Faculty of Education and Arts
School of Humanities & Social Science

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/hss/

Newcastle Campus
University Drive,
Callaghan 2308
Room: MC127 McMullin Building
Phone: 4921 5213
Office hours: 9:00am – 5:00pm
Fax: 4921 6933
Email: Humanities-SocialScience@newcastle.edu.au
Web: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/hss/

SOCA1040:
Sociology of Children and Families
Course Outline
Semester 2 (2009)

Course Co-ordinator: Dr Cary Bennett
Room: W3-19 (Behavioural Sciences Building)
Ph: (02) 4921 6764
Fax: (02) 4921 6933
Email: Cary.Bennett@newcastle.edu.au
Consultation hours: TBA

Course Outline Issued and Correct as at: Week 1, Semester 2 - 2009
CTS Download Date: 29th June 2009
Course Overview

Course Coordinator: Dr Cary Bennett
Semester: Semester 2 - 2009
Unit Weighting: 10
Teaching Methods: Lecture and Tutorial

Brief Course Description
The course provides an introduction to the study of children and families within a social and political context. The course encourages a critical perspective by examining debates about the historical and cultural variability of families and the social construction of children and childhood. The diversity of family forms in contemporary Australia will be examined in the context of class, gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity. An analysis of the role of the family in liberal democracy and the policing of families will form the foundation for a critical understanding of current policy debates.

Contact Hours
Lecture for 2 hours per week for the full term
Tutorial for 1 hour per week for the full term (commencing Week 2)

Learning Materials/Texts
SOCA1040 Course Readings. These readings will be available for purchase from the UPrint Printing Services (basement level, Shortland Building). Further readings are located in Short Loans, Auchmuty Library, under the SOCA1040 course code.

Course Objectives
On successful completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate:
1. An understanding of a sociological approach to children in Australian families.
2. Ability to understand the complexity and diversity of family life in Australia.
3. Ability to analyse and deal critically with different viewpoints on family policy, especially concerning child protection issues.
4. Skills in writing an academic essay, reading critically and doing research.

Course Content
1. The history of the family and childhood.
2. Sociological theories of the family and childhood.
3. Families in multicultural Australia and Aboriginal families.
4. Family types, sexualities and the construction of gender.
5. Gender, power and the family in Australia.
7. The family, social policy and the nation state.

Assessment Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Items</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>1,500 words, due week 12, worth 50%.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>Students are to provide evidence of understanding the set readings, attendance at lectures, participation in tutorials and independent study. 1,000 words, due week 13, worth 30%.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature Review</td>
<td>Locate and comment on references to be used for the essay. 750 words, due week 7, worth 20%.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assumed Knowledge
None
### SOCA1040  
**SOCIOLOGY CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science  
Semester 2 - 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecture and Tutorial</th>
<th>Wednesday 9:00 - 11:00</th>
<th>Wednesday 12:00 - 13:00</th>
<th>[GP101]</th>
<th>Commencing Week 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>Wednesday 13:00 - 14:00</td>
<td>[W202]</td>
<td></td>
<td>Commencing Week 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>Wednesday 14:00 - 15:00</td>
<td>[MCLG42]</td>
<td></td>
<td>Commencing Week 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>Wednesday 16:00 - 17:00</td>
<td>[W202]</td>
<td></td>
<td>Commencing Week 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>Thursday 13:00 - 14:00</td>
<td>[MCG28C]</td>
<td></td>
<td>Commencing Week 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>Thursday 11:00 - 12:00</td>
<td>[W238]</td>
<td></td>
<td>Commencing Week 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>Thursday 10:00 - 11:00</td>
<td>[W238]</td>
<td></td>
<td>Commencing Week 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>Thursday 14:00 - 15:00</td>
<td>[MCG28C]</td>
<td></td>
<td>Commencing Week 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>Wednesday 12:00 - 13:00</td>
<td>[V103]</td>
<td></td>
<td>Commencing Week 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY INFORMATION**

### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity, honesty, and a respect for knowledge, truth and ethical practices are fundamental to the business of the University. These principles are at the core of all academic endeavour in teaching, learning and research. Dishonest practices contravene academic values, compromise the integrity of research and devalue the quality of learning. To preserve the quality of learning for the individual and others, the University may impose severe sanctions on activities that undermine academic integrity. There are two major categories of academic dishonesty:

**Academic fraud** is a form of academic dishonesty that involves making a false representation to gain an unjust advantage. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it can include:

- a) falsification of data;
- b) using a substitute person to undertake, in full or part, an examination or other assessment item;
- c) reusing one’s own work, or part thereof, that has been submitted previously and counted towards another course (without permission);
- d) making contact or colluding with another person, contrary to instructions, during an examination or other assessment item;
- e) bringing material or device(s) into an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item; and
- f) making use of computer software or other material and device(s) during an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item.
- g) contract cheating or having another writer compete for tender to produce an essay or assignment and then submitting the work as one’s own.

**Plagiarism** is the presentation of the thoughts or works of another as one’s own. University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

- a) copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
b) using another person's ideas without due acknowledgment;

c) collusion or working with others without permission, and presenting the resulting work as though it were completed independently.

**Turnitin** is an electronic text matching system. During assessing any assessment item the University may -

- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a text matching service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future checking);
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

**RE-MARKS AND MODERATIONS**

Students can access the University's policy at: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html)

**MARKS AND GRADES RELEASED DURING TERM**

All marks and grades released during term are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School.

**SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AFFECTING ASSESSMENT ITEMS**

*Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations* items must be submitted by the due date in the Course Outline unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension. Unapproved late submissions will be penalised in line with the University policy.

**Requests for Extensions of Time** must be lodged no later than the due date of the item. This applies to students:

- applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or
- whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment.

Students must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, as outlined in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure at: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html)

**Note:** different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks.

**Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:**

- Special Consideration Requests must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.
- Rescheduling Exam requests must be received no later than 10 working days prior the first date of the examination period.

*Late applications may not be accepted.* Students who cannot meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak firstly to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.

**STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS**

University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness. If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au. As some forms of support can take a few weeks to
implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester. For more information on confidentiality and documentation visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability.

CHANGING YOUR ENROLMENT

Students enrolled after the census dates listed in the link below are liable for the full cost of their student contribution or fees for that term.

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study-fees/censusdates.html

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of term. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of term will result in a fail grade.

**Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of term,** except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of term must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online go to myHub: [https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au](https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au)

STUDENT INFORMATION & CONTACTS

Various services are offered by the Student Support Unit:

www.newcastle.edu.au/service/studentsupport/

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students studying in Australia. Student Hubs are located at:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Callaghan Campus</th>
<th>Port Macquarie students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Building</td>
<td>contact your program officer or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Hub: Level 2, Student Services Centre</td>
<td><a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Precinct</td>
<td>Phone 4921 5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Hub &amp; Information Common, University House</td>
<td>Singapore students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Coast Campus (Ourimbah)</td>
<td>contact your PSB Program Executive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Hub: Opposite the Main Cafeteria</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Websites</th>
<th>General enquiries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/business-law/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/business-law/</a></td>
<td>Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/</a></td>
<td>Phone: 02 4921 5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/</a></td>
<td>Email:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/science-it/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/science-it/</a></td>
<td>Ourimbah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards</td>
<td>Phone: 02 4348 4030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000311.html">www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000311.html</a></td>
<td>Email:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards</td>
<td><a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000306.html">www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000306.html</a></td>
<td>The Dean of Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules Governing Professional Doctorate Awards</td>
<td>Deputy Dean of Students (Ourimbah)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000580.html">www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000580.html</a></td>
<td>Phone: 02 4921 5806;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fax: 02 4921 7151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Email:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au">resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School of Humanities and Social Science
Online Tutorial Registration:

Students are required to enrol in the Lecture and a specific Tutorial time for this course via the Online Registration system. Refer - [http://studinfo1.newcastle.edu.au/rego/stud_choose_login.cfm](http://studinfo1.newcastle.edu.au/rego/stud_choose_login.cfm)

NB: Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

Studentmail and Blackboard: Refer - [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/](http://www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/)

This course uses Blackboard and studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Blackboard discussion forum if there is one, or if emailing staff directly use the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site on a weekly basis.

Important Additional Information

Details about the following topics are available on your course Blackboard site (where relevant). Refer - [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/](http://www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/)

- Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
- Online copy submission to Turnitin
- Penalties for Late Assignments
- Special Circumstances
- No Assignment Re-submission
- Re-marks & Moderations
- Return of Assignments
- Preferred Referencing Style
- Student Representatives
- Student Communication
- Essential Online Information for Students
# SOCA1040: Sociology of Children and Families (2009)
## Lecture Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Week Commencing</th>
<th>Lecture Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>27 July</td>
<td><em>Course Introduction and Overview</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 Aug</td>
<td><em>The Rise of a Modern Institution</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10 Aug</td>
<td><em>Family Diversity: Gay and Lesbian Experiences</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>17 Aug</td>
<td><em>Indigenous Families and Children</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>24 Aug</td>
<td><em>Motherhood and Fatherhood</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>31 Aug</td>
<td><em>Families and Mental Illness</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 7    | 7 Sep           | *The Sociological Child*  
*NB: Literature Review Due (Monday 7 Sep)* |
| 8    | 14 Sep          | *Children and Popular Culture* |
| 9    | 21 Sep          | *Domestic Violence and Childhood* |
| 10   | 12 Oct          | *Children, Gender and Identity* |
| 11   | 19 Oct          | *Family, Childhood and Social Policy* |
| 12   | 26 Oct          | *The Future of Childhood and Family Life*  
*NB: Essay Due (Monday 26 October)* |
| 13   | 2 Nov           | [No Lecture]  
*NB: Journal Due (Monday 2 November)* |

**Semester Recess: 28 September to 9 October 2009**

**Examinaion period:** Monday 9 November to Friday 27 November 2009
SOCA1040: Sociology of Children and Families (2009)

Tutorial Program and Readings

Students are expected to do the required readings and encouraged to do the further readings located in Short Loans, Auchmuty Library, under the SOCA1040 course code.

Week 1

Course Introduction and Overview

Required reading:
None

Further readings:


(NB: No tutorial this week)

Week 2

The Rise of a Modern Institution

Required reading:

Further reading:

Week 3

Family Diversity: Gay and Lesbian Experiences

Required reading:

Further reading:
Week 4

**Indigenous Families and Children**

Required reading:

Further reading:

Week 5

**Motherhood and Fatherhood**

Required reading:

Further reading:

Week 6

**Families and Mental Illness**

Required reading:

Further reading:

Week 7

[NB: Literature Review Due: Monday 7 Sep]

**The Sociological Child**

Required reading:

Further reading:
Week 8

**Children and Popular Culture**

**Required reading:**

**Further reading:**

Week 9

**Domestic Violence and Childhood**

**Required reading:**

**Further reading:**

*** MID-SEMESTER RECESS (28 September to 09 October) ***

Week 10

**Children, Gender and Identity**

**Required reading:**

**Further reading:**

Week 11

**Family, Childhood and Social Policy**

**Required reading:**
Further reading:

Week 12
[NB: Essay Due: Monday 26 October]

The Future of Childhood and Family Life

Required reading:

Further reading:

Week 13
[NB: Journal Due: Monday 2 November]

No lecture
Review and individual consultations (if required)

Required reading:
No tutorials or tutorial readings.

Journals and Periodicals
Australian Journal of Family Law
Australian Journal of Social Issues
Children and Society
Children and Youth Services Review
Children Australia
Children Today
Children Youth and Environments
Family and Community Health
Family and Community History: Journal of the Family and Community Historical Research Society
Family History
Family Law Quarterly
Family Life
Family Matters: Newsletter of the Australian Institute of Family Studies
Family Medicine
Family Relations
Journal of Family Violence
Journal of Marriage and Family
Journal of Sociology
Journal of Youth Studies
Websites
Australian Bureau of Statistics, Children and Youth
Australian Bureau of Statistics, Family and Community Statistics
Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault
Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearing House
Australian Government, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare: A Picture of Australia’s Children
Australian Government, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA)
Australian Institute of Family Studies
Children’s Rights International
Children’s Services, NSW
Communities and Families Clearinghouse Australia
Family Assistance Office
Family Court of Australia
Family Planning NSW
http://www.fpahealth.org.au/
Family Relationships Online
Murdoch Children’s Research Institute
http://www.mcri.edu.au/
National Child Protection Clearinghouse
New South Wales Commission for Children and Young People
Northern Territory Government, Inquiry into the Protection of Aboriginal Children from Sexual Abuse
Raising Children Network
http://raisingchildren.net.au/

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School of Humanities and Social Science