

**Murray State University**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**

Revised Fall 2009

**DEPARTMENT: ACS      COURSE NUMBER: FCS 511      CREDIT HOURS: 3**

**I. TITLE:** Readings in Family & Consumer Sciences Topics

**II. COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Directed readings of individualized professional family and consumer science topics. Critique of readings and presentation.

**III. PURPOSE:** To encourage additional reading, study and critical reflection of professional writings in family & consumer sciences. To provide opportunity for graduates to increase their knowledge in specialized topics related to family & consumer sciences. To enable learners to participate in professional update with colleagues in family & consumer sciences.

**IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Class activities will be centered on the attainment of the course objectives listed below. These objectives are understood to be reflective of, but not limited to those behaviors advocated by the Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA) guidelines. Following each objective, and enclosed in parentheses, are numbers that reference the Kentucky Teacher Standards for Preparation and Certification (KTS).

Upon successful completion of this class, students will be able to:\*

- A. Read and reflect on professional journal articles. (KTS #1, 7)
- B. Develop an annotated bibliography of journal articles. (KTS #1)
- C. Explore various sources, including internet sites to locate articles. (KTS #1)
- D. Develop plans for utilizing information gained from articles in own classrooms and/or work settings. (KTS #1, 9)
- E. Participate in exchange of ideas and reflective readings. (KTS #1, 7)

The COE Theme of Educator as Reflective Decision-Maker is addressed in this course by requiring students to reflect on readings completed by class members and those they read in professional journals.

The EPSB Themes of Diversity and Literacy are explored in the course through various readings, reflections, and discussion boards.

**V. COURSE OUTLINE:**

- A. Critical Thinking skills
- B. Writing reflective summaries
- C. Designing Instructional Activities for Individuals and Groups
- D. Individualizing Instruction
- E. Integrating Academic Skills

**VI. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:\***

- A. Individual readings

- B. Discussion groups
- C. Professional Networking
- D. Peer reviews

**VII. FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES:** none

**VIII. RESOURCES:**

- A. Professional Publications
- B. Computer Programs/ Internet sites
- C. Library Materials

**IX. GRADING PROCEDURES:**

- A. Complete reading assignments as assigned. (approx 1 per week)
- B. Grade will be based on:
  - 1. Completion of twelve (12) readings on a specialized topic during semester.
  - 2. Preparation of annotated bibliography of readings completed.
  - 3. Preparation of final reflective paper, relating readings to current employment position or employment needs.

**X. ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Because this is an independent study class, there is no attendance policy; however, students are responsible for reading and completing summaries in a timely manner.

**XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

This course adheres to the academic honesty policy stated in the current MSU *Undergraduate and Graduate Bulletins*. Dishonesty will result in an "E" for the course. Any plagiarism will result in a grade of zero and could result in failure of the course.

**XII. TEXT AND REFERENCES:**

- A. Selected Professional Publications including: American Career and Technical Association Journal, Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences, Journal of Nutrition Education, Journal of Marriage and Family, Journal of Family Issues, Journal of American Dietetics Association, and other related professional journals.
- B. Related internet sites. Internet sites are acceptable if they are reliable and research based. Select from sites that end in .org, .edu, or .gov rather than those which are .com when you are searching.

**XIII. PREREQUISITES:** none

**XIV. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT:**

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or other provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and

activities. For more information, contact Director of Equal Opportunity, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318. Telephone: 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).

\* Objectives, course activities and assignments may be altered for independent study format course based on the needs of the student in consultation with instructor.