

FCS 4840: The Disadvantaged Family
(Formerly HEC 4840)
Fall 2012

Instructor: Dr. Lucy Campanis
Telephone: 581-6348
E-mail: lacampanis@eiu.edu

Office: 1046 Klehm Hall
Office Hours: MTWR 1:00-1:50
Other times by Appointment

Course Description: This course will discuss low income and minority group families and their problems, needs, and possible solutions.

Texts:

Berrick, J.D. (1995). Faces of poverty: Portraits of women and children on welfare. New York: University Oxford Press.

Broussard, C.A. & Joseph, A. L. (Eds.). (2009). Family poverty in diverse contexts. New York: Routledge.

Supplemental readings will be assigned as appropriate.

Booth Reserve readings are located in Booth Library at the Reserve Desk.

Course Objectives:

After the completion of the class lecture/discussions, presentations, and assignments, the student will

1. identify conditions and phenomena in our society which contribute to a significant portion of our population living in conditions that are deemed at poverty level and many more living marginal lives.
2. identify various groups of disadvantaged persons/families, their values, needs, problems, and possible solutions to those problems.
3. describe social services available to the disadvantaged as well as assess some of the strengths and weaknesses of those services.
4. become sensitive to the differences among people/families, acknowledge value differences, and become more accepting of differences.
5. research certain aspects about disadvantaged persons/families and present that research in a well- organized and professional manner.

Course Assignments and Evaluation:

1. **In-class/Short term Activities** – Throughout the semester, varied activities will be conducted during class or assigned from one class period to the next. Students must be present to receive credit for these activities. Short-term assignments must be submitted when due; late assignments will not be accepted unless approved by the instructor. The total number of points will vary.
2. **Written Examinations** - Two tests will be given during the semester and a final examination will be given during the final exam period. These **MUST** be taken on the date assigned. Tests missed during the semester may be made up only with an official excused absence by the first class day after the excused class day ends. Students with unexcused absences may not take a missed test. Exceptions to this policy must be approved in advance and are at the

discretion of the instructor. (Total points: 300 maximum)

3. **Current Issues Activity** – Working individually and in groups, a current issue or concern of the disadvantaged will be researched with the findings presented to the class. Presentation dates will be determined after issues/concerns are identified. Specific directions and requirements will be distributed separately. (50 points)
4. **Community Observation/Interview** - Select a facility, site, or program for visitation that provides service/assistance to persons considered disadvantaged. After observation and interview(s) in person with an individual in charge, submit a written report of the program. Information should include: location of the program, person(s) interviewed, target population (the intended recipients of services), services provided, number of clientele served, eligibility requirements to receive services, description of service providers, qualifications for those providing services, funding sources, personal opinion of implications for the disadvantaged. Minimum of three (3) pages, not including references. (50 points)

OR

- Legislative Report** - Select a piece of state or federal legislation (U.S. only) which has implications for disadvantaged individuals and families. The legislation must have been signed into law and be currently in effect. Review the legislation and appropriate references and submit a written report which includes: the title and number of the legislation, the date it was signed into law, background of the legislation (reason for the legislation, major positions supporting and opposing the legislation), purpose of the legislation, identification of those persons affected by the legislation (target population), summary of major items or provisions in the legislation, administrative responsibility, funding, personal opinion of implications for the disadvantaged. Include references on a separate page. Minimum of three (3) pages, not including references. (50 points)
5. **Research Paper** - An individual paper researching a topic of interest appropriate to the course content and objectives. Use research reports, professional publications, and appropriate lay publications for current information. Findings will be disseminated in a format to be determined. Specific requirements and criteria for evaluation of the research paper and the dissemination activity will be distributed separately. (Research Paper: 150 points; Dissemination Activity: 50 points)

Graduate Credit: - An additional assignment is required in order to receive graduate credit. The nature of this assignment will vary and will be determined after consultation between the individual student and the instructor. (75 points)

Grading Scale:

- A = 90 - 100% of total possible points
- B = 80 - 89% of total possible points
- C = 70 - 79% of total possible points
- D = 60 - 69% of total possible points

General Information and Course Policies:

1. **Class Participation** - Students are expected to contribute to class discussion and interaction. While not a formal part of the grade, participation will enhance the achievement of course objectives and completion of course assignments. If there is an absence, the student is

responsible for any material, announcements and assignments given during class. Lateness to class, particularly repeated lateness, is disruptive and discourteous and is, therefore, unacceptable. As a professional courtesy, notify the instructor in the event of absence or if there is a legitimate reason for lateness.

2. Course-related information and hand-outs will be distributed by the instructor through WebCT. When communicating through e-mail, students are expected to use WebCT email.
3. TurningPoint is the EIU campus standard for student response systems. As part of this class the student is required to purchase a TurningPoint keypad from the University Union Bookstore. The purpose of this keypad is so that TurningPoint can be integrated with PowerPoint in order to check for understanding, conduct class polls, take attendance, get feedback about what is being discussed, and testing. Please be sure to register your keypad when you purchase it.
4. All work must be the original work of the student done for this class. It must also be the individual work of the student unless collaboration or group work is indicated. **Work that is not the student's original work or that does not accurately or appropriately cite the original source constitutes plagiarism.** This is a breach of academic integrity and will be treated accordingly. (Refer to page 54 of the 2006-2007 Undergraduate Catalog for University policy). Eastern Illinois University is committed to the learning process and academic integrity that is defined in the Student Conduct Code (1.1). To encourage original and authentic written work, any written assignment created in this course may be submitted for review to Turnitin.com and will become a searchable document with the Turnitin-protected and restricted use database. A class ID number and password will be provided.
5. All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the dates assigned in hard copy **and** as a submission through WebCT. Late assignments include any assignment, REGARDLESS OF THE REASON, turned in after class. Assignments will be accepted for one week after the due date with a penalty for lateness, a maximum of 10 percent deduction per day late and 5 percent if received on the due date but after class is over. Hard copies of late assignments must be submitted to the instructor in person. Exceptions to this policy are at the discretion of the instructor.

Late assignments due to official excused absences will not receive a penalty for lateness if documentation is received by the class day after an assignment is due. Examples of excused absences include illness, family emergency, and participation in official University activities. Catching a ride home for weekends, holidays, birthdays, weddings are NOT considered excusable absences for which work can be made up.

6. **Written Assignments-** More detailed information for the following assignments will be given separately. The following requirements apply to **all** written assignments:
 - a. All written assignments are to be typed with a 12 point font, double-spaced, and with one-inch margins.
 - b. All sources are to be included in a separate reference page, cited in APA format.
 - c. The following information is to be included on each assignment: Course number and section, name of the assignment, date submitted.

- d. All written work must be professional in appearance, accurate in spelling and grammar, and well organized. Deficiencies in these criteria will negatively impact evaluations.
- e. Assignments will be submitted through WebCT as email attachments **and** in hard copy. Email attachments must be in .doc, .docx, or .rft formats; other formats cannot be read.
- f. All assignments must be submitted at the beginning of the class period on the date due.
- g. Assignments (hard copy) are to be submitted with multiple pages stapled together – **no** plastic covers, paper clips, turned down corners.

PLEASE NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to refuse to accept assignments that do not meet these criteria. Assignments may be re-submitted at the discretion of the instructor, but will be considered late.

- 7. Classroom Professionalism – Behaviors that are disruptive to the learning environment are unacceptable. The use of cell phones (talking or texting), pagers, or listening devices (e.g. iPods) will not be permitted. All such devices must be turned off and put away. Laptop usage is permitted in relation to the class or class activities only.
- 5. Students are advised to keep copies of work submitted and retain returned assignments until course grades have been submitted.

FCS majors are advised to keep all graded assignments from all FCS courses for possible inclusion in the FCS Core Portfolio.

Disabilities Services: If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 581-6583.

FCS 4840: The Disadvantaged Family
Tentative Class Schedule
(August 21, 2012)

Changes to the schedule will be announced in class and through WebCT

Week Of:	Topic	Assignment
Aug 21	Introduction Who are the disadvantaged? FCS concepts in relation to disadvantage Concerns of the Disadvantaged (e.g. Health care, Employment) Public Policy and Disadvantage	Broussard & Joseph, Ch. 1
Aug 28	Poverty Conceptualizations Historical Perspectives Causes Characteristics and Terminology Measuring Poverty Poverty Statistics	Booth Reserve Reading Ryan: Intro, Ch 1, 5
Sept 4	Geographic Poverty Regional Poverty Rural/Urban Poverty	Broussard & Joseph, Ch. 5 Research Paper Topic Due
Sept 11	Appalachian Poverty	
Sept 18	Family Structure/Family Interactions Women and Poverty	Broussard & Joseph, Ch. 3, 11 Berrick: Ch 1, 2, 6
Sept 25	Test 1: Tuesday, Sept 25 Disadvantaged Children	Broussard & Joseph, Ch. 7
Oct 2	Youth At Risk Individual and Family Resilience and Resources Disadvantaged Elderly	Child Trends Articles (To be Identified in class) Broussard & Joseph, Ch. 12
Oct 9	Working Poor Migrant Workers Employment Issues	Broussard & Joseph, Ch. 2 Berrick: Ch 3 Research Paper Due: Tuesday Oct 9
Oct 16	The Homeless	NCH Fact Sheets: Topics TBA

	Housing Issues	
Oct 23	Hunger/Malnutrition Issues	Community Observation/ Legislative Report Due– Tuesday, Oct 23
Oct 30	Test 2: Tuesday Disadvantaged Minority Families e.g. Black, Latino, American Indian	Broussard & Joseph, Ch. 6
Nov 6	Disabilities and Disadvantage Concerns and Current Issues for the Disadvantaged	Individual and Group Activity
Nov 13	Programs and Services Public and Private Sectors	Broussard & Joseph, Ch. 10 Dissemination Activity: Tuesday, Nov 13
Nov 20	Thanksgiving Recess	
Nov 27	Public Policy Issues and Poverty/Income Welfare Reform and Legislation	Broussard & Joseph, Ch. 4 Berrick: Ch 7
Dec 4	Culture, Communication, and Disadvantage Strengthening Families and Communities	Graduate Assignment Due Tuesday, Dec 4
Final Exam:	Section 001: Tuesday, December 11, 5:15-7:15	