Sociology

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

The major in Sociology is designed to provide basic knowledge about the development, structure and function of human groups and societies, and relationships among these groups and societies. The program contributes to a liberal arts education, prepares students for graduate training in sociology, and is preparatory for social services and other careers.

Students who successfully complete majors in Sociology should have the ability to carry out independent senior research projects and to present projects in a coherent oral and written form to be evaluated by peers and by faculty. Students should also have the ability to carry out similar collaborative projects. It is presumed that these abilities are a foundation for one’s life and career.

In order to do this, students must possess the following:

- an ability to exercise sociological imagination - observing the relationship between individuals and historical, cultural and social forces
- an ability to perceive the general in the particular - how one’s particular life experiences are shaped by the general categories of class, age, race, ethnicity, gender, religion and subculture
- a fundamental understanding of the important theoretical constructs of the discipline
- a fundamental understanding of the basic scientific methods of the discipline, both quantitative and qualitative, and an ability to choose the appropriate methodologies for one’s work
- an ability to understand and use data and statistics

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. These same standards apply to the minor in Sociology.

One of the following: 4 credits
SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology
SOC 102 Social Problems

One of the following: 4 credits
SOC 208 Race: Inequality and Identity
SOC 217 Gender and Sexuality
SOC 266 Deviance

All of the following:
SOC 300 Social Research
SOC 301 Social Statistics
SOC 323 Junior Seminar
SOC 414 Sociological Theory
SOC 490 Advanced Research Methods
SOC 494 Senior Thesis I
SOC 495 Senior Thesis II

Four additional courses in sociology which must include at least two 300+ level courses. ANTH 320 and ANTH 340 may be applied to this requirement. Other Anthropology courses by approval. (16)

TOTAL: 46 credits

Strongly recommended for a Sociology major: HIS 101, ECON 101, ECON 102.

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 101 Introduction to Sociology
SOC 102 Social Problems

One of the following: 4 credits
SOC 208 Race: Inequality and Identity
SOC 217 Gender and Sexuality
SOC 266 Deviance

Three additional Sociology classes, at least two at 300+ level. ANTH 320 or ANTH 340 may be applied to this requirement. Other Anthropology courses by approval. (12)

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-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-217 Gender & Sexuality
An introduction to the theories and methods used by sociologists to study masculinity and femininity, the social and historical construction of sexuality, love, and romance. Discussion includes the sociology of homosexuality, bisexuality, and heterosexuality, as well as issues of HIV/AIDS, teen pregnancy, prostitution, pornography, sexual harassment and rape in the United States. Also listed as GSS 217. Prerequisite: SOC 101 or SOC 102. Must be 18 years of age. Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. Biennially. 4 credits.

SOC-255 Special Topics
See department for course description. Credits: 1.00 - 6.00

SOC-266 Deviance
An analysis of definitions of deviance, causes of deviance, and societal reaction to deviance. The relationship between deviant behavior and social justice will be explored. Topics include drug use, mental disorder, the sex industry, suicide, sexual preference, crime and corporate crime. Prerequisite: SOC 101 or SOC 102. 4 credits.

SOC-275 Internship
See department for details. Internship contract required. Credits: 1.00 - 4.00

SOC-300 Introduction to Social Research
Analysis and application of the logic and methods of science in sociology is studied. The student learns by doing a research project that goes through all stages: theory, hypothesis, operationalization, research design, population/ sampling, data collection, and analysis. Prerequisite: SOC 101 or SOC 102. Biennially. 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-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 Race, Ethnicity and Culture 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 Hawaiian 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 Sociology of Religion
A sociological analysis of religious belief, ritual, experience, and organization. Issues to be considered include the social origins of religion, its significance as a social force and as a form of social control, and the relation between religious institutions and the larger society of which they are a part. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits) and 8 credits of SOC - 4 of the 8 may be in ANTH. Biennially. 4 credits.

SOC-317 Sociology of Popular Culture
This course gives a sociological look at the relationship between the many forms of popular culture and social life. What does the term "popular culture" really mean and what implications does it have for our lives? This course will attempt to answer this question through the exploration of four themes. First, we will explore the concept of popular culture and apply it to domestic and international audiences. Second, we will explore many facets of the concepts of high and low culture, highlighting the cultural, economic, and geopolitical aspects of these "modern" phenomena. Third, we will examine how the grammar of television, music, and film can have multiple social, political, and economic effects. Fourth, as popular culture today is truly a global phenomenon, we will explore some of the most relevant issues as they pertain to the international consumption of art, film, music, and reading materials. Also listed as ANTH 317. Prerequisite: ANTH 101, SOC 101, or SOC 102. 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 pertains to the racial and ethnic hierarchy that exists in Hawaii. Students will also complete a research project, which allows 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 practice reading and evaluating primary research works in progress. Attention will be given to articulating the research process and to preparing students for their own independent research projects. Students will be instructed in pathways beyond Pacific; for example, how to find and apply to graduate programs, develop a resume, and set up a job-shadowing experience. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits) and declared Sociology, Anthropology-Sociology, or Social Work major or minor. Pass/No Pass. 2 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 corporations 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 typology 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-355 Special Topics
See department for course description. Prerequisite: SOC 101, SOC 102, ANTH 101, ANTH 140, REL 140, PH 101, or SOCWK 201. Credits: 1.00 - 6.00

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 306 recommended. Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. 4 credits.

SOC-395 Independent Study
See department for details. Independent study contract required. Credits: 1.00 - 6.00

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 a 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 8 credits total. 1-4 credits.

SOC-455 Special Topics
See department for course description. Credits: 1.00 - 6.00

SOC-475 Internship
See department for details. Internship contract required. Credits: 1.00 - 14.00

SOC-490 Advanced Research Methods
This course advances students' understanding of research methods introduced in SOC 300. This course focuses on how to write a research proposal in the social sciences, ethics in social research, and institutional review board requirements. Students will receive advanced training in crafting compelling sociological research questions, writing effective literature reviews, proposing appropriate techniques for empirical research, and performing a feasibility study. Prerequisite: SOC 300. 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
Student-conducted individual research/theoretical project. Special topics in sociology taught periodically at faculty discretion. Prerequisite: SOC 494. 2 credits.