

**PALOMAR COLLEGE**  
**COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR**  
**DEGREE CREDIT COURSE**

Transfer course     A.A. degree applicable course

(check all that apply)

**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:** FCS 105 Family Dynamics

**UNIT VALUE:** 3

**MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS:** 48

**BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS:**

Appropriate language skills.

**ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**COREQUISITE:** None

**RECOMMENDED PREPARATION:** None

**SCOPE OF COURSE:**

Explores the elements which lead to successful adjustment in family living. Dynamics of love, communication, and sexuality are examined as part of the developmental process of family life.

**SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Successful students will:

1. recognize the developmental stages of family life;
2. identify and understand the dynamics of developmental demands;

3. identify conceptual foundations of family study;
4. apply basic research in the family life area;
5. analyze success models of family living to personal situations;
6. predict general partner compatibility;
7. select a personalized marriage ceremony;
8. apply successful techniques for marital maintenance in a society that sanctions diversity and expansion of roles;
9. identify contemporary concepts of sexuality, family planning, and birth;
10. comprehend the impact on family members of monetary resources, divorce, single parents, remarriage, blended families; and,
11. predict major future trends in marriage that will require their careful consideration.

**CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:**

- I. PERSPECTIVES
  - The Meaning of Marriage and the Family
  - American Marriages and Families: Past and Present
  - Studying Marriage and the Family
- II. GETTING TOGETHER
  - Contemporary Gender Roles
  - Love, Commitment, and Intimacy
  - Pairing and Singlehood
- III. SEXUALITY
  - Sexual Learning and Behavior
  - Sexuality and Relationships
  - Pregnancy and Childbirth
- IV. DEVELOPMENT
  - Marriage as Process
  - Parents and Children
  - marriage, Work, and Economics
- V. INTERIORS
  - The Family and Health: Social and Psychological Perspectives
  - Communication and Conflict Resolution
  - Family Violence and Sexual Abuse

**VI. CHANGES**  
Coming Apart: Separation and Divorce  
New Lives, New Families

**VII. STRENGTHS**  
Marriage and Family Strengths

**REQUIRED READING:**

Strong, Bryan, and Christine DeVault. The Marriage and Family Experience. 7th Edition. St. Paul: West Publishing Company, 1998.

**SUGGESTED READING:**  
None.

**REQUIRED WRITING:**

The student is to write a two page paper on three different qualities of successful marriages for a total of three papers that are two, double-spaced, typed pages long. In the paper, the student must explain how they would incorporate these qualities of strong families into their own family situation.

There are five scheduled panel discussions or debates during the semester on various topics. The student may select one of the topics that they would want to learn more about. The student is expected to research a minimum of five sources other than the course textbook to broaden his/her knowledge about the topic. They are required to turn in a one-page synopsis of their presentation.

**OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short term classes.

The students are expected to read the text before class, take and review lecture notes, write the above papers, prepare for the above debate/panels, and prepare for topically assigned class discussions. They are also expected to study for exams.

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:**

Check all that apply:

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

Since student learning needs differ, a diverse multi-dimensional environment is used. To promote information processing, lecture/discussions are planned; to facilitate personal involvement, individual applications are assigned; and to enhance social skills, cooperation and communication are required in small group activities.

This course may be offered as a distance education course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.

Yes  No

If yes, check all that apply. (See guidelines for preparation for definitions.)

- telecourse
- mediated instruction
- computer assisted instruction

**GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS** (include methods of determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):

Panel discussions	40%
Writing assignments	40%
Tests	20%

**IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?**

Yes  No  Number of times course may be taken for credit: 1

If yes, identify specific provision of Title 5 Division 2 section(s) 55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable:

**CONTACT PERSON:** Margaret Gunther