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| HDFS 2313.020 Courtship and MarriageMaymester 2023 |

Professor: Lauren Kelly, Ph.D.

**Email:** [lauren.kelly@unt.edu](mailto:lauren.kelly@unt.edu)

**Office:** Matthews 322DA

**Office Hours:** Since this is an online course, the best way to contact me is by email and I typically respond to emails within 24 hours.

**Recommended Textbook:**

Kelly, L. (2020). *Courtship, Marriage, and the Changing American Family*. Kendall Hunt.

**Course Description**

The study of dating, courtship, and marriage relationships. This course comprises an overview of relationship development and marriage across the life course. The textbook is written to include diversity as one of many lenses through which intimate partner relationships will be studied.

Additional readings, activities, short lectures from an expert instructor in relationships, and complementary resources will be assigned throughout the course to help students consider themselves in relation to the world of dating and marriage.

**Course Level Goals and Objectives**

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. *Recognize and interpret* normative stages, nuances and attributes of courtship-related topics in relationship development as they relate to yourself and the greater human system.
2. *Describe* and *apply* stages, nuances and attributes of marriage and/or intimate partner relationship development over the life course as they relate to yourself and the greater human system.
3. A*ssess* and *interpret* course goals 1 and 2 within a cultural and diversity lens in order to broaden understanding about these two knowledge areas from multiple perspectives.

**Course Requirements**

1. In an online class such as this, students are expected to keep up with the weekly readings and additional course information posted on Canvas at <https://canvas.instructure.com/login/canvas>.
2. In addition to the readings listed on the course calendar, there may be supplemental readings or videos posted on Canvas within the learning modules to help you with assignments and/or exams.
3. **Board Assignments**

Five discussion board topics (plus an introduction post) will be assigned throughout the semester and specific questions and directions for each discussion board assignment will be posted on the given discussion descriptions (see the “Discussions” tab on Canvas). For discussion board assignments #1 - #5, you will first post your response to the specific assignment questions and then respond to at least **one** classmate’s post. All initial posts and response posts must be a minimum of 200 words. In order to allow your classmates ample time to read and reply to discussion board postings, initial responses must be posted by **Wednesday at 11:59 pm** (central time; please be aware of time differences if you are not in the area) and replies must be posted by **Sunday at 11:59 pm**. This changes for some of the DBs due to the University closing. Since late submissions will not be accepted, do not wait until the last minute to submit your postings in case you have any questions or potential problems. The discussion climate must be *civil, sensitive, and mutually respectful of the rights of each person to freely and openly express ideas*. Discussion board assignments are worth a total of **100** of your final grade.

1. **ART (Applied Relationship Theory Exercises):** Throughout the semester, a variety of written activities will be completed in the TEXTBOOK under the ARTs tab. These activities will require you to reflect on your interactions and beliefs regarding dating and marriage. The instructions for each assignment will be posted on Canvas under the corresponding learning modules. There are multipleART activities due each week, for a total of 5 activities. Individual grades from each completed activity will be added together and that total is worth **100 POINTS** towards your final grade. No late activities will be accepted. All activities will be due per the calendar dates and **by 5:00 pm** on the given week they are due. This is to give myself time to grade them and return them to you with feedback within 3 days for the next week’s ART activities.
2. **Pecha Kucha Presentation:** Each student will examine varying cultural/religious beliefs and customs for dating, courtship, marriage, and family life for a group/location. For the presentation, each student will create a presentation containing no more than 20 slides, each set at 20 seconds. More information and a grading rubric will be posted on Canvas. The Pecha Kucha presentation is due **by May 29th 11:59 pm** and will be worth **100 points** of your final grade. It is recommended that you to begin planning for your Pecha Kucha the first day of class. You will need to be working on this project most of the semester to ensure it is done well.\*\* Please do not use google slides, Microsoft PPT is preferred.

**Course Evaluation**

In short, final grades will be based on the following:

Midterm 100

Final 100

Discussion Board #1 20

Discussion Board #2 20

Discussion Board #3 20

Discussion Board #4 20

Discussion Board #5 20

ART Activities (Total) 100

Pecha Kucha Presentation 100

Total 500

**The following grading scale will be used:**

450-500 A  
400-449 B

350-399 C

300-349 D

Below 299 F

**Technology Requirements**

Please visit <http://lis.unt.edu/technology-requirements> to gain a clear understanding of the technology requirements you will need for most all online Canvas-based courses, including this one. In addition to the requirements listed, you will need digital video and audio equipment for your Pecha Kucha assignment. Most all smart phones come with video cameras and voice recording technologies (examples include 2010-2015 models of iPhone, Android operating system phones, etc.). You can also check out video and audio equipment from the student media library in Chilton Hall. If you do not have a smart phone, you can check out a web-cam from the resource areas mentioned; web cams record both audio and video files as well. You will need to know how to manage the technology required (again, see link) as well as understand how to video or audio record yourself, upload video or audio files into a PowerPoint presentation.

**Academic Integrity and Professional Conduct**

It is expected that students will conform to the University of North Texas Code of Student Conduct and Discipline as outlined in the undergraduate catalog and online through the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam and possible grade consequences for the class. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students, who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

Students are also expected to conduct themselves as mature and responsible adults while enrolled in this course. This includes displaying respect for peers and faculty, accepting personal responsibility for coming to class, maintaining class notes, and completing given assignments.

**Acceptable Student Behavior**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [http://deanofstudents.unt.edu.](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/)

**Access to Information – Eagle Connect**

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at [http://www.my.unt.edu.](http://www.my.unt.edu/) All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward your e‐mail: <http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/>

**ADA Statement**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at [http://disability.unt.edu.](http://disability.unt.edu/) You may also contact them by phone at (940) 565‐4323.

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| **HDFS 2313.800: Courtship and Marriage**  (Topics and dates are subject to change) | | | |
| **Date** | **Topics** | **Readings** | **Assignments** |
| **Week 1**  5/15-5/21 | Relationships in the 21st Century  Gender Identity & Roles    Being Single  Attachment styles  Attraction & Dating  Love & Mate Selection | Chapter 1  Chapter 2  Chapter 3  Chapter 4  Chapter 5  Chapter 6 | **Discussion Board Assignments 1 & 2**   * Initial response due on Wed * Peer response due Sun   **Introduction Board**   * Initial response due Wednesday at 11:59 pm. * One reply due Friday at 11:59 pm.   **ART Activity 1**   * Due Friday at 11:59 pm.   **ART Activity 2**   * Due Friday at 11:59 pm.   **Syllabus quiz- in the book**   * Due 5/21 at 11:59 pm |
| **Week 2**  **5/22-5/28** | Qualities of a Successful Marriage  Work, Family Roles, & Resources  Decision Making & Communication  Sex  Family Planning & Parenthood  Pregnancy and Childbirth | Chapter 7  Chapter 8  Chapter 9  Chapter 10  Chapter 11  Chapter 12  Also, read Stinnett chapters 10,11,12 | **Discussion Board Assignments 3 &4**   * Initial response due on Wed * Peer response due Sun   **ART Activity 3**   * Due Friday at 11:59 pm.   **ART Activity 4**   * Due Friday at 11:59 pm.   **\*Midterm due 5/24 by 11:59 PM**   * Open 5/24 6 am- 11:59 pm   \*\*Chapter 10 from the Stinnett chapters is also on the midterm |
| **Week 3**  **5/29-6/2** | Parent-child relationships  Conflict  Divorce  Remarriage and Step-parenting | Chapter 13  Chapter 14  Chapter 15  Chapter 16  Chapter 17 | **Discussion Board Assignment 5**   * Initial response due at 11:59 pm on Wed. * No reply due for DB 5   **ART Activity 5**   * Due Friday at 11:59 pm.   **PK due 5/30 at 11:59 PM**  **\*Final Due 6/2 by 11:59 PM**   * Open from 6/1 6:00 am- 6/2@ 11:59 PM * \*\*Stinnett chapters 11 and 12 are on the exam |

\*\*\* Please be aware of the times that your quizzes and assignments are due. **YOU** are responsible for making sure that you complete the course requirements on time every week. \*\*\*

**Syllabus Addendum**

The following are important tips/guidelines/requirements that will ensure your success in this class:

1. DO read the syllabus and the assignment guidelines carefully.
2. If you ever have any questions about anything in the assignment guidelines or other course documents, ASK! I want to help you do well in this class and providing clarification to you all is one way for me to do that.
3. **DO check your UNT email. I will send class emails to your UNT account so you either need to access that email account regularly or forward your email to another account that you use. You will miss extremely important information if you do not check the emails I send.**
4. At the end of the semester, do NOT ask me to change your grade. That would be unethical and unfair to every student that has earned his/her given grade.
5. Deadlines are deadlines for a reason. I will NOT accept late papers and your paper will be considered late the first minute after the given deadline has passed. For example, if the deadline is 11:59 pm, you will not be able to submit your paper at 12:15 am because 1) the system will not let you and 2) I will NOT accept it.
6. **There are a lot of varying due dates. While some of you may prefer to have everything due all at once within a given week, the varying due dates and times are purposeful. Please follow the syllabus schedule closely to make sure each assignment/requirement is completed on-time.**
7. Submit your papers in a WORD DOCUMENT (make sure it is a .doc, .docx, or .rtf format so that I can actually open it). If I cannot open your paper, I cannot grade it.
8. I will return your papers and/or feedback to you through the assignment dropbox. When I do this, DO look at them. I will provide feedback on why you received that specific grade. Make sure to look at that feedback before asking me what you did wrong. If I deducted points, I will tell you why. Use that feedback to make improvements on future papers so that you do not get points counted off again for a similar mistake.