

# UNIVERSITY<sub>of</sub> NORTH TEXAS

## Courtship and Marriage/HDFS 2313

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*Virtual Office: <https://unt.zoom.us/j/89660380931>*

### Course Description, Structure, and Objectives

**Course Description:** *The study of dating, courtship, and marriage relationships.*

**Objectives for courses in the UNT Language, Philosophy, and Culture Core Curriculum:**

1. *To develop critical thinking skills,*
2. *To develop communication skills,*
3. *To develop personal responsibility,*
4. *To develop social responsibility.*

**Course Prerequisites:** *This is a 2000-level course and has no prerequisites.*

**Course Format:** *The course will be 100% distance education and administered through the Canvas Learn system at UNT and will include 14 modules over 16 weeks. Content will primarily be communicated from textbook readings and online materials. The online content provides students with considerable flexibility in how they approach and process the material. Students can review content at any point and as often as desired. The overall goal of the provided material is to replicate the presentation in the traditional classroom. Students will explore topics such as relationship conflict, communication, power dynamics, family structures, and more. As a student in this course, the goal is for you to leave the class with healthy relationship skills such as appropriate conflict management, communication, safe dating practices, and knowledge on family dynamics.*

### Required/Recommended Materials

*Required Textbook: Rice, F., Stinnett, N., Stinnett, N., & DeGenova, M. (2017). Intimate relationships, marriages, and families. Oxford University Press.*

### **Technology requirements for courses with digital materials:**

*This course has digital components. To fully participate in this class, students will need internet access to reference content on the Canvas Learning Management System. If circumstances change, you will be informed of other technical needs to access course content. Information on how to be successful in a digital learning environment can be found at Learn Anywhere (<https://online.unt.edu/learn>).*

## **How to Succeed in this Course**

*As an online course, your success is highly correlated to your ability to engage in independent learning. The vast majority of the information you will learn will be through the textbook. Managing your time wisely is one of the most important skills for taking online courses. It's easy to set assignments aside for more pressing matters because "you can get to it later". Later then becomes a crisis. Here are some guidelines for success in distance learning courses:*

- *Set aside a specific time to work on the course (readings, assignments, etc.) and then protect that time, just as you would if you were attending an in-person class.*
- *Read the instructions CAREFULLY and follow them EXACTLY. Your success in this online course hinges on your ability to read instructions carefully. If you ever have questions about an assignment, ASK!*
- *Don't let technology determine your grade. Leave extra time before an assignment deadline for internet issues, and computer snafus.*
- *Actively engage in the course. You will get out what you put into your learning in this course. The content of this course can really have a positive impact on your current and future relationships – but ONLY if you're willing to engage in the content. If you are just going through the motions to complete assignments, skimming the reading, and giving minimal effort, that is what you will get out of it.*
- *Don't hesitate to reach out. Being online can feel like you're all alone. If you have questions, or just want to discuss a topic, I'm here for you.*

**The BEST and QUICKEST way to reach me is through the canvas messaging inbox.** *I am generally in and out of the course several times a day, and will typically respond in less than a day to those messages.*

*I check email once a day, and usually at the end of the day, so while I will respond to you as soon as possible, it may take a day or two to get and respond to your message. You can find my email at the top of this syllabus. My office hours are by request.*

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*The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable 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 reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their*

designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the [Office of Disability Access](#) website (<http://www.unt.edu/oda>). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

## How to Communicate With Your Instructor

Connect with me through the canvas inbox, email and/or by meeting me in office hours. During busy times, my inbox becomes rather full, so if you contact me and do not receive a response within two business days, please send a follow up email. A gentle nudge is always appreciated.

## Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment

I value the many perspectives students bring to our campus. Please work with me to create a classroom culture of open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. All discussions should be respectful and civil. Although disagreements and debates are encouraged, personal attacks are unacceptable. Together, we can ensure a safe and welcoming classroom for all. If you ever feel like this is not the case, please contact me. I encourage you to review UNT's student code of conduct so that we can all start with the same baseline civility understanding ([Code of Student Conduct](#))

## Assessing Your Work

1. Introduction Discussion board	10 points
2. Discussion boards: 5 x 10 points each	50 points
3. Midterm	100 points
4. Final exam	100 points
5. Pecha Kucha Presentation	100 points
6. Pechu Kucha Reflection	100 points
7. ARTS	100 points
8. Syllabus sign-off	10 points
<u>Total points</u>	<u>570 points</u>

The following grading scale will be used:

522- 580= A, 521-464, =B, 463- 406=C, 405-348= D, < 347= F

**\*\*No late work will be accepted.**

## Course Requirements/Schedule

The following is a schedule of course assignments. First posts of Discussion Boards are due on Wednesdays @ 11:59 PM. All other assignments (DB final posts, ARTs, Exams) are due on Saturday @ 11:59 PM. Any changes or adjustments to these due dates will be posted in the course announcements in canvas.

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment Due	Points Possible
<b>Week 1</b>	<b>8/18</b>	<b>Intro to Relationships</b>	<b>Ch. 1</b>	
	First post due Wed. 8/20@ 11:59 PM Peer post due Sat 8/25 @ 11:59 PM		Intro posts	10 pts.
	8/27 @11:59 PM		Syllabus sign off	10 pts.
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>8/25</b>	<b>Being Single</b>	<b>Ch. 3</b>	
	Initial post due Wed. 8/27 @ 11:59 PM Peer post due by 8/30 @ 11:59 PM		Discussion 1	10 pts.
	8/30 @11:59 PM		PK topic sign off	5 pts.
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>9/1</b>	<b>Attraction &amp; Attachment</b>	<b>Ch. 4 Ch. 5</b>	
	9/6 @ 11:59 PM		ART 1	20 pts.
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>9/8</b>	<b>Defining Love</b>	<b>Ch. 5</b>	<b>50 pts.</b>
	Initial post due Wed 9/10 @11:59 PM Peer post due by 9/13 @ 11:59 PM		Discussion 2	
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>9/15</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Ch. 2</b>	
	9/20 @ 11:59 pm		ART 2	20 pts.
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>9/22</b>	<b>Power and Communication</b>	<b>Ch. 9</b>	
	9/27		ART 3	20
	Initial post due Wed 9/24 @11:59PM Peer post due by 9/27@ 11:59 PM		Discussion 3	10 pts.
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>9/29</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Ch. 10</b>	
	10/4 @ 11:59 PM		<b>Midterm Exam</b> (in canvas) All material covered in first 7 weeks - including ch. 10	100 pts.
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>10/13</b>	<b>Family planning</b>	<b>Ch. 11</b>	
	10/18 @ 11:59 PM		Pecha Kucha Presentation	100 pts.
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>10/20</b>	<b>Pregnancy &amp; Childbirth</b>	<b>Ch. 12</b>	
	Initial post due Wed. 10/20 @ 11:59 PM Peer post due by 10/25 @ 11:59 PM		Discussion 4	10 pts.
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>10/27</b>	<b>Parenting &amp; LGBTQ Family Structures</b>	<b>Ch. 7 Ch. 13</b>	
	11/1 @ 11:59 PM		PK Reflection Paper	100 pts.
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>11/3</b>	<b>Work and Family</b>	<b>Ch. 8</b>	

	Initial post due Wed. 11/5 @ 11:59 PM Peer post due by 11/8 @ 11:59 PM		Discussion 5	10 pts.
<b>Week 12</b>	<b>11/10</b>	<b>Conflict and Violence</b>	<b>Ch. 15</b>	
	11/15 @ 11:59 pm		ART 4	20 pts
<b>Week 13</b>	<b>11/17</b>	<b>Divorce and Repair</b>	<b>Ch. 16 Ch. 17</b>	
	11/22 @ 11:59 PM		ART 5	20 pts.
	THANKSGIVING	HOLIDAY		
<b>Week 14</b>	<b>12/1</b>	<b>Final exam</b>		
	12/6 @ 11:59 PM		Final Exam: (in Canvas) All chapters since midterm	100 pts

Students will be notified by Eagle Alert if there is a campus closing that will impact a class and the above calendar is subject to change. Please review the following pdf for more information: [Emergency Preparedness](#).

## University and Classroom Policies

### Standards for Academic Integrity

Every student in my class can improve by doing their own work and trying their hardest with access to appropriate resources. Students who use other people's work without citations will be violating UNT's Academic Integrity Policy. Please read and follow this important set of [guidelines for your academic success](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003) (https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003). If you have questions about this, or any UNT policy, please email me or come discuss this with me during my office hours.

**AI should not be used to assist in writing papers, searching for sources, or creating citations or other content.**

AI can be used ethically to help you develop an outline for a paper, generate ideas, and learn a citation style. Talk to your [subject librarian](#) or professor about how you can use AI ethically.

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. 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.

Please review [Academic Integrity Policy \(PDF\)](#)

### 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>.

### Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates at the following link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/faculty/ferpa-and-student-records.html>

### SPOT Course Evaluation

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. SPOT is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available at the end of the semester to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught.