (Summer, 1966), pp. 151-174. (blackboard)
- Sept. 21: Engels, *Little Town on the Prairie*, all
- Sept. 26: **First Paper Due**
Researching family records and official documents
- Sept. 28 Family History Research: Edward and Nikki Henderson of Fairfax County
- Oct 3: **Oral History;** How to do **your own** oral history interview | **Discover Nikkei**
www.discovernikkei.org/en/howto/interviews
- Oct. 5 **First meeting with elders**
- Oct 10 No class Columbus Day
- Oct. 12 **Industrial Family:** Mintz, chapter 5, Stearns Chapter 6:
“Ethnic Family Patterns: The Italian Family in the United States”, Paul J. Campisi, *American Journal of Sociology*; Vol. 53, No. 6 (May, 1948), pp. 443-449 ;
“The Family in a Typical Mill Town,” Margaret F. Byington, *American Journal of Sociology*; Vol. XIV, (1909), pp. 648-659.
- Oct. 17 Companionate Family: Mintz, Chapter 6,
Ozark Women and the Companionate Family in the Arkansas Hills, 1870-1910, Janet AlluredThe Arkansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. 47, No. 3 (Autumn, 1988), pp. 230-256.

- Oct. 19 Flappers and the 1920s
- The Flapper Wife*** Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt9qfg33.7>
(blackboard)
- Oct. 24 Depression Family: Mintz , Chapter 7
- “Always Lend a Helping Hand,”*** Sevier County Remembers the Great Depression
(<http://newdeal.feri.org/sevier/interviews/>)
- Interviews of Marvel Hunt; Jean Anna Rowley; VaNiel Taylor and Angie & William Wright
- Survivors Of The Great Depression Tell Their Stories* by Neenah Ellis, November 27, 2008 1:31 PM ,
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=97468008>
- Children and Youth in the Great Depression and New Deal** (blackboard)
- Oct 26 **World War II and Family:** Mintz, Chapter 8;
- Japanese-American Relocation***, Ruth Petway Vickers, *The Arkansas Historical Quarterly*
Vol. 10, No. 2 (Summer, 1951), pp. 168-176;
- Portland Assembly Center: Diary of Saku Tomita***, Zuigaku Kodachi, Jan Heikkala and Janet Cormack, *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 81, No. 2 (Summer, 1980), pp. 149-171
- Effects of Evacuation on Japanese-American Youth***, Edith W. Derrick, *The School Review*
Vol. 55, No. 6 (Jun., 1947), pp. 356-362 ;
- Japanese American Women during World War II***, Valerie Matsumoto, *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*, Vol. 8, No. 1 (1984), pp. 6-14 .
- (All above also in blackboard)
- Oct 31: **Second meeting with Elders**
- Nov. 2 **Families after WWII and the baby boom** Mintz chapter 9 (pp. 177 -190).
- Shifting Sands: Professional Advice to Mothers in the First Half of the Twentieth Century, V. Sue Atkinson, *Journal of Family History* 2017, Vol. 42(2) 128-146 ³ 2017,
<http://journals.sagepub.com.mutex.gmu.edu/doi/pdf/10.1177/0363199017696046>
(blackboard)
- Nov. 7 **Family in the 1960s and 1970s:** Mintz, chapter 10 and Stearns, Chapter 10
- Nov 9 **The Feminist Movement Women’s Liberation and the family** Mintz, chapter 10 and Epilogue
- "Nurturing Frustration and Entitlement: Domestic Femininity."** In *Everybody Else: Adoption and the Politics of Domestic Diversity in Postwar America*, Sarah Potter, (2014), pp. 97-124. University of Georgia Press, 2014. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt1757423.9>.

National women's Liberation: What We Want and What We Believe

<http://www.womensliberation.org/index.php/about/what-we-want-what-we-believe>

After Black Power, Women's Liberation by Gloria Steinem

<http://nymag.com/news/politics/46802/index2.html>

(Above on blackboard)

Nov. 14: **Second Paper** and submission of research plan for final paper

Nov. 16 **Family in the 21st Century:**

The Deinstitutionalization of American Marriage, Andrew J. Cherlin, *The Future of Children* Vol. 15, No. 2, Marriage and Child Wellbeing (Autumn, 2005), pp. 33-55.

Helicopter Parents and Landing Pad Kids: Intense Parental Support of Grown Children, Fingerman, Karen L; Cheng, Yen-Pi; Wesselmann, Eric D; Zarit, Steven; Furstenberg, Frank; et al. , *Journal of Marriage and Family* 74.4 (Aug 2012): 880-896.

(both on blackboard)

Nov. 21: **Research Day**

Nov. 23: **Thanksgiving Break**

Nov. 28: **Debate about working mothers**

The Work or Stay at Home Debate by Kim Masters <http://www.parenting.com/article/the-workstay-at-home-debate> (blackboard)

Working Mothers Debate (blackboard)

Pew Center Report on Stay at Home Mothers Chapter 4 "Public views" (blackboard)

1910 *New York Times* article "Should Women Work" (blackboard)

Nov 30: **Redefining Marriage:**

Same Sex Marriage Question, Read OBERGEFELL ET AL. v. HODGES, DIRECTOR, OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, ET AL. Supreme court Decision (blackboard);

The Changing Debate on Same-Sex Marriage in the United States, Margaret Gram Crehan and Katherine Rickenbaker, vol 20, Fall 2006-Spring 2007 *Knowledge*, <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?cc=mfsfront;c=mfs;c=mfsfront;idno=ark5583.0020.001;rgn=main;view=text;xc=1;g=mfs;g=blackboard> (blackboard)

Interracial Marriage (blackboard)

Dec 5: **Return history to Elder**

Dec.7: **Defining the Modern Family:**

Creating a Redefinition of Family: Jon Bernardes (1999): We Must Not Define “The Family”!, *Marriage & Family Review*, 28:3-4, 21-41.

9 Different Visions Of What Families Will Look Like 50 Years From Now by George Dvorsky

<http://io9.gizmodo.com/9-different-visions-of-what-families-will-look-like-50-1717480917>

Is the Family of the Future Polyamorous? By [Oliver Bateman](#) March 14, 2016

<https://mic.com/articles/137823/is-the-family-of-the-future-polyamorous#.v6TWpbIpi>

Dec. 12: **Final Paper Due**