Instructor's email: cgb28@cornell.edu
Class meets from 11:50 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Requirements: Attendance and class participation: 20%
Final Exam: 80%

Class #1: Tuesday, July 17: History and structure of the family:

Reading:

Class #2: Wednesday, July 18: Entry into marriage: Procedural requirements; consent

Reading:
• Excerpts from Ann Laquer Estin and Barbara Stark, Global Issues in Family Law (2007), pp. 18-30, 34-38

Class #3: Thursday, July 19: Grounds for divorce

Reading:
• Excerpts from Blair et al., Family Law in the World Community (2d ed. 2009), pp. 170-89

Class #4: Friday, July 20: Child custody/support: What factors should be considered in assigning custody of children upon divorce or in nonmarital families? Who should support them? -- Guest lecturer: Michelle Cottier, University of Basel Faculty of Law, Basel, Switzerland

Reading:
• Excerpt from Kirsti Kurki-Suonio, Joint Custody as an Interpretation of the Best Interests of the Child in Critical and Comparative Perspective, 14 International Journal of Law, Policy and the Family 185-193 (2000)
• Excerpt from Blair et al., Family Law in the World Community (2d ed. 2009), pp. 600-607

Class #5: Monday, July 23: Spousal support/maintenance; property: Who should be responsible for the future income of a spouse if a marriage ends in divorce, and why? Who owns the property of a married couple and what should happen to it upon divorce?
Reading:


Class #6: Tuesday, July 24: **Monogamy versus polygamy**

Reading:

- Excerpt from State v. Holm, 137 P.3d 726 (Utah 2006)

Class #7: Wednesday, July 25: **Cohabitation**: How should informal family structures be treated by the law? -- Guest lecturer: Anne Barlow, Faculty of Law, University of Exeter, Exeter, U.K.

Reading:


Class #8: Thursday, July 26: **Opposite-sex versus same-sex marriage**

Reading:

- Susan B. Boyd and Claire F.L. Young, "*From Same-Sex to No-Sex*": Trends Towards Recognition of (Same-Sex) Relationships in Canada, 1 Seattle J. Social Justice 757, 760-72 (2003)

Class #9: Friday, July 27: **Plural legal systems/cultural pluralism**: What constitutional issues are raised? What conflicts with the human rights of women and children?

Reading: