

# PSYCHOLOGY OF THE FAMILY



## Course Description:

A presentation of theories of how family interaction and patterns of response influence personality and behavior. An exploration of the characteristics of healthy and unhealthy families and the types of individuals they produce. A review of family therapy techniques as a means of treating the “identified patient”. Prerequisite: Psyc 101, Jr or Sr. status.

## Course Objectives:

- Gain an awareness of the historical and contemporary perspective of families.
- Explore one’s family history and develop a working Genogram
- Recognize various family dynamics and demonstrate an understanding of the influence on the individual.
- Understand various family model theories and therapies.



**Tricia Kiefer**  
**tkiefer@westfield.ma.edu**