

Special Issue on **Innovative Strategies for Teaching Family Theories**

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Introduction

This, and the next, issue of Family Science Review are dedicated to innovative strategies for teaching family theory. While students often consider theory dry, boring, and mundane, faculty educators realize that a solid grasp of family theory is critically foundational for family science scholars, practitioners, and educators. Theory provides the lenses through which we see relationships, families and the world. Theory shapes the questions we ask, the research we conduct, our interpretations of research findings, the programs we develop, the services we offer, and the family life education we provide.

In this collection, family science educators and scholars share a variety of approaches to teaching family theories. While some share evaluative data on the effectiveness of their experiential activities or assignments, others simply describe their strategy in detail so that it can be replicated in the classroom of others. Both offer great contributions as we try to identify and incorporate those practices which will help students to adopt and apply the many theories employed by family professionals.