Honors 240:002

Reading the Past: Families and Change Overtime

Fall, 2018

Professor Spencer Crew
Email: srcrew@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 ACCOMMODATIONS

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:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Day to Add</th>
<th>September 4, 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Drop Deadline</td>
<td>September 9, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selective Withdrawal Period</td>
<td>October 1 –October 28, 2018</td>
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**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 28:  
**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://ehlt.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 30:  
**Early Families:**  
Stearns, Chapters 2, 3, and 4

Sept. 4:  
**Families in the New World:**  
Mintz, chapter 1 and Demos readings (Demos folders 1 & 2)
Sept. 6: **Native Americans:** Mintz, Chapter 2

: “The Experiences of Eunice Williams” (read Williams document in blackboard)

**Questions to research:** Who is Eunice Williams and what is Kahnawake?

Sept. 11: **African Americans:** Mintz, chapter 4

*The Enslaved Family*, pages 1-4 (blackboard)

*Maddie Jackson story*” (blackboard)

Sept. 13: **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. 18: **Democratic Family:** Mintz Chapter 3 ;


Sept. 20: **Engels**, *Little Town on the Prairie*, all

Sept. 25: **First Paper Due**

Researching family records and official documents

Sept. 27: **Family History Research:** Edward and Nikki Henderson of Fairfax County

Oct 2: **Oral History:** How to do your own oral history interview | Discover Nikkei

www.discovernikkei.org/en/howto/interviews

Oct. 4: **First meeting with elders**

Oct 9: **No class Columbus Day**

Oct 11: **Industrial Family:** Mintz, chapter 5, Stearns Chapter 6:


Oct. 16: **Companionate Family:** Mintz, Chapter 6,


Oct. 18: **Flappers and the 1920s**

Oct. 23: Depression Family: Mintz, Chapter 7

*Beyond the Family Economy: Black and White Working-class Women* (blackboard)


Oct 25: World War II and Family: Mintz, Chapter 8;


Oct 30: Second meeting with Elders

Nov. 1: Families after WWII and the baby boom Mintz chapter 9 (pp. 177-190).

*Rebel without a Cause* (blackboard)

Nov. 6: Family in the 1960s and 1970s: Mintz, chapter 10 and Stearns, Chapter 10

Nov 8: The Feminist Movement Women’s Liberation and the family Mintz, chapter 10 and Epilogue

*Women Then and Now*” by Letty Cottin Pogrebin (blackboard)

*“The Challenges of the “Husband Wife” Phenomenon in Family and Marital Unequal Relationships”* by C. Noah Musa (blackboard)

*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


(Above on blackboard)

Nov. 13: **Second Paper** and submission of research plan for final paper

Nov. 15: Family in the 21st Century:


(both on blackboard)

**Nov. 20:**

**Research Day**

**Nov. 22:**

**Thanksgiving Break**

**Nov. 27:**

**Debate about working mothers**


*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 29:**

**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/textidx?cc=mfsfront;c=mfs;c=mfsfront;idno=ark:5583.0020.001;rgn=main;view=text;xc=1;g=mfsf](http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/textidx?cc=mfsfront;c=mfs;c=mfsfront;idno=ark:5583.0020.001;rgn=main;view=text;xc=1;g=mfsf) (blackboard)

*Interracial Marriage* (blackboard)

**Dec 4:**

**Return history to Elder**

**Dec. 6:**

**Defining the Modern Family:**


*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#v6TWpbIp](https://mic.com/articles/137823/is-the-family-of-the-future-polyamorous#v6TWpbIp)

**Dec. 11:**

**Final Paper Due**