Course Objectives

1. To introduce students to a range of contemporary concerns pertaining to family as a social institution from a sociological perspective and with an interdisciplinary orientation.

2. To situate family in its historical, cultural, social and comparative contexts and alert students to widely prevalent misunderstandings about it and make them aware of the sheer diversity of family forms and reconstitute it as a possible arena of justice.

3. To familiarize students with different phases and facets of family and intimate life using ethnographic accounts from different regions of India.

4. To examine institution of family and experience of intimacy with empathy and detachment.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. An ability to examine the institution of family and reality of intimate experiences from a sociological perspective.

2. Knowledge of diverse forms of the family within their appropriate historical contexts and comparative appreciation of their features.

3. Ability and disposition to constitute quotidian space of family and intimacy as an arena of democracy, gender justice and empowerment.

4. Awareness of symbiotic relationship between conceptual, ethnographic and critical literatures in social sciences and demonstrate how they work in close tandem.

5. To alert next generation policy makers to take the questions of the intimate sphere of the family with appropriate seriousness and make them integral to public reason and conversation.
Course Outline

Unit 1: What is Family? (4 Weeks)
Unit 2: Family and Intimacy: Themes and Accounts (6 Weeks)
Unit 3: Family and Intimacy: Critiques and Transformations (4 Weeks)

Course Content:

Unit 1. What is Family? (4 Weeks)


Unit 2. Family and Intimacy: Themes and Accounts (6 Weeks)


References

Compulsory Readings:


**Additional Resources:**

**Books & Articles**


**Teaching-Learning Process:**

Besides conventional lecturing for communicating concepts, the teaching-learning process for this paper seeks to draw extensively on the diverse cultural competences, observations and experiences of the class to make the issues involved more vivid. Group discussions providing a space for students to voluntarily share their observations and experiences of family life are integral part of the teaching-learning process. Given that family and intimate experiences are also a staple of popular culture, teaching - learning seeks to mobilize those resources to make classes more engaging.

**Assessment Methods:**

Recommended evaluation is one assignment that tests the conceptual competence and one project that puts the conceptual learning into empirical practice.

**Keywords:**
Family, Intimacy, Life Cycle, Childhood, Marriage, Old Age, Gender, Emotions, Sexuality, Love, Law, Justice, Democracy