

Christian Marriage and Family
Spring Semester 2011
Dr. Buzz Inboden

Relationships are everything and they last forever . . . they start with God. God, in the persons of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit is relationship! God also created us for relationship with him and with each other.

In this class we will study relationships. We will consider what makes them good and what makes them go sour. We will study a Biblical view of the family, and take a close look at some of things that students elsewhere are learning about what family means. We will lovingly think through some of those issues, and base our analysis of family on the Word of God. Our culture has a very different and diverse view of what the family is all about. We will try to understand the “whats” and the “whys” of this diversity of opinion, and seek to understand it using categories provided by the word of God. Discussion will open, frank, and lively.

Here is a brief overview of some of what you will be doing:

1. Keep current with the reading assignments. Along with other collateral reading, we will do a unit based on the book Sacred Marriage by Gary Thomas. A copy of this book will be made available for you to borrow during the course. Quizzes will be given over the reading assignments from time to time, just to keep you honest☺.
2. One page Response Papers will be assigned from time to time. A Response Paper is your “response” to something that we have recently discussed in class. It is not a research paper. It is your reasoned, intelligent response to a topic covered in the class that pushes you and me to think about the topic more deeply and personally.
3. You will select a song about romance, love, relationships etc. You will write a one page analysis of the song and its message and the values that it is promoting.
4. You will watch a movie from a list that will be provided, that deals primarily with romance, marriage, family, alternative lifestyles, or child-parent relationships. Selecting and watching the film can be group project if you wish. Each person will write a two page review of the film and discuss the message that it is sending and the values it is promoting. Based on your analysis, we will select a “Most Positive” and “Most Dangerous” film.
5. There will be a final project due for the course. You may either have a “flour baby” or make a scrapbook about “Relationships from A-Z,” or you may write a five page research paper about an issue related to marriage and/or the family, or you may read an additional book of your choosing about the family or some issue related to it. It may be either a Christian or secular book, and

you will give an oral presentation to the class, citing specific passages from the book as well as writing a two-three page review.

All assignments and other relevant information about the class may be found on my website, www.drbuzz.org. Click on "Marriage and Family Class" on the left hand side of the opening page. Daily homework will always be posted on Renweb.

I'm looking forward to a great class!

Grading will based on the following:

Quizzes and Tests 40%

Homework 40%

Contributing to an Intellectual Atmosphere 20% (We will have a lot of fun in class, but in order to enjoy any class, students must be self-regulated. How you regulate yourself including, but not limited to, promptness, compliance with dress code, being quiet and speaking at appropriate times all, having the right materials in class at the right time, giving full attention to class and not doing other homework all figure into this 20% of your grade.)

Please have you parents look over this, and have them sign it. Bring it back for 5 easy points.

Contact Information:

Class room phone: 614-410-4286 (answered by reliable voicemail)

Home phone: 740-879-3776 Call after 10:00 and you fail the course!

Email: binboden@worthingtonchristian.com

Webpage: www.drbuzz.org

We have read and understand the above:

Student's name (printed) _____

Student's signature _____

Parent's signature _____