FAMILY/GENDER CONCENTRATION

The Sociology of Family and the Sociology of Gender are exciting and significant fields in contemporary sociological research and thought. The goal of the specialization is to engage students in in-depth and theoretically grounded analyses of these different, yet related fields of family and gender. Courses in this concentration have the potential to influence how students think about families and gender, how they live their own lives, and how they address public policy issues. In addition, our course offerings provide students with an understanding of how these issues affect children, adolescents, people with disabilities, and older citizens. Our faculty itself has diverse specializations within the sociological studies of the family and of gender that both broaden and deepen students’ interests. For example, among our faculty’s expertise are family policy, both in the United States and in countries abroad, such as Sweden and China; new trends in U.S. partner- and family-formation; the global impact of HIV+ on family life and women; and the particular case of the family which has a member with a disability or with chronic illness. With a concentration in the Sociology of the Family and the Sociology of Gender in our department, there are many avenues for professional employment, and some of our students form bonds with agencies and individuals that eventuate into jobs after their graduation.

Combined with course work in research methods and statistics, graduates in this sub-field are prepared to apply what they have learned in jobs as varied as:

- service (teaching, education, research and scholarship, and program or curricula development)
- administration/management (program leadership, community organizing, and research coordination)
- public policy (lobbying, and advocating for system change and awareness)

**Graduate Seminars**

To fulfill the course requirements for the family and concentration, students may choose from among the following graduate course offerings:

- SOC-R 525: Gender and Work
- SOC-R 530: Families and Social Policy
- SOC-R 526: Sociology of Human Sexuality
- SOC-R 537: Gender in Society
- SOC-R 594: Internship in Family/Gender
- SOC-S 560: Topics: Family/Gender
- SOC-S 537: Gender in Society
- SOC-S 616: Sociology of Family Systems
- SOC-S 632: Socialization
- SOC-R 697: Individual Readings in Family/Gender
Family/Gender Faculty

The faculty in the Family and Gender concentration at the present time are: Robert Aponte, Wan-Ning Bao, David Bell, Carol Brooks Gardner, Linda Haas, Marci Littlefield, Lynn Pike, Colin Williams, Gail Whitchurch (Adjunct with Communication Studies)