

# SOC353H1 S

## New Topics in Sociology

### Winter 2024 Syllabus

#### Course Meetings

##### SOC353H1 S

Section	Day & Time	Delivery Mode & Location
<b>LEC5101</b> Family, Race, and Adoption	Thursday, 5:10 PM - 8:00 PM	In Person:

#### Course Contacts

**Instructor:** Jennifer Peruniak

**Email:** [jennifer.peruniak@utoronto.ca](mailto:jennifer.peruniak@utoronto.ca)

**Office Hours and Location:** By appointment only

#### Course Overview

An opportunity for students to explore new topics in sociology. Topics vary from year to year based on the instructor. Consult the Departmental website: <http://sociology.utoronto.ca/st-george-campus/courses-3/new-topics-in-sociology/>. This is a program-only course and is restricted to sociology majors and specialists.

This course will examine core readings in the area of race and connect them to formations of the family, with a specific focus on adoptive families. This course will read authors in both race and family, from DuBois to Twine and connect these ideas to broader ideas of the role race plays in the formation of families. We will engage with foundational texts, ethnographies, memoirs, and documentaries. We will also apply these broader ideas to contemporary examples of adoptive families such as Angelina Jolie and Sandra Bullock. This course places broader conversations of adoption and race within state logics, international projects, and questions of the self. These ideas, theories and questions will be applied to contemporary debates both within and outside of academia.

#### Course Learning Outcomes

##### LEARNING GOALS

This course will help you:

- Think critically about the role of race in society and families
- Apply these lens, frameworks, and ideas to lived experiences and the everyday world
- Explore how gender, race, class, nationality, and sexuality impact our understanding of their impact on family
- Think critically about race in the context of family
- Critically analyze depictions in the media, academia, and everyday life

**Prerequisites:** SOC201H1, SOC202H1, SOC204H1 and 1.0 credit from SOC251H1, SOC252H1, SOC254H1

**Corequisites:** None

**Exclusions:** None

**Recommended Preparation:** None

**Credit Value:** 0.5

## Course Materials

- All materials for this course will be available through Quercus.

## Marking Scheme

Assessment	Percent	Details	Due Date
<b>Participation (5%)</b> <b>March 17 11:59pm</b>	5%	Complete 1 in class activity for participation marks. Specific instructions will be given 1 week prior to activity during class.	2024-03-17
<b>Feb 8 (25%)</b> <b>Midterm:</b> <b>Comparative essay</b>	25%	Pick 2 modules and compare the theoretical approaches to adoption, race, and family. 12 pt Times new roman, 6-8 pages double spaced.	2024-02-08
<b>March 7 (25%)</b> <b>Media Analysis</b> <b>Project Submission</b>	25%	Pick from the list of films and shows and analyze the character's experiences and portrayal using course modules. 12 pt Times new roman, 6-8 pages double spaced.	2024-03-07

Assessment	Percent	Details	Due Date
<b>April 4 (30%) Final Policy proposal</b>	30%	Critically analyze a policy related to course content and materials. Provide a summary of chosen policy. Critique or modify the policy and demonstrate your knowledge by connecting to course material. 12 pt Times new roman, 10-12 pages double spaced.	2024-04-04
<b>creative media</b>	7.5%	1. We will be watching the documentary one child nation (on amazon prime), and you will be doing a mock twitter conversation, providing commentary and connections to course material, you will then write a reflection 500 words after the class due on the weekend (7.5%) (3 days after class) Feb 15 for twitter, feb 18 for reflection	2024-04-04
<b>creative media</b>	7.5%	2. You will be creating a mock- tik tok short video (1-2 min) about one module of the semester. Include your biggest takeaways, soundbites of information the public can understand (get creative)! (7.5 %) (due by end of semester April 4)	2024-04-04

### **Late Assessment Submissions Policy**

2%