S.A. 331-4  SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY  A. McLaren

Prerequisite: S.A. 202 or 270, or permission of the department

COURSE CONTENT

This course will focus primarily upon the contemporary family in industrial capitalism, but it will also examine in some detail historical changes in family life. A common assumption is that "the" family is a universal and transhistorical institution essentially impervious to social and cultural change. The purpose of this course will be to consider how families are structured and regulated by historical, social, economic and ideological forces. Topics will include: theories and politics of the family, the internal dynamics of family life, and the relationship of family life to external forces (for example, the social class structure, gender relations, the educational system, and social policy).

REQUIRED READING

Margrit Eichler, Families in Canada Today
Christopher Lasch, Haven in a Heartless World
Meg Luxton, More Than a Labour of Love

ORGANIZATION

Two two-hour seminars weekly.

Grading will be based on an examination (40%), short essay (30%), seminar contributions and participation (30%).

N.B. This course may be used for upper level W.S. credit