Eastern Illinois University
New Course Proposal
FCS 2000, Family Perspectives

1. Catalog Description
   a. Family and Consumer Sciences 2000
   b. Family Perspectives
   c. 3-0-3
   d. F, S
   e. Fam Perspectives
   f. FCS Applications of perspectives to understand and analyze family structure and function, interpersonal dynamics, individual family roles, the role of the family in society, and the formative influences of heritage and culture.
   g. Prerequisite – FCS 1000 with a grade of C or better.

2. Objectives of the Course
   Upon completion of this writing-intensive course, FCS students will be able to:

   a. analyze families and family systems from various situational, social, cultural and FCS professional perspectives;

   b. identify theoretical perspectives and their applications related to understanding family dynamics and individual roles;

   c. describe how family and community heritage and culture inform family roles, traditions, rituals, values, and personal and family identity;

   d. describe the impact of public policy on individuals and families at different stages in the life cycle;

   e. apply ethical professional practice standards.

3. Outline of the Course
   I. Introduction 3 Weeks
      A. Defining “Family”
      B. The Family as a System
         C. Images, Ideals and Myths
      D. Families Past and Present
      E. The Family as a Unit of Society
      F. The FCS Professional and Interactions with Families

   II. Theoretical Perspectives/Practical Applications to the FCS 4 Weeks
       professionals with careers in family services, consumer affairs, merchandising, hospitality, nutrition and teacher education
       A. Systems/Family Ecology
       B. Structural-Functional
       C. Social Conflict
       D. Feminist
       E. Symbolic Interaction
F. Social Exchange
G. Developmental

III. Examination of Cultural Understanding of Self and Others 4 Weeks
   A. Developmental Models of Cultural/Racial Identity
   B. Intercultural Sensitivity Process
   C. Institutional Discrimination
   D. Role of Culture in Communication
   E. Gender Roles

IV. Global Perspectives on the Family 2 Weeks

V. Family Advocacy and the Impact of Public Policy and Social Changes on Individuals and Families 1 Week

VI. Ethical Standards and Practices 1 Week

Evaluation Techniques: A variety of techniques will be used to evaluate the student’s achievement of the stated objectives in the following proportions:

- Revised, written report based on the Objective a 20%
- Other written documents/projects 20%
- Examinations 40%
- Presentations (oral or poster) 20%

4. Implementation
   a. Faculty members to whom the course will be initially assigned: Dr. Jim Slavik and Dr. Jeanne Snyder
   b. Additional costs to the student: None
   c. Texts and supplementary materials to be used:
      Edited by Randal D. Day...(et al.) 1995. Research and Theory in Family Science
      Brooks/Cole
      Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences, FCS Research Journal
      (www.AAFCS.org)
   d. Term first offered: Fall 2002

5. Rationale
   a. Purpose and need
      The development, assessment and continuing improvement of the Family and Consumer Sciences undergraduate core is designed to provide content and application experiences for students, which make substantive contributions toward meeting American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences accreditation standards related to the knowledge base of the profession and the integrative focus and professional orientation to students in the major. This is the second course in the series of four core courses.
b. Justification of the level of the course and prerequisite:
The material presented in this course will build upon foundation knowledge of the profession of family and consumer sciences (FCS 1000 prerequisite) and will provide the underlying knowledge and academic structures required for advanced study in the field.

c. Similarity to existing courses and/or effect upon programs in other departments:
The content in this course has content appearing to be similar to the content in other courses, particularly in sociology, but is taught from the integrative family and consumer sciences perspective reflective of the body of knowledge in the discipline.

Some of the content in the proposed course is currently taught in Family Relations (FCS 2800).

d. Required or elective
This course will be required of all Family and Consumer Sciences majors.

6. Community College transfer
A community college course will not be judged equivalent to this course.

7. Date approved by the School of Family and Consumer Sciences Curriculum Committee: November 3, 2000

8. Date approved by the College of Business and Applied Sciences Curriculum Committee: November 15, 2001.

9. Date approved by CAA: December 6, 2001