S.A. 331-4  SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY  A. McLaren
(SA)  Prerequisite: S.A. 202 or 270,
or permission of the department

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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
Phyllis Knight & Rolf Knight, A Very Ordinary Life
Christopher Lasch, Haven in a Heartless World

Additional articles will be made available at cost.

ORGANIZATION

One four-hour seminar weekly.
Grading will be based on an examination (30%), written paper (50%), seminar participation (20%).