



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Department of Sociology

A. Reading course in Sociology of family and personal relationships (PhD level)

A third level (PhD) “reading course” does not involve any teaching and typically only has one or a few participants taking part in the course. A reading course for 7,5 credits should cover an ambitious and demanding reading material, which exact page number can vary depending on then nature of texts (i.e., heavy dominance of research articles). The Department of Sociology offer reading courses to its PhD students on areas that cover either a specific topic of high relevance for the PhD thesis, or a specific area of research expertise in the Department. This course belongs to the latter category.

This course has been reviewed by the Director of graduate studies on 2019-10-08.

B. Course Details, Assessment, Grades

This course is offered by Sara Eldén upon demand as a reading course on the readings listed under D, below. There is no teaching. The course is examined on the basis of written papers (in English or Swedish) of 10-15 pages and/or an oral examination.

The grades for the course are awarded as Pass or Fail. To receive a Pass, the student must fulfil the learning outcomes specified for the course and demonstrate an independent, reflective, well-informed and critical relationship to the issues presented in the course.

C. Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course the student should be able to:

- 1) Summarize the main outlines of the research field covered in the reading material
- 2) Critically examine contributions to the relevant research field
- 3) Apply some of the ideas in the literature to a research problem

D. Course content

The aim of this course is to provide advanced knowledge of sociological theorizing on family and personal relationships. The purposes of the course is to develop students’ knowledge and understanding of theoretical developments in classical and contemporary sociological theories, central concepts, and research on family, relationships, intimacy and personal life.

The literature covers both recent theoretical debates in the field, e.g., regarding the concepts of *family practices*, *intimacy*, and *personal life*. Thereto, thematic readings are offered on *same sex intimacy*, *friendship*, *transnational families*, *motherhood/fatherhood/parenting*, *kinship and care*.

In addition to the mandatory readings, the student chooses relevant literature corresponding with one’s interest, either chosen from the elective reading list provided below, or other suggested readings.

E. Admission Requirements

Applicants must be admitted to the Ph.D. program at the Department of Sociology, Lund University, or be accepted as a visiting student to that program.

F. Course Literature

Literature (required marked with a star*):

Main course books:

*Jamieson, L. (1998) *Intimacy: Personal Relationships in Modern Societies*, Cambridge: Polity.

*Morgan, D. (2011) *Rethinking Family Practices*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

*Smart, C. (2007) *Personal Life: New Directions in Sociological Thinking*, Cambridge: Polity.

Thematic:

On concepts

Giddens, A. (1992) *The Transformation of Intimacy*, Cambridge: Polity. Chapter 4 'Love, commitment and the pure relationship'.

Jamieson, L. (1999) 'Intimacy transformed? A critical look at the 'pure relationship'', *Sociology*, 33 (3): 477-494.

Brannen, J. & Nilsen, A. (2005). 'Individualisation, choice and structure: A discussion of current trends in sociological analysis', *Sociological Review*, 53(3): 412-428.

*Gross, N. (2005) 'The detraditionalization of intimacy reconsidered', *Sociological Theory*, 23(3): 286-311.

Smart C. and Shipman, B. (2004) 'Visions in monochrome: Families, marriage and the individualization thesis', *British Journal of Sociology*, 55(4):491-509.

*Finch, J. (2007) 'Displaying families' *Sociology*, 41(1): 65-81.

*Morgan, D. (1996) *Family Connections*, Cambridge: Polity, Ch 1 & Conclusion

Van Every, J. (1999) 'From modern nuclear family households to post modern diversity? The social construction of 'families'', in Wright, C. and Jagger, G. (eds.) *Changing Family Values*, London: Routledge.

Widmer, E., Castren, A-M., Jallinoja, R., Ketokivi, K. (2008) Introduction, i Eric Widmer & Riita Jallinoja (red.) *Beyond the nuclear family: families in a configurational perspective*. Bern: Peter Lang, 1-11.

*Edwards, R. Ribbens McCarthy, J. & Gillies, V. (2012) The politics of concepts: family and its (putative) replacements. *The British Journal of Sociology*, 63 (4): 730-746.

*Gilding, M. (2010) 'Reflexivity over and above convention: The new orthodoxy in the sociology of personal life, formerly sociology of the family', *British Journal of Sociology*, 61 Issue 4: 757-777.

Same sex intimacy

Weeks, J., Heaphy, B. and Donovan, C. (2001) *Same Sex Intimacies*, London: Routledge. Chapter 1 'Families of choice'

Weston, K (1991) *Families We Choose: Lesbians, Gays and Kinship*, New York, NY: Columbia University Press. Chapter 5 'Families we choose'

Hayden, C (1995) "Gender genetics and generation: Reformulating biology in lesbian kinship." *Cultural Anthropology* 10(1): 41-63.

Andreassen., R (2017) "New kinship, new family formations and negotiations of intimacy vi social media sites." *Journal of Gender Studies*, Epub

Friendship

Roseneil, S. and Budgeon, S. (2004) 'Beyond the conventional family: Intimacy, care and community in the 21st century', *Current Sociology*, 52(2): 135-159.

Transnational families

Chamberlain M. (2006) *Family Love in the Diaspora: Migration and the Anglo-Caribbean Experience*, New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers, Chapter 5 'Transnational narratives and national belongings'

Heath, S., McGhee, D. & Trevena, P. (2011) 'Lost in transnationalism: Unraveling the conceptualisation of families and personal life through a transnational gaze', *Sociological Research Online*, 16(4), <http://www.socresonline.org.uk/16/4/12.html>

Motherhood, fatherhood, parenting

Gillies, V. (2007) *Marginalised Mothers*, London: Routledge. Chs 3 & 6

May, V. (2008) 'On being a 'good' mother: The moral presentation of self in written life stories', *Sociology* 42 (3): 470-486

Brannen, J. & Nilsen, A. (2006) 'From fatherhood to fathering: Transmission and change among British fathers in four-generation families', *Sociology*, 40(2): 335-352.

Dermott, E. (2003) 'The intimate father: Defining paternal involvement', *Sociological Research Online* www.socresonline.org.uk

Hays, S. (1996) *The cultural contradictions of motherhood*. New Haven: Yale University Press. (utdrag)

Lareau, A. (2003) *Unequal childhoods: The class, race, and family life*. Berkeley: University of California Press. (utdrag)

Jamieson, L., Wasoff, F. and Simpson, R. (2009) 'Solo-living, demographic and family change: The need to know more about men', *Sociological Research Online* 14(2).

Carlson, D. L. & Knoester, C. "Family Structure and the Intergenerational Transmission of Gender Ideology." *Journal of Family Issues*. Jun2011, Vol. 32 Issue 6, p709-734. 26p.

Kinship

Mason, J. (2008) 'Tangible affinities and the real life fascination of kinship', *Sociology*, 42(1): 29-45.

Brannen, J. (2006) 'Cultures of intergenerational transmission in four-generation families', *The Sociological Review*, 54:133-154

Davies, H. (2011) 'Sharing surnames: Children, family and kinship', *Sociology*, 45(4): 554-569.

Mason, J., May, V. & Clarke, L. (2007) 'Ambivalence and the paradoxes of grandparenting', *Sociological Review*, 55(4): 687-706.

Arber, S. & Timonen, V. (red.) (2012). *Contemporary grandparenting: changing family relationships in global contexts*. Bristol: Policy. (selected chapters)

Care

DeVault, M. (1991) *Feeding the family: The social organization of caring as gendered work*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (utdrag)

Graham, H. (1983) Caring: A labour of love, i J. Finch & D. Groves (red.) *A labour of love: Women, work and caring*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, s. 13-30.

Graham, H. (1991) The concept of caring in feminist research: The case of domestic service. *Sociology*, 25(1): 61-78.

Mason, J. (1996) Gender, care and sensibility in family and kin relationships, i J. Holland and L. Atkins (red.) *Sex, sensibility and the gendered body*. London: Macmillan, s. 15-36.

Roberts, D. (1997) 'Spiritual and menial housework', *Yale Journal of Law and Feminism*, 9(1): 51-80.

Tronto, J.C. (1998) 'An ethic of care', *Generations*, 22(3): 15-20.

Tronto, J. (2002) The nanny question. *Hypatia*, 17(2): 34-61.