A. Reading course in Sociology of family and personal relationships (PhD level)

A third level (PhD) “reading course” does not involve any teaching and typically only has one or a few participants taking part in the course. A reading course for 7.5 credits should cover an ambitious and demanding reading material, which exact page number can vary depending on then nature of texts (i.e., heavy dominance of research articles). The Department of Sociology offer reading courses to its PhD students on areas that cover either a specific topic of high relevance for the PhD thesis, or a specific area of research expertise in the Department. This course belongs to the latter category.

This course has been reviewed by the Director of graduate studies on 2019-10-08.

B. Course Details, Assessment, Grades

This course is offered by Sara Eldén upon demand as a reading course on the readings listed under D, below. There is no teaching. The course is examined on the basis of written papers (in English or Swedish) of 10-15 pages and/or an oral examination.

The grades for the course are awarded as Pass or Fail. To receive a Pass, the student must fulfill the learning outcomes specified for the course and demonstrate an independent, reflective, well-informed and critical relationship to the issues presented in the course.

C. Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course the student should be able to:
1) Summarize the main outlines of the research field covered in the reading material
2) Critically examine contributions to the relevant research field
3) Apply some of the ideas in the literature to a research problem

D. Course content

The aim of this course is to provide advanced knowledge of sociological theorizing on family and personal relationships. The purposes of the course is to develop students’ knowledge and understanding of theoretical developments in classical and contemporary sociological theories, central concepts, and research on family, relationships, intimacy and personal life.

The literature covers both recent theoretical debates in the field, e.g., regarding the concepts of family practices, intimacy, and personal life. Thereto, thematic readings are offered on same sex intimacy, friendship, transnational families, motherhood/fatherhood/parenting, kinship and care.

In addition to the mandatory readings, the student chooses relevant literature corresponding with one’s interest, either chosen from the elective reading list provided below, or other suggested readings.

E. Admission Requirements
Applicants must be admitted to the Ph.D. program at the Department of Sociology, Lund University, or be accepted as a visiting student to that program.

F. Course Literature

Literature (required marked with a star*):

Main course books:


Thematic:

On concepts


**Same sex intimacy**


Andreassen., R (2017) “New kinship, new family formations and negotiations of intimacy via social media sites.” *Journal of Gender Studies*, Épub

**Friendship**

**Transnational families**


**Motherhood, fatherhood, parenting**


**Kinship**


**Care**


