

SOCIOLOGY

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Programs Offered

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

Minor in Sociology

Sociological research attempts to improve the human condition within the context of a strong tradition of social justice and human equality. Society shapes attitudes, goals, hopes and aspirations, and personal preferences. Society affects individuals, groups, and entire nations. Yet at the same time that society is shaping the individual, the individual is shaping society. In order to understand oneself and others, the world, and the future, one has to understand society. Sociology is the discipline that studies groups and societies—what they are, how they got that way, and what impact they have.

Sociology is a field with diverse areas of study. These range from the behavior of the individual as a social actor to the structure of entire societies. Key topics include social psychology, socialization, deviant behavior, group behavior, organizations and institutions, power, inequality, and social change. Major social institutions, including the family, education, religion, social welfare, medicine, work, politics, leisure, and the media, are also explored in detail. To develop skills for studying society, students are introduced to valuable techniques such as survey research, sampling, observational methods, content analysis, experimentation, interviewing, and computer applications in research.

Because sociology is a core subject for any liberal arts education, the department offers a variety of courses of interest to non-majors.

These concern such current social issues as the problems of aging, drugs and society, social inequities, media, education, globalization, and the information revolution.

The major has been designed to allow each student, in consultation with an advisor, to develop an individualized program of study. The required courses ensure a solid grounding in sociological concepts, theories, and research methods.

By the time students graduate, they will:

- Create clear, succinct analysis in writing and speaking;
- Understand the structure and logic of the full range of the discipline;
- Formulate critical and analytic questions about society and be able to investigate them through original research;
- Demonstrate competence in handling databases and in using appropriate technical tools; and
- Apply theory and methods in sustained independent inquiry.

Careers in Sociology

Sociology provides an excellent preparation for a wide range of careers. A bachelor's degree in sociology qualifies one for opportunities in national, state, and local government, including research, public administration, personnel, and planning. The major can lead to positions in human services and social advocacy, including alcohol and drug rehabilitation, health agency administration, counseling, recreation, senior services, social welfare, vocational, and rehabilitation counseling. Applications of sociology in business include organizational management, human relations, union organization, industrial relations, communication consulting, public relations, and marketing. Sociology constitutes valuable coursework in preparation for graduate study in law, business, and a variety of human services professions, as well as doctoral programs in sociology and related academic fields. Before graduation, sociology majors can establish internships that lead to valuable professional contacts and provide practical experience in pursuing these and additional career paths.

The department has a chapter of the national sociology honor society Alpha Kappa Delta, and it awards a C. Wright Mills Award for Sociological Imagination on an annual basis for the best original research paper produced by a student in the department.

Every year the Joseph J. Byrne Memorial Scholarship is awarded to an outstanding student majoring in sociology.

The department also awards the Robert Holzapfel Scholarship to a student majoring in sociology or counseling.

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

Degree Requirements

General education

Sociology courses

Units

51

40

General electives	29
Total units needed for graduation	120

Major Requirements

This requirement list and advising guide is designed for students entering the sociology major beginning in fall 2010. Students who entered the major in earlier semesters may follow the requirements listed in this worksheet or they may complete their requirements using the earlier advising guide.

SOCI 201 Introduction to Sociology	3
SOCI 300 Sociological Research Methods	4
SOCI 375 Classical Sociological Theory	4
Methods Seminar (see below)	4
SOCI 498 Senior Seminar	4
Total units	19

A student must take SOCI 201 before proceeding to any other required sociology course and take SOCI 300 before taking a methods seminar. SOCI 300, a methods seminar, SOCI 375, and a total of 20 upper-division units of sociology are required before a student will be allowed to enroll in SOCI 498. (Note: SOCI 300, the methods seminar, and SOCI 375 are included as part of the 20 upper-division sociology units.)

Students must earn a minimum grade in each of the five required courses. See a faculty advisor in the department for details on these minimum grade requirements.

Methods Seminar

The Methods Seminar furthers students' methodological skills in a wide choice of substantive areas. Students must take one of the following seminars or another course designated as a methods seminar.

SOCI 414 Methods Seminar: Social Interaction
SOCI 418 Methods Seminar: Social Development of Self
SOCI 425 Methods Seminar: Urban Sociology
SOCI 441 Methods Seminar: U.S. by the Numbers
SOCI 443 Methods Seminar: Women and Social Policy
SOCI 452 Methods Seminar: Health Care and Illness
SOCI 463 Methods Seminar: Bureaucracies and Institutions
SOCI 470 Methods Seminar: Culture and Identity
SOCI 480 Methods Seminar: Sociology of Work
SOCI 484 Methods Seminar: Sociology of Genocide

Sociological Experience Requirement

The sociological experience requirement provides students with curricular opportunities to develop awareness of social issues, use sociological perspectives and methods to address social problems, engage with the community outside of the university, develop experiences that provide job skills, and enhance their knowledge about careers. Majors must take one of the following courses or another course designated as meeting the sociological experience requirement.

SOCI 306 Careers in Sociology
SOCI 336 Investigative Sociology
SOCI 432 Group Work with Other Adults
SOCI 482 Sociology of the Environment
SOCI 488 Selected Topics in Service Learning
SOCI 496 Internship Practicum (concurrent with SOCI 499)

Additional Major Requirements

Substantive areas courses	6-12
Upper-division sociology electives (chosen in consultation with a department advisor)	9-15
Total Units in the Major	40

Substantive Areas of Sociology

Majors must take a minimum of one upper-division course in three of the five substantive areas below. Additional area courses may be offered in a given semester. Consult with an advisor.

Microsociology

This area assumes human agency and social action as fundamental to social life and takes into account both thinking and feeling in defining situations and in constructing actions. Microsociology focuses on reciprocal relationships between self and society with emphasis on:

- The social shaping of self, identity, and role;
- The interaction between self and others; and
- The development, maintenance, and change of subjective and social meanings. Applying microsociological approaches to status variables such as gender and age reveals how they are constructed, given meaning, and played out in individual lives.

SOCI 314 Deviant Behavior (cross-listed with CCJS)
SOCI 315 Socialization
SOCI 317 Emotions and Adult Life (cross-listed with GERN)
SOCI 319 Aging and Society (cross-listed with GERN)
SOCI 326 Social Psychology (cross-listed with PSYCH)
SOCI 350 City and Community Life
SOCI 414 Methods Seminar: Social Interaction
SOCI 417 Sociology of Mental Illness
SOCI 418 Methods Seminar: Social Development of the Self

Organizations, Occupations, and Work

This area addresses both organizational dynamics and their relation to broader societal processes. These include organizational cultures, structures, processes, and outcomes. Knowledge of these matters is relevant to students interested in human services, business, non-profit agencies, education, and criminal justice administration.

SOCI 306 Careers in Sociology
SOCI 365 Human Services Administration
SOCI 366 Juvenile Justice (cross-listed with CCJS)

- SOCI 432 Group Work with Older Adults (cross-listed with GERN and PSYCH)
- SOCI 450 Punishments and Corrections (cross-listed with CCJS)
- SOCI 451 Sociology of Education
- SOCI 461 Social Work and Social Welfare
- SOCI 463 Methods Seminar: Bureaucracies and Institutions
- SOCI 480 Methods Seminar: Sociology of Work
- SOCI 485 Organizations and Everyday Life
- SOCI 496 Internship Practicum (concurrent with SOCI 499)

Macrosociology

Courses in this area investigate large social structures, institutions, networks, and processes that define and shape individual and organizational behavior, and that contribute to social and public policy. This area provides a conceptual overview of diverse social institutions. Macrosociology gives the student new insight into American society and its problems and possibilities from both the personal and professional perspectives.

- SOCI 301 Statistics for Sociologists
- SOCI 335 American Society
- SOCI 340 Drugs and Society (cross-listed with CCJS)
- SOCI 345 Sociology of Families
- SOCI 347 American Class Structure
- SOCI 363 Sociology of Race and Ethnicity
- SOCI 377 Contemporary Sociological Theory
- SOCI 383 Social Change
- SOCI 384 Sociology of Consumption
- SOCI 425 Methods Seminar: Urban Sociology
- SOCI 440 Sociology of Reproduction (cross-listed with WGS)
- SOCI 441 Methods Seminar: U.S. by the Numbers
- SOCI 443 Methods Seminar: Women and Social Policy
- SOCI 445 Sociology of Childhood and Adolescence
- SOCI 452 Methods Seminar: Health Care and Illness
- SOCI 488 Selected Topics in Service Learning

Culture

Courses in the sociology of culture introduce students to central social forms that generate, transmit, and/or critique values, ideas, ideologies, lifestyles, and popular culture. Topics include the ways in which culture can act as a socializing agent reaffirming the existing social order or providing impetus to change, helping integrate societies or contributing to dissension. Students considering careers in the media, education, human services, and recreation are among those who will find these classes of special value.

- SOCI 312 Sociology of Gender
- SOCI 330 Sociology of Media
- SOCI 331 Mass Communications Theory and Research (cross-listed with COMS)
- SOCI 332 Death and American Culture
- SOCI 336 Investigative Sociology
- SOCI 360 Sociology of Sexualities
- SOCI 385 Sociology of Culture
- SOCI 430 Sociology of Leisure
- SOCI 431 Sociology of Religion
- SOCI 434 Cinema and Society

- SOCI 435 Media Censorship
- SOCI 470 Methods Seminar: Culture and Identity

Transnational Sociology

Transnational sociology provides a comparative perspective on societies throughout the world. Economic, political, and social institutions and dynamics are examined and compared. Among specific topics are comparative ideologies, roles, world elites, and local communities. Courses in transnational sociology explore these consequences and their long-term implications. Students interested in a historical and comparative examination of international issues would be well served to take courses in this area.

- SOCI 305 Perspectives on the Holocaust and Genocide
- SOCI 380 Political Sociology
- SOCI 381 Population and Society
- SOCI 382 Social Movements and Collective Behavior
- SOCI 449 Sociology of Power
- SOCI 482 Sociology of the Environment
- SOCI 484 Methods Seminar: Sociology of Genocide

Sample Four-Year Program for Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

The following is a sample study plan only. The sequence and specific courses given are suggestive; please see an advisor each semester to plan your personal program.

FRESHMAN YEAR:: 31 Units	
<i>Fall Semester (16 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
ENGL 101 (3)	PHIL 101 (3)
GE Mathematics (3)	GE Physical Science (3)
GE BIOL 115 (3)	GE World History (3)
UNIV 102 First Year Experience (3)	SOCI 201 (3)
Electives (4)	CIS 101 (3)
SOPHOMORE YEAR:: 30 Units	
<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
HUM 200 (3)	GE Social Sciences (6)
GE History/Political Science (6)	History of the Fine Arts (3)
GE Comparative Perspectives & Foreign Languages (3)	GE World Literature (3)
Electives (3)	Electives (3)
JUNIOR YEAR:: 30 Units	
<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
SOCI 300 (4)	SOCI 375 (4)
Sociology Organizations Area (4)	Sociology Microsociology Area (4)
Sociology UD Electives (4)	UD GE Integrated Person (3)
UD GE Philosophy and Values (3)	Electives (4)

SENIOR YEAR:: 29 Units***Fall Semester (16 Units)***

Sociology Methods Seminar (4)

Sociology Transnational Area (4)

UD GE Contemporary International Perspectives (3)

Electives (5)

Spring Semester (13 Units)

SOCI 498 (4)

SOCI 499 (4)

Electives (5)

TOTAL UNITS:: 120**Minor in Sociology**

SOCI 201 Introduction to Sociology

3

Upper-division courses in sociology chosen in consultation with an advisor

17

Total units in the minor**20**