

SOCIOLOGY

Jaye Cee Whitehead, Chair; Daniel Eisen, Aaron Greer, Hardin, Sarah Phillips, Adam Rafalovich

The Sociology major and minor are offered through the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Also offered through this department are majors in Anthropology-Sociology. Minors are available in Sociology, Anthropology, and Comparative Religion.

The major in sociology provides extensive knowledge about culture, social institutions, and everyday interaction as these shape identity, behavior, social systems, and social inequality. Sociology majors are trained in qualitative and quantitative research skills along with tools for advanced critical thinking and theoretical application. The program contributes to a liberal arts education, prepares students for graduate training in sociology, civic and community engagement, and prepares students for careers in law, social services and related fields.

Specific Program Objectives

Students who complete a major in sociology can:

- (1) exercise the sociological imagination - observing the relationship between individuals and historical, cultural, and social forces
- (2) perceive how one's particular life experiences are shaped by social economic status, age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, religion and subculture
- (3) demonstrate a basic knowledge of the mechanisms that underpin social inequality
- (4) demonstrate a basic understanding of the important theoretical models of the discipline
- (5) demonstrate a basic understanding of quantitative and qualitative methods
- (6) demonstrate a basic understanding of the academic sociological literature as it relates to contemporary social issues
- (7) apply sociological understandings to public debates and community programs
- (8) understand social processes that contribute to social change
- (9) articulate sociological ideas to a lay audience
- (10) demonstrate an ability to gather and analyze data
- (11) demonstrate an introductory understanding of how to present original research for an academic audience in oral and written form.
- (12) demonstrate an ability to design and propose original research in sociology.

Sociology: Requirements for the Major

The Sociology major must complete the following courses with a grade of C- or better and maintain a 2.0 average in the major.

One of the following: 4 credits

SOC 110	Understanding the Apocalypse
SOC 120	Image, Society, and Identity
SOC 130	Stump the Sociologist
SOC 150	Special Topics in Introductory Sociology

One of the following: 4 credits

SOC 202	Public Sociology
SOC 203	Social Change (CE)
SOC 250	Special Topics in Public Sociology

Two of the following: 8 credits

SOC 300	Qualitative Research 4 credits
SOC 301	Social Statistics 4 credits
SOC 302	Survey Research 4 credits

All of the following: 14 credits

SOC 323	Junior Seminar 2 credits
SOC 414	Sociological Theory 4 credits
SOC 490	Advanced Research Methods 4 credits
SOC 454	Senior Seminar 2 credits
SOC 495	Senior Thesis 2 credits

Sixteen additional credits in sociology which must include at least twelve credits of 300+ level courses. Anthropology courses by approval.

TOTAL: 46 credits

Sociology: Requirements for the Minor

The Sociology minor must complete the following courses with a grade of C- or better and maintain a 2.0 average in the major.

One of the following: 4 credits

SOC 110	Understanding the Apocalypse
SOC 120	Image, Society, and Identity
SOC 130	Stump the Sociologist
SOC 150	Special Topics in Introductory Sociology

One of the following: 4 credits

SOC 202	Public Sociology
SOC 203	Social Change (CE)
SOC 250	Special Topics in Public Sociology

Twelve additional credits in sociology, which must include at least eight credits of 300+ level courses. Anthropology courses by approval.

TOTAL: 20 credits

Any student interested in a Sociology minor should consult with a faculty member in the Sociology Department before the end of the sophomore year.

COURSES

SOC-101 Introduction to Sociology

Provides an intensive introduction to human behavior in groups including a study of family, education, religion, government, ecology, deviancy. Basic concepts and terminology are emphasized. 4 credits.

SOC-102 Social Problems

Study of the nature, scope, causes, effects, alternatives and solutions to the major problems in society, such as poverty, crime, and health. 4 credits.

SOC-110 Understanding the Apocalypse

Will introduce foundational sociological concepts through the examination of various social narratives that comprise apocalypse discourse. To this aim, this course will examine various apocalypse scenarios as extensions of the key sociological variables of race, sexuality, class, ethnicity, gender, religion, and a variety of intersectionalities. Apocalypse narratives have been a part of human civilization for millennia and are firmly grounded within a cultural milieu. Our goal during our time together will be to examine these narratives, and analyze them within a historical/cultural context. Major apocalypse scenarios will be investigated, including: zombies, technology (rise of artificial intelligence, Y2K), plagues, nuclear weapons, global warming, and extraterrestrial phenomena (meteors, aliens). 4 credits.

SOC-120 Images, Society, and Identity

Will introduce students to some of the conceptual foundations in sociology through the analysis of various visual media found in historical and contemporary society. Throughout the semester, we will focus upon the various ways that such media impact individuals and social institutions. Virtually no aspect of visual culture is off-limits to this analysis. To this aim, we will analyze various visual media as a way of elucidating the key social variables of race, class, and gender, and a whole host of important intersectionalities. The course will begin with an introduction to foundational sociological concepts, and use these concepts throughout the semester to understand the prevalence, impact, and staying power of visual culture. 4 credits.

SOC-130 Stump the Sociologist

An inquiry-based course encouraging students to think like sociologists by pushing the discipline to answer difficult questions about human behavior, sociocultural systems, social inequality, and everyday life. Along the way, students will learn concepts and techniques for understanding persistent inequalities by race, gender, sexuality, and age; the relationships between the individual and the social; and the maintenance of social order and conflict. 4 credits.

SOC-150 Special Topics in Introductory Sociology

This is a special topics introductory sociology course. Specific topics will be designated by the department in order to cover basic concepts, theories, and methods of sociology. 4 credits.

SOC-202 Public Sociology

Students will learn how and why sociologists apply academic findings to public issues. Students will study examples of sociological works written for a public audience that address contemporary social problems. Students will be introduced to methods for translating academic concepts and research findings for a lay audience. The importance of the sociological imagination as a discourse for civil society will be emphasized throughout the course. Prerequisite: SOC 110, SOC 120, SOC 130, or SOC 150. Course offered biennially. 4 credits.

SOC-203 Social Change

Will provide students with a sociological lens through which they can understand the processes of social change. Students will be exposed to sociological theory and research that examines how social change occurs and fails. Students will develop their ability to develop a sociologically informed opinion about various social issues and articulate that opinion to a general audience. Finally, students in this class will design and implement a civic engagement project about social change. Prerequisite: SOC 110, SOC 120, SOC 130, or SOC 150. Course offered biennially. 4 credits.

SOC-208 Race: Inequality and Identity

In this course you will learn how race is a social fabrication that predicts individuals' life chances and forms understandings of the self. This course offers sociological perspectives on the process of racial identity formation ranging from the impersonal level of bureaucratic structure to the intimate experience of feeling race in everyday life. Equal emphasis will be placed on describing and explaining contemporary forms of racial inequality in the United States. Prerequisite: SOC-101, SOC-102 or ANTH-101. Counts toward core requirement: Comparative Cultural or Diverse Perspectives. 4 credits.

SOC-250 Special Topics in Public Sociology

Special topics course in public sociology. The topical focus of the course will be determined by the sociology department in order to provide students with the skills needed to apply sociological reasoning to contemporary public issues and convey these applications to a general public. Prerequisite: SOC 110, SOC 120, SOC 130, or SOC 150. Can be repeated for credit. Course offered biennially. 4 credits.

SOC-255 Special Topics

See department for course description.

SOC-275 Internship

See department for details. Internship contract required. 1-4 credits.

SOC-300 Qualitative Research

Students will be introduced to techniques for qualitative data collection and analysis in the social sciences. Data collection techniques taught include: in-depth interviews, ethnography, participant observation, focus groups, and content analysis. The course will provide instruction on how to code and analyze qualitative results. It will also include material regarding research-question design and writing a scholarly literature review. Prerequisite: SOC 110, SOC 120, SOC 130, or SOC 150. Course offered annually. 4 credits.

SOC-301 Social Statistics

Introductory statistics course for students in the social sciences. The emphasis of the course will be on understanding how social scientists use numerical data to understand social phenomena, and how to use and interpret statistical measures and techniques commonly reported in the social sciences literature. Prerequisite: MATH 122. Does not meet Social Sciences core requirement (2010 catalog). 4 credits.

SOC-302 Survey Research

This course will introduce students to the skills needed to conduct survey research in the social sciences. The course will examine the logic of quantitative research, techniques for designing reliable and valid survey instruments, sampling in survey research, and analysis and presentation of survey data. Prerequisites SOC 110, SOC 120, SOC 130, or SOC 150. Course offered biennially. 4 credits.

SOC-304 Criminology

This course is a general introduction to the social science known as criminology. This discipline, largely a composite of anthropology, psychology, and sociology, places particular focus on the phenomenon of crime in society. Examples of questions criminologists ask are: What defines crime? Who are the ones that commit crime and for what reasons? What are some of the established patterns of criminal behavior we see over time? And, what are some mechanisms society uses to regulate, punish or control crime? Because this course is taught from a sociological angle, particular emphasis will be placed upon viewing crime as a societal phenomenon, that is, one that can be analyzed within a broader social context. Prerequisite: ANTH 101, SOC 101 or SOC 102. 4 credits.

SOC-305 Racism & Ethnicity in Hawaii

This course focuses on the creation of race, ethnicity, and racism in Hawaii and examines how these concepts affect the culture, social structure, and social institutions in Hawaii. The course focuses on the historical and contemporary experiences of native Hawaii and other Asian/Pacific Islander ethnic groups that comprise Hawaii's population. The course will include discussions about native Hawaiian culture, the colonization of Hawaii, the ethnic structure that was further

developed in Hawaii during Hawaii's plantation era, and how these complex histories inform and affect the current ethnic social structures and practices (e.g. education, politics, criminal justice system, ethnic humor, etc.) that exist in Hawaii. Overall, the course will expose students to the lived experiences of the various ethnic groups that constitute Hawaii's population and provide students with an understanding of how Hawaii's unique history affects the life chances of the different ethnic groups in Hawaii. It will also prepare students for a travel course (SOC 318) that provides students with first-hand experiences of race and ethnicity in Hawaii. When offered for 4 credits, topics will be explored in more depth. Prerequisite: SOC 101, SOC 102, ANTH 101, ANTH 140, or REL 140. SOC 208 recommended. Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. 2 or 4 credits.

SOC-309 Families

The primary emphasis is on the relationship between the familial institution and the society in which it is being studied. Attention is given to trans-historical and cross-cultural data and how social change impacts the institution. Additional areas of investigation include definitions of the family, socialization, cohabitation, courtship, marriage, divorce, gender and sex roles, sexuality, socio-economic forces, family violence, alternative forms, and the future of the family. Also listed as GSS 309. Prerequisite: SOC 101 or SOC 102. 4 credits.

SOC-312 Social Interaction

A study of the interaction process as the central element in human social life, the primary occasion for communication, and the origin of both social structure and the individual human identity. Attention is given to symbolic communication, interaction, socialization, role theory, self-concept, deviance. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits) and 8 credits of SOC - 4 of the 8 may be taken in ANTH. Biennially. 4 credits.

SOC-313 Religion and Culture

An anthropological and sociological analysis of religious practice, including belief, ritual, experience, organization, and knowledge. Using interpretive strategies from anthropology, sociology, and religious studies this course investigates the origins and development of religious practice as unique social contexts and their relation to other forms of social life. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above. 4 credits.

SOC-316 Gender & Sexuality

An introduction to the theories and methods used by sociologists to study gender and sexuality as social performances and historical constructions. Topics include masculinities, intersectionality, sexual culture, pornography, and gender inequality in the workplace. Prerequisite: SOC 110, SOC 120, SOC 130, or SOC 150. Must be 18 years of age. Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. Course offered biennially. 4 credits.

SOC-317 Pop Culture: Cultural Studies

Using theories drawn from the school of Cultural Studies as well as what has come to be known as "critical theory", this course takes an intensive analysis of the many artifacts of popular culture. A central goal of the course is to understand how the artifacts we analyze reflect, respond to, shape, and are shaped by the broader social/cultural forces around them. Also listed as SOC 317. Prerequisite: ANTH 101, SOC 110, SOC 120, or SOC 130. Offered annually. 4 credits.

SOC-318 Racism & Ethnicity Hawaii-Travel

This course allows students to examine the racial and ethnic politics in Hawaii, a state that many believe is a melting pot, where all racial and ethnic groups live harmoniously. The course allows students to see firsthand the consequences of socially constructing race and ethnicity, the colonization of Hawaii, the plantation era in Hawaii, and the continued racial and ethnic politics that marginalize various groups in Hawaii. Students enrolled in this course will visit historical sites in Hawaii to better understand the how the racial and ethnic structure in Hawaii was created. Students will have the opportunity to engage in discussions with scholars, who specialize in the area of racial and ethnic relations in Hawaii, as well as community activists, whose activism responds to the racial and ethnic hierarchy that exists in Hawaii. Students will also complete a research project, while in Hawaii, which will allow them to better understand the everyday lived racial and ethnic experiences of individuals in Hawaii. Overall, this course provides students with firsthand experiences of how the racial and ethnic hierarchy in Hawaii shapes the life chances of individuals living in Hawaii. Prerequisite: SOC 305. Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. 2 credits.

SOC-319 Sociology of Medicine

The course analyzes the social and demographic variables affecting health, morbidity, and the mortality rates. It also examines the social roles in illness (e.g., doctor and patient): their definitions and consequences. Attention is given to the study of medical care institutions and their systems and structures. The relations between social policy and health is debated. Prerequisite: SOC 101 or SOC 102. Biennially. 4 credits.

SOC-321 Sociology of the City

An exploration of the modern United States city. We will use Portland as a "laboratory" for understanding the evolution of cities, how modern cities "work," the problems and successes of urban areas. Prerequisite: SOC 101 or SOC 102. 4 credits.

SOC-323 Junior Seminar

Students will prepare proposals for their own independent research projects. Attention will be given to a well-contextualized research question and clear set of objectives, literature review, methodology/ethics section, and feasibility review. Prerequisites: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits) and declared Sociology major. Pass/No Pass. Course offered annually in the spring. 2 credits.

SOC-333 Apocalypse and Society

Examines the various social narratives that comprise apocalypse discourse. To this aim, this course will examine various apocalypse scenarios as products of history and culture. Apocalypse narratives have been a part of human civilization for millennia and are firmly grounded within a cultural milieu. Our goal during our time together will be to examine these narratives, and ground them within a historical/cultural context. Six major apocalypse scenarios will be investigated, including: zombies, technology (rise of artificial intelligence, Y2K), plagues, nuclear weapons, global warming, and extraterrestrial phenomena (meteors, aliens). Prerequisites: SOC 101, SOC 102, PH 101, ANTH 101, or ANTH 140. Offered alternate years. 4 credits.

SOC-342 Consumer Society

This course will explore consumption as a locus of social reproduction and source of meaning in people's lives. Consumer culture plays an increasingly important part in defining who we are, how we live, and how we participate in society. Our daily consumer choices shape our sense of identity and our relationship to the larger society. We will explore some of the far-reaching consequences of a consumer society by looking at education, leisure, bodies and sexuality, homes, community, and the environment. Prerequisite: SOC 101, SOC 102, ANTH 101, or ANTH 140. 4 credits.

SOC-344 Preparation for Culinary Travel

This course explores the relationship between cuisine and culture with an emphasis on cultures outside the United States. Students complete a series of orientation sessions as well as a full semester of class work. Students read a collection of essays that will prepare the student to tour a particular food and wine producing area and to connect local and regional cultures with food preparation and cuisine. Specific travel destinations and focus of the course will vary from year to year. Course may not be repeated for credit, even when travel destination varies. Also listed as ANTH 344. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above (30 or more completed credits) and 4 credits from ANTH or SOC at 200-level or above. Appropriate language classes are encouraged. IS 201 is encouraged. Instructor's consent is required. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives core requirement. 2 credits.

SOC-345 Culinary Travel

This travel course explores the relationship between cuisine and culture. Students tour a variety of food and wine producing areas and connect local and regional cultures with food preparation and cuisine. Specific travel destination will vary from year to year. Course may not be repeated for credit, even when travel destination varies. Also listed as ANTH 345. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above, 4 credits from ANTH or SOC at 200-level or above. Appropriate language classes are encouraged. IS-201 is encouraged. Instructor's consent required. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives. 2 credits.

SOC-347 Global Cap Neo-Colonial Inequalities

This course explores how global dimensions of capitalism intersect with local cultural identities and practices. Students will learn how transnational markets, global lending institutions, and transnational governments both shape and are shaped by questions of national identity, gender norms, racial categories, environmental policies and sexual practices. This course introduces students to perspectives on the meaning and scope of "globalization" from early industrialization to the current post-industrial economy. We will explore the typography of economic inequality on the global scale and examine specific examples of how it is maintained and resisted. The course includes post-colonial critiques that draw attention to how race, nationalism, gender and sexuality are central to the process of constructing, maintaining and resisting imperial domination. Also listed as PSJ 347. Prerequisite: ANTH 101, SOC 101, or SOC 102. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives. 4 credits.

SOC-352 Program Development and Evaluation

This introductory course in Program Development & Evaluation (PDE) covers the role of PDE in public health and social work settings. Emphasis will be placed on: building logic models to articulate program theories; identifying, working with, and reporting to stakeholders; conducting needs and impact assessments; critiquing the strengths and weaknesses of popular evaluation designs; and using evaluation data. Also listed as SOC 352 and SOCWK 352. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits), PH 101, SOC 101, SOC 102, OR ANTH 101. Corequisites: SOC 301 OR MATH 207. Counts toward core requirement: Civic Engagement. 4 credits.

SOC-355 Special Topics

See department for course description.

SOC-356 Culture, Cuisine and Class

Explores people's relationship to food with regard to the environment, gender, class structure and the increasing globalization and homogenization of food. Of particular importance are the cultural influences on cuisine as food plays a social, symbolic and political-economic role across cultures. Also listed as ANTH 356. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits). 4 credits.

SOC-360 Critical Race Theory

This course focuses on the Critical Race Theory (CRT), which is a multidisciplinary approach to the study of race and ethnic relations. One of the main goals of CRT is to question the dominant paradigm/ideology about race and reconstruct our perceptions of race through counternarratives told by marginalized and oppressed groups. Therefore, this course will expose students to counternarratives that marginalized and oppressed groups tell through class discussions, guest speakers, and course readings. Another important tenet of CRT is to examine the institution and structure of racism through a perspective that stresses intersectionality, and, therefore, the course will not only examine racial issues, but will also examine how these issues affect and are affected by other forms of oppressions, such as sexism, heterosexism, elitism, etc. Upon completing the course students should have a keen awareness of how oppressions (racism, sexism, elitism, heterosexism, etc.) intersect in societal structures. Prerequisite: SOC 101, SOC 102, ANTH 101, ANTH 140 or REL 140. SOC 208 or SOC 305 recommended. Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. 4 credits.

SOC-366 Deviance

Focuses on the way society affects and is affected by what we call "deviant behavior," that is, behavior which is understood to be outside the confines of cultural convention. Topics in this class include the ways in which deviance is socially constructed through processes of identity and conformity, as well as the ways in which society establishes mechanisms for dealing with deviance, such as prisons and other institutions. A relevant line of sociological questioning towards the phenomenon of deviance asks why a behavior is conceived to be deviant, rather than whether or not a deviant act or career is inherently abnormal. Prerequisite: SOC 110, SOC 120, SOC 130, or SOC 150. Offered Biennially. 4 credits.

SOC-395 Independent Study

See department for details. Independent study contract required.

SOC-414 Sociological Theory

The origin and development of sociology are analyzed through the examination of major historical theorists and of contemporary schools of sociological thought. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits) and 8 credits in SOC. Biennially. 4 credits.

SOC-450 Directed Research in Sociology

Directed Research in Sociology allows students of advanced standing to participate in a research project with an sociology faculty member in order to gain practical experience in the conduct of ongoing professional-level sociological research. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits). Instructor's consent required. May be repeated for credit, up to 6 credits total. 1-4 credits.

SOC-454 Senior Seminar

This seminar is a senior-level course in which sociology majors will cooperate in seminar-based reading groups, and work in a purposeful, self-directed manner. Students who complete this seminar will work from a reading list compiled by the instructor. Course material will expand students' nascent theoretical and methodological knowledge and refine their understandings of four foundational topics in sociology: intersectionality, identity, social power, and social order. Students will take a comprehensive examination of material covered in the senior seminar. Prerequisites: senior standing and Sociology major. Course offered annually in the spring. 2 credits.

SOC-455 Special Topics

See department for course description.

SOC-475 Internship

See department for details. Internship contract required.

SOC-490 Advanced Research Methods

The course advances students' understanding of research methods introduced in SOC 300, SOC 302 and SOC 323. Students will receive advanced training on how to collect and analyze data in the social sciences. The class includes an emphasis on how to write for an academic or public audience in preparation for the senior thesis. Prerequisite: SOC 323. Course offered annually in the fall. 4 credits.

SOC-494 Senior Thesis I

The focus is to assist students in selecting an area of interest from which to draw an independent research project, to do an initial literature review, to develop a theoretical framework, and to develop a research methodology for the senior research project. Prerequisite: 16 credits of SOC, including SOC 300 and SOC 301. 2 credits.

SOC-495 Senior Thesis II

Students write the final draft of the senior thesis and prepare for capstone presentations. Prerequisite: SOC 490. Course offered annually in the spring. 2 credits.