

Sociology 675: Topics in Family Religion and Its Connections to Family & Gender

Spring 2007
Wednesday 5:30-8:30 p.m.
113 East Hall

Instructor	David Schweingruber
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Summary

This course covers selected topics related to religion and its connections to family and/or gender. Students will read and discuss sociological journal articles on these topics, read and give a précis of a book related to one of these topics, write a paper related to the course material, and give a presentation of this paper to the class.

Objectives for students include (1) increasing their knowledge about the substantive topics of the course and about the sociology of religion in general; (2) improving their skills of reading, analyzing and evaluating sociological research; and (3) stimulating their thinking about their own research.

Grading

The course grade will be derived from five components.

1. Class participation (25%)

Students are expected to read the assigned readings each week and contribute to class discussion.

2. Leading discussion (25%)

Discussion of each reading assignment (journal article or book chapter) will be led by a student. This student is responsible for developing a list of discussion questions, which will be submitted to the instructor.

3. Book précis (10%)

Each student will prepare one précis of a book connected to a week's topic. The written précis will consist of a one-page summary of the book. The student will also give a oral synopsis of the book and answer questions about it.

4. Paper (30%)

Each student will write a paper related to the course. The paper need not be publishable, but should show potential for revision into a journal article, conference paper, dissertation chapter or some other scholarly product. Students should consult with the instructor about their paper.

5. Paper presentation (10%)

Students will give a conference-style presentation of their paper to the class.

Academic Integrity

Speaking and acting truthfully are skills acquired through practice. These skills are indispensable for successfully living and working with other people. If you practice dishonesty, you will endanger all of your relationships. You will be a bad spouse, a bad parent, a bad employee and a bad citizen.

Participating in academic life is an important opportunity to practice truthfulness since dishonesty is incompatible with and abhorrent to the purposes of the university. Therefore, students in this course are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty.

Sociology Code of Ethics for Human Relations

The Department of Sociology is committed to providing a professional and educational environment that is free of discrimination and harassment. The department's Code of Ethics for Human Relations and the Procedures for Filing Complaints of Discrimination or Harassment are posted on the bulletin boards on all five floors of East Hall.

Schedule of Readings

(1) Wednesday, Jan. 10: Course Overview

Wuthnow, Robert. 2003. "Studying Religion, Making It Sociological." Chapter 1 in Michele Dillon (ed.), *Handbook of the Sociology of Religion*. Cambridge University Press.

(2) Wednesday, Jan. 17: Setting the Stage

Sherkat, Darren E., and Christopher G. Ellison. 1999. "Recent Developments and Current Controversies in the Sociology of Religion." *Annual Review of Sociology* 25:363-394.

Christiano, Kevin J. 2000. "Religion and the Family in Modern American Culture." Chapter 2 in Sharon K. Houseknecht & Jerry G. Pankhurst (eds), *Family, Religion and Social Change in Diverse Societies*. Oxford University Press.

Becker, Penny Edgell. 2000. "Boundaries and Silences in a Post-Feminist Sociology." *Sociology of Religion* 61(4):399-408.

Davidman, Lynn. 2000. "Studying Close to Home: The Intersection of Life and Work." *Sociology of Religion* 61(4):425-432.

Sleep, Lenora. 2000. "Personal Encounters with Sociology, Religion, and Issues of Gender." *Sociology of Religion* 61(4):473-477.

(3) Wednesday, Jan. 24: Secularization and Its Discontents

Swatos, William H. Jr., and Kevin Christiano. 1999. "Secularization Theory: The Course of a Concept." *Sociology of Religion* 60(3):209-228.

Stark, Rodney. 1999. "Secularization, R.I.P." *Sociology of Religion* 60(3):249-273.

Sommerville, C. John. 2002. "Stark's Age of Faith Argument and the Secularization of *Things*: A Commentary." *Sociology of Religion* 63(3):361-372.

Finke, Roger, and Rodney Stark. 2003. "The Dynamics of Religious Economies." Chapter 8 in *Handbook of the Sociology of Religion*, Michele Dillon (ed). Cambridge University Press.

Gorski, Philip S. 2003. "Historicizing the Secularization Debate." Chapter 9 in *Handbook of the Sociology of Religion*, Michele Dillon (ed). Cambridge University Press.

Berger, Peter L. 2001. "Reflections on the Sociology of Religion Today." *Sociology of Religion* 62(4):443-454.

(4) Wednesday, Jan. 31: Religious Transmission and the Family

Bader, Christopher D., and Scott A. Desmond. 2006. "Do as I Say and as I Do: The Effects of Consistent Parental Beliefs Upon Religious Transmission." *Sociology of Religion* 67(3):313-329.

Smith, Christian, Robert Faris, Melinda Lundquist Denton, and Mark Regnerus. 2003. "Mapping American Adolescent Subjective Religiosity and Attitudes of Alienation Toward Religion: A Research Report." *Sociology of Religion* 64(1):111-133.

Myers, Scott M. 1996. "An Interactive Model of Religiosity Inheritance: The Importance of Family Context." *American Sociological Review* 61(5):858-866.

Bao, Wan-Ning, Les B. Whitbeck, Danny R. Hoyt, and Rand D. Conger. 1999. "Perceived Parental Acceptance as a Moderator of Religious Transmission among Adolescent Boys and Girls." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 61(2):362-374.

Wilson, John, and Darren E. Sherkat. 1994. "Returning to the Fold." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 33(2):148-161.

Hout, Michael, Andrew Greeley, and Melissa J. Wilde. 2001. "The Demographic Imperative in Religious Change in the United States." *American Journal of Sociology* 107(2):468-500.

(5) Wednesday, Feb. 7: Religion and Child Rearing

Bartkowski, John P., and Christopher G. Ellison. 1995. "Divergent Models of Childrearing in Popular Manuals: Conservative Protestants vs. the Mainstream Experts." *Sociology of Religion* 56(1):21-34.

Bartkowski, John P., and Xiaohe Xu. 2000. "Distant Patriarchs or Expressive Dads? The Discourse and Practice of Fathering in Conservative Protestant Families." *The Sociological Quarterly* 41(3):465-485.

King, Valarie. 2003. "The Influence of Religion on Fathers' Relationships with their Children." *Journal of Family and Marriage* 65:382-395.

Wilcox, W. Bradford. 1998. "Conservative Protestant Childrearing: Authoritarian or Authoritative?" *American Sociological Review* 63(6):796-809.

Pearce, Lisa D., and William G. Axinn. 1998. "The Impact of Family Religious Life on the Quality of Mother-Child Relations." *American Sociological Review* 63(6):810-828.

Ellison, Christopher G, John Bartkowski, and Michelle L. Segal. 1996. "Conservative Protestantism and the Parental Use of Corporal Punishment." *Social Forces* 74(3):1003-1028.

(6) Wednesday, Feb. 14: Religion and Marriage, part 1

Booth, Alan, David R. Johnson, Ann Branaman, and Alan Sica. 2005. "Belief and Behavior: Does Religion Matter in Today's Marriage?" *Journal of Marriage and Family* 57(3):661-671.

Myers, Scott M. 2006. "Religious Homogamy and Marital Quality: Historical and Generational Patterns, 1980-1997." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 68:292-304.

Musick, Marc, and John Wilson. 1995. "Religious Switching for Marriage Reasons." *Sociology of Religion* 56(3):257-270.

Call, Vaughn R.A., and Tim B. Heaton. 1997. "Religious Influence on Marital Stability." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 36(3):382-392.

Curtis, Kristen Taylor, and Christopher G. Ellison. 2002. "Religious Heterogamy and Marital Conflict: Findings from the National Survey of Families and Households." *Journal of Family Issues* 23(4):551-576.

(7) Wednesday, Feb. 21: Religion and Marriage, part 2

Gallagher, Sally K., and Christian Smith. 1999. "Symbolic Traditionalism and Pragmatic Egalitarianism: Contemporary Evangelicals, Families, and Gender." *Gender and Society* 13(2):211-233.

Ellison, Christopher G., and John P. Bartkowski. 2002. "Conservative Protestants and the Division of Household Labor Among Married Couples." *Journal of Family Issues* 23(8):950-985.

Bartkowski, John P. 1997. "Debating Patriarchy: Discursive Disputes over Spousal Authority among Evangelical Family Commentators." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 36(3):393-410.

Denton, Melinda Lundquist. 2004. "Gender and Marital Decision Making: Negotiating Religious Ideology and Practice." *Social Forces* 82(3):1151-1180.

Ellison, Christopher G., and Kristin L. Anderson. 2001 "Religious Involvement and Domestic Violence Among U.S. Couples." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 269-286.

(8) Wednesday, Feb. 28: Religion and Men: Masculinity and Patriarchy

Bloch, Jon P. 2000. "The New and Improved Clint Eastwood: Change and Persistence in Promise Keepers Self-Help Literature." *Sociology of Religion* 61(1):11-31.

Gallagher, Sally K., and Sabrina L. Wood. 2005. "Godly Manhood Going Wild?: Transformations in Conservative Protestant Masculinity." *Sociology of Religion* 66(2):135-160.

Heath, Melanie. 2003. "Soft-Boiled Masculinity: Renegotiating Gender and Racial Ideologies in the Promise Keepers Movement." *Gender & Society* 17(3):423-444.

Lockhart, William H. 2000. "'We Are One Life,' But Not of One Gender Ideology: Unity Ambiguity, and the Promise Keepers." *Sociology of Religion* 61(1):73-92.

Bartkowski, John P. 2000. "Breaking Walls, Raising Fences: Masculinity, Intimacy, and Accountability among the Promise Keepers." *Sociology of Religion* 61(1):33-53.

(9) Wednesday, March 7: Religion and Women: Feminism and Femininity

Gallagher, Sally K. 2004. "The Marginalization of Evangelical Feminism." *Sociology of Religion* 65(3):215-237.

Yadgar, Yaacov. 2006. "Gender, Religion, and Feminism: The Case of Jewish Israeli Traditionalists." *Journal of the Scientific Study of Religion* 45(30):353-370.

Ecklund, Elaine Howard. 2003. "Catholic Women Negotiate Feminism: A Research Note." *Sociology of Religion* 64(4):515-524.

Dufour, Lynn Resnick. 2000. "Sifting Through Tradition: The Creation of Jewish Feminist Identities." *Journal of the Scientific Study of Religion* 39(1): 90-106.

Beaman, Lori G. 2001. "Molly Mormons, Mormon Feminists and Moderates: Religious Diversity and the Latter Day Saints Church." *Sociology of Religion* 62(1):65-86.

Ozorak, Elizabeth Weiss. 1996. "The Power, but Not the Glory: How Women Empower Themselves Through Religion." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 35(1):17-29.

(10) Wednesday, March 21: Women Clergy

Albee, Robin. 2000. "A Clergywoman of the New Generation: Evolving Interpretations of Gender and Faith." *Sociology of Religion* 61(4):461-466.

Charlton, Joy. 1997. "Clergywomen of the Pioneer Generation: A Longitudinal Study." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 36(4):599-613.

Charlton, Joy. 2000. "Women and Clergy Women." *Sociology of Religion* 61(4):419-424.

Chaves, Mark. 1996. "Ordaining Women: The Diffusion of an Organizational Innovation." *The American Journal of Sociology* 101(4):840-873.

Chaves, Mark. 1997. "The Symbolic Significance of Women's Ordination." *The Journal of Religion* 77(1):87-114.

(11) Wednesday, March 28: Gender and congregational life

Fobes, Catherine. 2001. "Searching for a Priest... or a Man? Using Gender as a Cultural Resource in an Episcopal Campus Chapel." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 40(1): 87-98.

Zuckerman, Phil. 1997. "Gender Regulation as a Source of Religious Schism." *Sociology of Religion* 58(4):353-373.

Manning, Christel J. 1997. "Women in a Divided Church: Liberal and Conservative Catholic Women Negotiate Changing Gender Roles." *Sociology of Religion* 58(4):375-390.

Manville, Julie. 1997. "The Gendered Organization of an Australian Anglican Parish." *Sociology of Religion* 58(1):25-38.

Lee, Shayne. 2004. "The Structure of a Spiritual Revolution: Black Baptists and Women in Ministry." *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography* 33(2):154-177.

Wednesday, April 6: No class (MSS)

(12) Wednesday, April 11: Gendered God(ess)

Bloch, Jon P. 1997. "Countercultural Spiritualists' Perceptions of the Goddess." *Sociology of Religion* 58(2):181-190.

Griffin, Wendy. 1995. "The Embodied Goddess: Feminist Witchcraft and Female Divinity." *Sociology of Religion* 56(1):35-48.

Heeren, John, Donald B. Lindsey, and Marylee Mason. 1984. "The Mormon Concept of Mother in Heaven: A Sociological Account of Its Origins and Development." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 23(4):396-411.

Bierman, Alex. 2005. "The Effects of Childhood Maltreatment on Adult Religiosity and Spirituality: Rejecting God the Father Because of Abusive Fathers?" *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 44(3):349-359.

Foster, Rachel Ann, and John P. Keating. 1992. "Measuring Androcentrism in the Western God-Concept." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 31(3):366-375.

Pevey, Carolyn, Christine L. Williams, and Christopher G. Ellison. 1996. "Male God Imagery and Female Submission: Lessons from a Southern Baptist Ladies Class." *Qualitative Sociology* 19:173-93.

(13) Wednesday, April 18: Student Presentations

(14) Wednesday, April 25: Student Presentations