**Family Studies**

**Marriage Interview Project**

**Project Due:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Requirements: Complete four marriage interviews and compile your findings in a response paper. The interview questions are included.

* Each interview must be completed on one of the questionnaire forms and must have a signature of the couple that was interviewed.
* All questions must be answered.
* Your response paper must be **2 typed pages in MLA format (1”margins, double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman).** Refer to handout given in class.

Things to Include in your Response Paper:

1. What attitudes do these couples have in common?
2. On what do their attitudes differ?
3. What conclusions can you draw about creating a successful marriage, based upon what these couples said and your own ideas?
4. Do the results from the interviews make you feel or think differently about marriage?
5. In your opinion, what does it take for a marriage to be successful?

Acceptable couples to interview: parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts/uncles, friends, teachers, coaches, and/or anyone in your life you feel comfortable interviewing. DO NOT interview strangers and people you do not know well.

**Rubric for Project**

**Grade**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **On Time**  10 points |  | 10 points- Turned in on time | 5 points- One day late | 3 points – Two days late | 0 – More than 2 days late |
| **Complete Interview**  20 points |  | 20 points – 4 complete interviews | 15 points – 3 complete interviews | 10 points – 2 complete interviews | 5 points – 0-1 interviews |
| **Response Paper**  40 points |  | 40 points – meets length req., no errors in grammar, spelling or structure (MLA) | 35 points – 1-5 errors in paper | 30 points – 6-10 errors in paper | 20 points – 11 or more errors in paper |
| **Typed**  10 points |  | 10 points – typed response paper | \_\_ | \_\_ | 0 – not typed |
| **Response Questions**  10 points |  | 10 points – answered all questions appropriately and gave answers some thought | 5 points – did not answer all questions | \_\_ | 0 – did not answer response question in paper |
| **Overall Effect**  10 points |  | 10 points – project neat, organized, complete | 7 points – project somewhat organized/ neat | 5 points – complete, but not organized / neat | 0 – project not complete |
| **TOTAL GRADE** |  |  |  |  |  |

**Couple Questionnaire**

Couple's Names: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date of the Interview: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Length of marriage: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How do you know the couple: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Couples Responses:

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Couple’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Marriage Interview Requirements and Questions**

One of the best ways to find out about marriage is to talk with people who are married. Select four couples, each at a different stage in marriage:

1. Newly Married, no children

2. Early Childhood Stage (has small children)

3. Late Childhood Stage (youngest children are middle school or high school age)

4. Empty Nest or Retired Couple

Try to select couples with whom you feel comfortable and who will answer your questions openly and honestly. Ask the following questions:

1. How old were they when they got married?
2. Do they think that was a good age to get married? Why or why not?
3. What is the happiest memory they have relating to their marriage?
4. What qualities do they think are most important for happy marriages?
5. What advice would they give to someone who wasn’t certain whether to marry a particular person?
6. What is the most important quality for a mate to posses?
7. Has their marriage changed over time? If so, how?
8. Is their marriage what they expected it to be?
9. Have the experienced any crisis in their marriage (illness, loss of work, etc.)? Did it draw them closer together? What was their initial reaction to the crisis?
10. What is the most important thing they have done in their marriage to keep it strong/fulfilling/happy?
11. What idea(s) have they disagreed on and how did they resolve it?