



## Ontario eSecondary School Course Outline 2024-2025

<b>Ministry of Education Course Title:</b> Families of Canada, Grade 12, University Preparation	
<b>Ministry Course Code:</b> HHS4U	
<b>Course Type:</b> University Preparation	
<b>Grade:</b> 12	
<b>Credit Value:</b> 1.0	
<b>Prerequisite(s):</b> Any university or university/college preparation course in social sciences and humanities, English, or Canadian and world studies	
<b>Department:</b> Social Sciences and Humanities	
<b>Course developed by:</b> Jaclyn Wilson  Brittany Chandroo	<b>Date:</b> January 1st, 2021  Revised: June 2024
<b>Length:</b> One Semester	<b>Hours:</b> 110
This course has been developed based on the following Ministry documents: 1. <i>Social Sciences and Humanities, The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9 to 12, 2013, (revised)</i> 2. <i>Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting in Ontario Schools (2010)</i> 3. <i>Learning for All (2013)</i>	

## COURSE DESCRIPTION / RATIONALE

This course enables students to draw on sociological, psychological, and anthropological theories and research to analyse the development of individuals, intimate relationships, and family and parent-child relationships. Students will focus on issues and challenges facing individuals and families in Canada's diverse society. They will develop analytical tools that enable them to assess various factors affecting families and to consider policies and practices intended to support families in Canada. They will develop the investigative skills required to conduct and communicate the results of research on individuals, intimate relationships, and parent-child relationships.

[www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/secondary/ssciences9to122013.pdf](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/secondary/ssciences9to122013.pdf)

## OVERALL EXPECTATIONS

### Unit 1: Research and Inquiry

- A1.** Exploring: explore topics related to families in Canada, and formulate questions to guide their research;
- A2.** Investigating: create research plans, and locate and select information relevant to their chosen topics, using appropriate social science research and inquiry methods;
- A3.** Processing Information: assess, record, analyse, and synthesize information gathered through research and inquiry;
- A4.** Communicating and Reflecting: communicate the results of their research and inquiry clearly and effectively, and reflect on and evaluate their research, inquiry, and communication skills.

### Unit 2: Individual Development

- B1.** Individual Development: demonstrate an understanding of theoretical perspectives and research on various aspects of individual development;
- C1.** The Effects on Individuals: demonstrate an understanding of the impact of norms, roles, and social institutions on individuals throughout the lifespan;
- D1.** Trends and Challenges for Individuals: demonstrate an understanding of demographic trends related to the lives of individuals and of the impact of social issues and challenges on individual development;

### Unit 3: Intimate Relationships

- B2.** The Development of Intimate Relationships: demonstrate an understanding of theoretical perspectives and research on the development of intimate relationships;
- C2.** The Effects on Intimate Relationships: demonstrate an understanding of the impact of norms, roles, and social institutions on intimate relationships;
- D2.** Trends and Challenges in Intimate Relationships: demonstrate an understanding of demographic and social trends and issues related to intimate relationships and of strategies for responding to challenges in those relationships;

**Unit 4: Family and Parent-Child Relationships**

**B3.** The Development of Family and Parent-Child Relationships: demonstrate an understanding of theoretical perspectives and research on the development of family and parent-child relationships.

**C3.** The Effects on Family and Parent-Child Relationships: demonstrate an understanding of factors that can affect decisions about whether to have and how to care for children, and of the impact of norms, roles, and social institutions on family and parent-child relationships.

**D3.** Trends and Challenges in the Family and in Parent-Child Relationships: demonstrate an understanding of demographic trends related to the family and to parent-child relationships and of the impact of social issues and challenges on family development.

## COURSE CONTENT

<i>Unit</i>	<i>Length</i>
<b>Unit 1:</b> Introduction to Family and Research Methods	25 hours
<b>Unit 2:</b> Individual Development	25 hours
<b>Unit 3:</b> Intimate Relationships	25 hours
<b>Unit 4:</b> Family and Parent-Child Relationships	20 hours
<b>Unit 5:</b> Research Report and Seminar	12 hours
Final Exam	3 hours
	<b>Total</b>
	<b>110 Hours</b>

## UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

### UNIT 1: Introduction to Family and Research Methods

In this unit, students will investigate the social factors that influenced the historical evolution of family and how these factors have influenced this evolution. They will also examine the purpose of family. It will be in this unit that students will learn how to begin the social science research process.

### UNIT 2: Individual Development

In this unit, students will examine what personal and social factors influence individual development. More specifically students will examine individual development throughout the lifespan from a variety of theoretical perspectives from theorists such as Erikson, Freud, Cooley, and Bowlby. Students will gain an understanding of the impact that norms, roles, and social institutions have on individuals throughout their lifespan. They will also investigate how demographic trends relate to the lives of individuals and how social issues and challenges impact one's development.

### UNIT 3: Intimate Relationships

In this unit, what personal and social factors influence the development of intimate relationships will be examined in this unit. Students will investigate theories of attraction and mate selection and analyze ways in which social norms and expectations can influence the establishment and maintenance of healthy intimate relationships. Students will examine marriage customs in various cultures, religions, and historical periods. Roles in intimate relationships will be analyzed in various social, historical, and ethnocultural contexts. Abuse and violence in intimate relationships will also be looked at in this unit.

#### **UNIT 4: Family and Parent-Child Relationships**

In this unit, students will investigate how personal and social factors influence the development of families. Factors that can affect decisions about whether to have and how to care for children, and the impact of norms, roles, and social institutions on family and parent-child relationships will be examined. Factors to be examined may include reproductive technology, religious about birth control and abortion, adoption, etc. Assessing government policy intended to support families in regards to parental leave benefits, adoption rights for same-sex couples, grandparent rights, etc. may be included in the investigation. The impact of violence and abuse on family relationships will be addressed.

#### **UNIT 5: Culminating Activities: Independent Study Project and Final Exam**

Students will select a topic from a predetermined list and will complete the required components of this independent study unit. Students will apply the lessons and skills they have acquired throughout the course to this ongoing unit.

### **TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES**

**In this course, students will experience the following activities.**

**Presentations with embedded videos** are utilized to outline concepts, explain theory with the use of examples and practice questions, and incorporate multi-media opportunities for students to learn more (e.g. online simulations, quizzes, etc.).

**End of unit conversations and Poodlls** are opportunities for students to express their ideas, problem solving, and thought processes with a teacher who provides timely feedback.

**Reflection** is an opportunity for students to look back at concepts and theories with new eyes, to relate theory to practice, and to align learning with their own values and beliefs.

**Discussions with the instructor** are facilitated through video conferencing, discussing the concepts and skills being studied. This enables two-way communication between the student and the instructor, to share ideas and ask questions in dialogue. This also helps to build a relationship between the student and instructor.

**Instructor demonstrations** (research skills, etc.) are opportunities for the instructor to lead a student through a concept or skill through video conferencing, videos, or emailing with the student.

**Practical extension and application of knowledge** are integrated throughout the course. The goal is to help students make connections between what they learn in the classroom and how they understand and relate to the world around them and their own lives. Learning becomes a dynamic opportunity for students to be more aware that their learning is all around them and enable them to create more meaning in their lives.

**Individual activities/assignments** assessments are completed individually at a student's own pace and are intended to expand and consolidate the learning in each lesson. Individual activities allow the teacher to accommodate interests and needs and to assess the progress of individual students. For this reason, students are encouraged to discuss IEPs (Individual Education Plans) with their teacher and to ask to modify assessments if they have a unique interest that they feel could be pursued in the assessment. The teacher plays an important role in supporting these activities by providing ongoing feedback to students, both orally and in writing.

**Research** is an opportunity to apply inquiry skills to a practical problem or question. Students perform research to gather information, evaluate quality sources, analyze findings, evaluate their analysis, and synthesize their findings into conclusions. Throughout, students apply both creative thinking and critical thinking. New questions are also developed to further learning.

**Writing** as a learning tool helps students to think critically about course material while grasping, organizing, and integrating prior knowledge with new concepts. Good communication skills are important both in and out of the classroom.

**Brainstorming, charts, and graphs** are a great way for students to synthesize their knowledge of subject matter visually through graphic organizers, pictures, and texts.

**Readings** are an opportunity for students to gain insight from a variety of texts online and further develop literacy skills. Students may print out the reading material to use it to highlight, take notes, and have with them when a computer is not available.

**Articles** are examples of concepts and theories being discussed in the public realm and with respect to current events. They are snapshots not only of why theories/concepts/applications are relevant but also provide a window into the broader context of subject matter knowledge and understanding. Students learn through reading and analysis that the subject matter is deeply related to, and intertwined with, society and the diverse perspectives of lived experience.

**Oral presentations** in an online environment are opportunities for students to present live or record presentations, expressing their ideas and understanding orally.

## **ASSESSMENT, EVALUATION, AND REPORTING**

**Assessment:** The process of gathering information that accurately reflects how well a student is achieving the identified curriculum expectations. Teachers provide students with descriptive feedback that guides their efforts towards improved performance.

**Evaluation:** Assessment of Learning focuses on Evaluation which is the process of making a judgement about the quality of student work on the basis of established criteria over a limited, reasonable period of time.

**Reporting:** Involves communicating student achievement of the curriculum expectations and Learning Skills and Work Habits in the form of marks and comments as determined by the teacher's use of professional judgement.

## STRATEGIES FOR ASSESSMENT

Assessment practices can nurture students' sense of progress and competency and information instruction. Many diagnostic tools, e.g. checklists and inventories, are used at regular intervals throughout the units to encourage students' understanding of their current status as learners and to provide frequent and timely reviews of their progress. Assessment of student acquisition of listening and talking, reading and viewing and writing skills also occurs regularly through unobtrusive teacher observation and conferencing.

Teachers are encouraged to share goals with students early in the course and to connect unit learning experiences frequently and explicitly with big ideas, overall expectations, and performance tasks. The teacher is encouraged to involve students in the discussion, modification, or creation of rubrics, and teach students to use rubrics as a learning tool.

## ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES

- Graph & Statistical Analysis
- Individual Conference Meetings
- Diagnostic Tests & Writing Tasks
- Article Analysis
- Outlining & Planning Sheets
- Completed Templates & Graphic Organizers
- Editing Checklists
- Reflections
- Oral Presentations
- Tests & Exam
- Report Writing
- Evaluations

## EVALUATION

The final grade will be determined as follows:

- Seventy percent of the grade will be based on evaluation conducted throughout the course. This portion of the grade should reflect the student's most consistent level of achievement throughout the course, although special consideration will be given to more recent evidence of achievement.
- Thirty percent of the grade will be based on a final evaluation administered at or towards the end of the course. This evaluation will be based on evidence from one or a combination of the following: an examination, a performance, an essay, and/or another method of evaluation suitable to the course content. The final evaluation allows the student an opportunity to demonstrate comprehensive achievement of the overall expectations for the course.

Weight	
<b>Course Work</b>	<b>70</b>
Knowledge/Understanding (K)	17.5
Thinking/Inquiry (T)	17.5
Communication (C)	17.5
Application (A)	17.5
<b>Final</b>	<b>30</b>
Final Exam (2.5K, 2.5T, 2.5C, 2.5A)	10
Social Science Research Report (2.5K, 2.5T, 2.5C, 2.5A)	10
Social Science Seminar Presentation (2.5K, 2.5T, 2.5C, 2.5A)	10

## TERM WORK EVALUATIONS (70%)

Evaluation Item	Description	Category	Weight
Unit 1 Family Research Report	Students will write an APA style report on family concepts.	K, T, C, A	20
Unit 1 Phase 1 Project	Students will consolidate learning for the unit and complete a research template.	K, T, C, A	
Unit 1 Test	Students will complete a test covering family and research topics.	K, T, C, A	
Unit 2 Phase 2 Project	Students will consolidate their learning of unit 2 concepts in a research template.	K, T, C, A	20
Unit 2 Film Study	Students will analyze a film for individual development and apply learned skills and theories.	K, T, C, A	
Unit 2 Test	Students will be evaluated on concepts covered in the unit.	K, T, C, A	
Unit 3 Role Play Skit	Students will conduct a literature review on social science topics.	K, T, C, A	14
Unit 3 Phase 3 Project	Students will consolidate their learning for unit 3 concepts in a research template.	K, T, C, A	
Unit 3 Test	Students will be evaluated on concepts covered in the unit.	K, T, C, A	
Unit 4 Presentation and Conversation	Students will give a presentation on parent-child concepts.	K, T, C, A	16
Unit 4 Test	Students will be evaluated on concepts covered in the unit.	K, T, C, A	

## FINAL EVALUATIONS (30%)

Evaluation Item	Description	Category	Weight
<b>Social Science Research Paper</b>	The research paper will apply all of the social science report writing skills learned throughout the course. It will also highlight the connections between the chosen topic and course concepts.	K, T, C, A	10
<b>Social Science Research Seminar</b>	The research seminar will be a presentation to peers on their research topic. It will apply the presentation skills learned through the course.	K, T, C, A	10
<b>Final Exam</b>	An exam to cover the major units studied through this course. This will be 3 hours in length.	K, T, C, A	10

## CONSIDERATION FOR PROGRAM PLANNING

### PLANNING PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS

Classroom teachers are the key educators of students who have special education needs. They have a responsibility to help all students learn, and they work collaboratively with special education teachers, where appropriate, to achieve this goal. Special Education Transformation: The Report of the Co-Chairs with the Recommendations of the Working Table on Special Education, 2006 endorses a set of beliefs that should guide program planning for students with special education needs in all disciplines. Those beliefs are as follows: All students can succeed. Universal design and differentiated instruction are effective and interconnected means of meeting the learning or productivity needs of any group of students. Successful instructional practices are founded on evidence-based research, tempered by experience.

### PROGRAM CONSIDERATIONS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Ontario schools have some of the most multilingual student populations in the world. The first language of approximately 20 percent of the students in Ontario's English language schools is a language other than English. Ontario's linguistic heritage includes several Aboriginal languages; many African, Asian, and European languages; and some varieties of English, such as Jamaican Creole. Many English language learners were born in Canada and raised in families and communities in which languages other than English were spoken, or in which the variety of English spoken differed significantly from the English of Ontario classrooms. Other English language learners arrive in Ontario as newcomers from other countries; they may have experience of highly sophisticated educational systems, or they may have come from regions where access to formal schooling was limited. When they start school in Ontario, many of these students are entering a new linguistic and cultural environment.

### THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE PROGRAM

Information and communications technologies (ICT) provide a range of tools that can significantly extend and enrich teachers' instructional strategies and support students' language learning. ICT tools include multimedia resources, databases, Internet websites, digital cameras, and word-processing programs. Tools such as these can help students to collect, organize, and sort the data they gather and to write, edit, and present reports on their findings. Information and communications technologies can also be used to connect students to other schools, at home and abroad, and to bring the global community into the local classroom. Whenever appropriate,

therefore, students should be encouraged to use ICT to support and communicate their learning.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodations will be based on meeting with parent(s), teachers, administration and external educational assessment report. The following three types of accommodations may be provided:

- Instructional accommodations:*** such as changes in teaching strategies, including styles of presentation, methods of organization, or use of technology and multimedia.
- Environmental accommodations:*** such as preferential seating or special lighting.
- Assessment accommodations:*** such as allowing additional time to complete tests or assignments or permitting oral responses to test questions.

*Other examples of modifications and aids, which may be used in this course, are:* Provide step-by-step instructions, create organizers for planning writing tasks, provide opportunities for enrichment.