Sociology (SOC)

Courses numbered 100 to 299 = lower-division; 300 to 499 = upper-division; 500 to 799 = undergraduate/graduate.

SOC 111. Introduction to Sociology 3 credit hours
General education introductory course. Introduces basic concepts, propositions and theoretical approaches of sociology, including elementary methods of studying social phenomena. The basic course for students who intend to take additional courses in sociology.

SOC 306. Introduction to Gender Studies 3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Cross-listed as WOMS 306. Serves as an introduction to the sociology of gender. Explores how gender is socially constructed through culture, everyday interactions, the media, and institutions such as the family, education, and work. Considers the consequences of gender for relationships, sexuality, economic opportunity, and well-being, with a goal of connecting theory and research on gender to personal experiences. Examines how gender intersects with other forms of social inequality, including race, social class, and sexual orientation. Course includes diversity content.

SOC 307. Romantic Relations in a Changing Society 3 credit hours
Romantic relationships are studied from the perspective that rapid changes in society can and do affect what we experience as romance. Technology, aging, urbanization, the Internet, the emancipation of women, cohabitation, divorce and later marriage are social variables that impact romantic relations. Examines such subjects with an eye to contemporary research on the topics.

SOC 308. Relationship Problems 3 credit hours
Looks at different relationship types and the common problems found in such relationships. Course has practical information about how to avoid the pitfalls of close relationships. Students are exposed to romantic relations, friendships, family and co-worker relationship types and look at how these relationships are affected by such variables as gender, power, conflict, communication and boundary problems.

SOC 312. Introduction to Social Research 3 credit hours
Provides students with a general understanding of the core concepts and techniques used in designing and executing a social research project. Special emphasis is given to the major data collection techniques commonly used by sociologists. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

SOC 315. Marriage & Families 3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Aids students in the acquisition of a sociological perspective of relationship processes as they exist in the United States today. Explores dating relationships, mate selection, the transition to parenthood, marital and family interaction, communication and other issues relating to families over the life course. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

SOC 316. Men and Masculinities 3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Cross-listed as WOMS 316. Presents the sociological perspective on contemporary masculinities. Students are exposed to developmental changes in masculinity across the life course, and such topics as: masculine socialization, race/ethnicity variations, work, relationships, sexualities, media, family and the men's movement. Course includes diversity content.

SOC 320. Contemporary Social Problems 3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Examines the theoretical and methodological frameworks used to analyze contemporary social problems. Emphasis is placed on examining the complex interrelationship among specific social problems and on development of critical-thinking skills necessary to analyze political and social policy debates. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

SOC 322. Deviant Behavior 3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. The structure, dynamics and etiology of those behavior systems that are integrated around systematic violations of the control norms. Presents and evaluates competing theories within the context of the assumption that humans are a social product. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

SOC 325. Parenting 3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Examines the role of parenting in American society from a number of different perspectives. Focuses on the major developmental changes facing couples as they move through the family life cycle. Covers the decision to have children, remaining childless, the transition into parenthood, parent-infant relationships, parents and school-age children, and the transition from active parenthood. Also includes single parents, divorce, step-parenting and dual-career parents. Discusses different parenting techniques and styles as well.

SOC 326. Sociology of Race & Ethnicity 3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Examines the overlapping concepts of culture, race and ethnicity from a sociological perspective in order to foster an understanding of race as both a category of social organization and social stratification among ethnic groups that make up American culture today. Course unpacks the intersecting contexts in which race relations are socially constructed and regulated at the micro and macro levels. Controversial topics, such as affirmative action, as well as theories of discrimination, and resistance strategies are discussed and analyzed. Course includes diversity content. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

SOC 330. Social Inequality 3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. An analysis of class, status and inequality in various societies especially in the United States. Also includes the relationship of social inequality to various social institutions. Course includes diversity content. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

SOC 336. Work In Modern Society 3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Broad overview of work in the modern economy. Examines the historical development of industrial-based capitalism, both the organizational-level changes and relations between management and labor. Also examines from a sociological perspective industrial and occupational level data focusing on changes in work environments, occupational and industrial opportunities, demographics of work occupants, and changes in compensation and work status.

SOC 337. Young Women's Health 3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Examines topics in young women's health in the United States. Explores the intersections of physical, emotional, social, economic, intellectual and spiritual health. Based on a developmental approach, it traces the underpinnings of health from childhood to adolescence and young adulthood. Students leave this class with the knowledge to enhance their own health and well-being. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

SOC 338. Health & Lifestyle 3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Examines the component dimensions of health and the societal-level factors and lifestyle choices that influence health across the life span. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

SOC 346. Sociology of Globalization 3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Critically examines the global integration of markets, or "globalization". Identifies and explores social processes and relations surrounding...
rapidly growing international flows of people, goods, services, information and assets. Identifies and explores social issues relating to political, cultural and economic causes and effects of globalization. Topics include trade agreements such as NAFTA, international institutions such as the International Monetary Foundation and the World Bank, the global restructuring of workplaces and jobs, the globalization of American culture, effects of globalization on the natural environment, and the various types of responses to globalization by individuals, interest groups and governments. Course includes diversity content. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

SOC 350. Social Interaction  3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Studies the effect groups have on individuals. Primary focus on the symbolic interactionist perspective in sociology. The goal is for students to understand how social interaction influences their daily activities. Includes the meaning and importance of the symbol, the nature and development of self, social roles and their influence on individuals, and the social construction of society. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

SOC 399AA. Social Madness (The Good, the Bad & the Ugly)  3 credit hours
Provides an overview of the social dynamics and phenomena of the internet and the social world. Provides students with an understanding of the cultural and social principles of a virtual world from the perspective of social sciences and with a focus upon the relationship between social networks and society. Examines the ways in which society is changing due to the introduction and widespread use of virtual communication. Explores the social changes due to the internet, including new social networks and their impact on social lives including cyber-bullying/stalking, online gaming, online dating/romance, cyber-warfare, virtual crime and the social dynamics of various virtual worlds.

SOC 399AB. Visual Sociology  3 credit hours
Explores the ever growing visual nature of the student’s world and the means in which the visual can represent both an avenue of investigation and a means of applying and displaying sociological concepts. Attention is given to understanding the production and consumption of a variety of modes of visual content (such as film, video, photography, comic books, memes and other emerging visual texts), as students learn common methods of conducting visual sociological study in order to analyze potential social meanings.

SOC 399Q. Sociology of Violence  3 credit hours
Designed to explore the question, what is violence? At first pass, this question may seem straightforward, but it is complex and requires a sociological imagination to see the interpersonal, institutional and structural factors at play in any violent situation or event. Moreover, the very nature of what it means to be violent is open to debate. Class is designed to help students engage in essential debates and develop an informed point of view on violence, its causes, and its solutions. Violence is studied as a social phenomenon. Students explore general descriptions and explanations of violent crime, specific causal explanations for violence such as alcohol, drug use, or gun availability, and possible methods to reduce lethal and nonlethal violence. While many forms of personal violence are examined, special emphasis is given to sexual and family violence, gang violence, and terrorism.

SOC 399R. LOVE  3 credit hours
Examines some of the cultural, structural and theoretical perspectives of love and relationships. Looks at a subject taken for granted, but not understood — that love is both a physiological state and a socially constructed experience. Course is designed to explore how intimate moments are socially shaped and to help the student navigate the structural and cultural factors that have made being in love, and relationships and love a fundamental part of life.

SOC 399V. Social Inequalities in Health  3 credit hours
Explores the various social determinants and forces that structure health.

SOC 399W. Sports Violence and Deviance  3 credit hours
Sport, as a cultural institution, has many far-reaching effects on many demographic groups. With the high-profile nature of modern sport, increased amounts of media attention have highlighted not only individual acts of sport deviance or violence, but also the role of groups, organizations, and communities. Class exposes students to various explanations for sport deviance and violence in hopes of arming them with the conceptual tools necessary for not only understanding or responding to incidents of sport deviance, but also identifying mechanisms to decrease of eliminate sport deviance. An emphasis on explanations of sport deviance or violence via theoretical description helps students develop complicated answers regarding complicated questions of how sport deviance occurs.

SOC 399X. Media & Society  3 credit hours
Survey course is designed to increase student awareness and general understanding of the relationship between mass media and society. By exploring the history of the development of media industry from a sociological perspective, students are encouraged to examine their own reflexivity (personal world view) within the influence of a society that is immersed “from cradle to grave” in media. As students examine the social, legal, ethical and political implications of the relationship between mass media and society through readings, lectures, films, group discussions and activities, they expand their knowledge and achieve measurable outcomes. Course is designed to be applicable to real world issues and should serve as a general survey course of interest for students in a variety of fields: sociology, communication, psychology, women’s studies, anthropology, social work, education, business and administration, criminal justice and many more.

SOC 399Y. Social Perspectives on Intimate Partner Violence  3 credit hours
Examines the social ecology of intimate partner violence including interpersonal, structural, and cultural perspectives. Focuses on the dynamics of violence (verbal, physical, sexual) within romantic relationships. Historical views, policy directions, health outcomes, gender dynamics, and prevention initiatives are explored through a combination of lecture, films, personal reflection and applied learning activities.

SOC 399Z. Sociology of Sexualities  3 credit hours
Encourages students to use a sociological perspective to view all areas of sexuality. A sociological perspective of sexuality examines how sexual desires, identities, relationships, and practices are socially and culturally constructed and enforced. Course works to dispel myths about sexuality and uncovers the complexity of sexuality. Investigates cultural variation in sexual practices and understandings of sexuality and explores how cultural values and beliefs about sexuality shape individual desires, relationships and well-being. Explores how sexuality influences and is influenced by other identities, including race and ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, age, and religion. Finally, identifies how “normative” sexual identities are enforced in schools, families, workplaces and in the media.

SOC 405. Sociology of Aging  3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Cross-listed as AGE 405. Analyzes the social dimensions of old age, including changing demographic structure and role changes and their impact on society. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

SOC 481. Cooperative Education in Sociology  1-4 credit hours
Provides the student with practical experience under academic supervision, that complements the student's academic program.
 Consultation with, and approval by, an appropriate faculty sponsor are necessary. Graded Cr/NCr. Prerequisite: instructor's consent.

**SOC 481N. Internship 1-4 credit hours**
Complements and enhances the student's academic program by providing an opportunity to apply and acquire knowledge in a workplace environment as an intern. Graded Cr/NCr. Prerequisite: departmental consent.

**SOC 501. Sociological Statistics 3 credit hours**
Application of descriptive and inferential statistics to sociological problems. Includes computer experience with statistical software. Prerequisites: SOC 111, SOC 312 or concurrent enrollment, and MATH 111.

**SOC 512. Measurement & Analysis 4 credit hours**
An applied study of the conceptual tools and methodological skills needed to conduct quantitative sociological research. Prerequisites: SOC 111, 312, 501.

**SOC 512L. Measurement & Analysis Lab 0 credit hours**
The lab component of the SOC 512 course covers learning how to use the statistical software program SPSS and working on projects as part of the applied study of the conceptual tools and methodological skills needed to conduct quantitative sociological research.

**SOC 515. Family Diversity 3 credit hours**
*General education advanced further study course.* Analyzes the varieties of family forms in the U.S. with particular emphasis on the intersection of gender, race/ethnicity, social class and sexual orientation. Attention is given to the reciprocal effects of families and their social environments and the impact of public policies on families. *Course includes diversity content.* Prerequisite: SOC 111.

**SOC 516. Sociology of Gender Roles 3 credit hours**
*General education advanced further study course.* Cross-listed as WOMS 516. Analyzes the institutional sources of male and female roles, the source of changes in these roles, the consequent ambiguities and conflicts. *Course includes diversity content.* Prerequisite: SOC 111.

**SOC 517. Intimate Relations 3 credit hours**
Examines the social dimensions of intimacy including an analysis of intimacy in different types of relationships, i.e., romantic, friendship, marriage. Reviews theory and research in the area with a special focus on the place of intimacy in social interaction. *Course includes diversity content.* Prerequisite: SOC 111.

**SOC 520. Family & Aging 3 credit hours**
Cross-listed as AGE 520. Analyzes the families and family systems of older people. Emphasizes demographic and historical changes, caregiving, and intergenerational exchanges and relationships. *Course includes diversity content.* Prerequisite: SOC 111 or AGE 100 or junior standing.

**SOC 528. Schools and Society 3 credit hours**
*General education advanced further study course.* Introduction to sociological perspectives on the purpose of schools and their connection to the larger society. Uses key sociological concepts, theories and methods to go beyond individual experiences and explore the educational system in the context of larger social forces. Examines the multiple functions and goals of education, stratification between schools and within schools, and inequalities of race, social class and gender. Other topics may include family and school relationships, bullying and youth culture, sexuality education, and educational policy issues. *Course includes diversity content.* Prerequisite: SOC 111.

**SOC 534. Urban Sociology 3 credit hours**
*General education advanced further study course.* Studies the process of urbanization and its influence on the development of cultural and social structures throughout the world. Also discusses social problems associated with urbanization. *Course includes diversity content.* Prerequisite: SOC 111.

**SOC 537. The Social Consequences of Disability 3 credit hours**
An eclectic survey of the social aspects of disability showing the impact of social values, institutions and policies upon adults with disabilities. Appropriate for both students of sociology and the service professions. *Course includes diversity content.* Prerequisite: SOC 111.

**SOC 538. Medical Sociology 3 credit hours**
*General education advanced further study course.* Analyzes social and cultural factors related to physical and mental illness. Also includes the dynamics of communication and role relationships among patients and medical personnel and social research and theory relevant to the health professions. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

**SOC 539. Juvenile Delinquency 3 credit hours**
*General education advanced further study course.* The factors related to juvenile delinquency and the measures of treatment and prevention. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

**SOC 540. Criminology 3 credit hours**
The extent and nature of criminal behavior and societal reactions to it. *Course includes diversity content.* Prerequisite: SOC 111.

**SOC 543. Aging & Public Policy 3 credit hours**
Cross-listed as AGE 543. Seminar-style course explores the impact of an aging population on social institutions, covers the history of American aging policies, the organization and financing of health care for the elderly, and discusses policy analysis as an evaluation tool for comparing public approaches to responding to the needs of an increasingly diverse aging population. Considers the process of policy formation, identifies key players and interest groups, and contrasts political ideologies regarding federal, state and private responsibilities for older people. The course emphasizes Social Security, the Older Americans Act, Medicare and Medicaid as policy examples. Also looks at the potential contributions of the older population to society (volunteer services, provision of family care, etc.) as affecting and affected by policy. *Course includes diversity content.* Prerequisite: SOC 111 or AGE 100 or junior standing.

**SOC 545. Sociological Theory 3 credit hours**
A comprehensive survey of classical sociological theory. Emphasis on theories relevant to the development of sociology. Prerequisite: 9 hours of sociology.

**SOC 559. Successful Aging: Theory, Research & Practice 3 credit hours**
Cross-listed as AGE 559, PSY 559, and SCWK 559. Reviews current interventions which promote successful aging. Theoretical bases of this work in biomedical and life span/developmental psychology are featured. Intended for students in the College of Health Professions, Liberal Arts & Sciences and Engineering. *Course includes diversity content.* Prerequisite: AGE 100, or PSY 111, or SCWK 201, or SOC 111.

**SOC 600. Selected Topics in Sociology 3 credit hours**
Study in a specialized area of sociology emphasizing student research projects. Includes deviant behavior, political sociology and the family. Repeatable for a maximum of 6 hours credit. Prerequisites: SOC 111, instructor's consent, and substantive area course.

**SOC 651. Directed Research 1-3 credit hours**
Gives the student further research skills in an area of special interest. All students are under the direction of a member of the graduate faculty who guides them in developing research skills. Prerequisites: SOC 512 or equivalent and instructor's consent.
SOC 670. Independent Reading  1-3 credit hours
For the advanced student capable of doing independent work in an area of special interest. Prerequisites: 15 hours of sociology and instructor's consent.

SOC 750. Sociology Workshop  1-3 credit hours
Provides specialized instruction using a variable format in a sociologically relevant subject.

SOC 781. Cooperative Education  1-4 credit hours
Provides practical experience, under academic supervision, that complements the student's academic program. Consultation with, and approval by, an appropriate faculty advisor are necessary. With advisor approval, up to 4 hours of cooperative education may count toward graduate degree requirements. Graded Cr/NCr.