Sociology

Division of Social Sciences

- **Two Tracks: General Sociology and Criminal Justice**
- **Major: 42 credit hours for each track**
- **Minor: 18 hours for each track**
- **All courses for the major and minor must be completed with a grade of C- or better**

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- **Capstone: Senior Seminar in Sociology (SOC 499) and a senior thesis**
- **Research: Social Research Methods (W) (SOC 300)**

Description of Major:

The sociology program offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology, within a liberal arts context, by providing two tracks that a student may follow:

1. **General Track:** This is geared to students who have more general career plans and for those who plan to attend graduate school in sociology. It is also intended for those who wish to develop a general understanding of society.
2. **Criminal Justice Track:** This is for students who wish to pursue careers in the criminal justice field such as law enforcement, corrections, and court services. This program is designed to provide students with a broad knowledge of the workings of the agencies that make up the criminal justice system.

No more than four credits of cross-listed courses may count toward a major or minor in sociology.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Integrate social theory, research methods, and analysis.
- Evaluate and assess empirical data.
- Evaluate current social issues, conditions, power issues, and problems facing diverse populations.
- Demonstrate ethical responsibility in social science research.
- Engage in applied and experiential learning.

Preparation: Students majoring in sociology develop a greater appreciation for how society influences individual behavior and an understanding of how societies are structured. Majors develop the skills to think more critically about their own lives and the many social issues confronting us in society today. A sociology major prepares students for graduate school in sociology, social work, and criminal justice in addition to law school and divinity school. Our graduates pursue many different career opportunities including social services, criminal justice, community organizing, health care administration, and urban planning, among others.

SOCIOLOGY CORE REQUIREMENTS		18 crs.
SOC 150	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3
SOC 300	SOCIAL RESEARCH METHODS (W)	3
SOC 340	SOCIAL CLASS AND INEQUALITY	3
or		
SOC 350	SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER	3
or		
SOC 360	RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS	3
SOC 400	SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY (W)	3
SOC 499	SENIOR SEMINAR IN SOCIOLOGY	3
MTH 170	STATISTICS	3

SOCIOLOGY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS: GENERAL TRACK		42 crs.
Complete the core requirements, plus the following:		
SOC 270	SOCIAL PROBLEMS	3
SOC 371	SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANCE	3

TWO ADDITIONAL COURSES FROM THE FOLLOWING		
SOC 340	SOCIAL CLASS AND INEQUALITY	3
SOC 350	SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER	3
SOC 360	RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS	3

FOUR ADDITIONAL SOCIOLOGY ELECTIVES	12 crs.

SOCIOLOGY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS: CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRACK		42 crs.
Complete the core requirements, plus the following:		
SOC 170	INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE	3
SOC 220	JUVENILE DELINQUENCY	3
SOC 230	POLICE AND URBAN SOCIETY	3
or		
SOC 235	CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS	3
SOC 371	SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANCE	3
SOC 421	CRIMINOLOGY	3
THREE ADDITIONAL SOCIOLOGY ELECTIVES		9

SOCIOLOGY MINOR REQUIREMENTS: GENERAL TRACK		18 crs.
SOC 150	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3
SOC 400	SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY (W)	3
SOC 340	SOCIAL CLASS AND INEQUALITY	3
or		
SOC 350	SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER	3
or		
SOC 360	RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS	3
ADDITIONAL UPPER-LEVEL SOCIOLOGY ELECTIVES		9

SOCIOLOGY MINOR REQUIREMENTS: CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRACK		18 crs.
SOC 150	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3
SOC 170	INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE	3
SOC 220	JUVENILE DELINQUENCY	3
or		
SOC 371	SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANCE	3
SOC 230	POLICE AND URBAN SOCIETY	3
or		
SOC 235	CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS	3
SOC 340	SOCIAL CLASS AND INEQUALITY	3
or		
SOC 350	SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER	3
or		
SOC 360	RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS	3
SOC 421	CRIMINOLOGY	3

Sociology (SOC)

SOC 150 **3**
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
An introduction to sociology with an emphasis on basic concepts and theoretical perspectives, and their application to an understanding of social institutions, processes, and inequalities.

SOC 170 **3**
INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE
An introduction to the criminal justice system with an emphasis on the structure and functioning of law enforcement agencies, the courts, and correctional institutions.

SOC 220 **3**
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY
An introduction to the study of juvenile delinquency including a focus on theoretical background and current trends.

SOC 230 **3**
POLICE AND URBAN SOCIETY
An examination of the social and historical origins of the police and the changing nature of police organizations in contemporary urban society.

SOC 235 **3**
CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS
Examination and analysis of contemporary correctional systems. Consideration will be given to such issues as the goals of incarceration, prisoner's rights, prison violence, treatment and rehabilitation programs, and parole.

SOC 240 **1 or 3**
CROSS-CULTURAL PRACTICUM
An analysis of global issues and the impact of globalization on social inequality. Students are required to participate in an international service-learning experience during spring break. Course may be repeated for 1 credit hour. No more than 4 credits may be applied to the major. Prerequisites: Application and instructor consent.

SOC 261 **3**
RACE, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY AROUND THE WORLD
An introduction to identities and intersectional perspectives in relation to race, gender, and sexuality around the world. Students will explore structural inequalities in relation to these categories and how these inequalities are experienced in various countries across the globe.

SOC 270 **3**
SOCIAL PROBLEMS
A sociological analysis of the social problems confronting contemporary societies, particularly the United States, and the processes by which they become identified as social problems.

SOC 280-289 **1-4**
SPECIAL TOPICS IN SOCIOLOGY
Special topics courses allow offerings not regularly scheduled to be taught. These may be offered by the faculty or students may request courses in areas of their interest and faculty expertise. Depending on the subject matter, this may be cross listed with courses in other disciplines.

SOC 300 **3**
SOCIAL RESEARCH METHODS (W)
This course is designed to cultivate the student's skills in evaluating the significance of published research findings and in designing original research. Topics include the interdependence of theory and research, hypothesis formation, research design, sampling techniques, and various methods of observation. Prerequisite: 9 completed hours in sociology.

SOC 315 **3**
COMMUNITY AND URBAN LIFE
This course examines the community and its development as a social phenomenon in the modern world. Focus is paid to traits of rural life and the transformation to urbanity. Topics will include social organization, theories of growth, the environment and environmental impacts, and diversity. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 320 **3**
SOCIOLOGY OF FAMILIES
A study of the institutions of marriage and the family with an emphasis on the family in the U.S. Specifically, students will investigate the origin and evolution of the family, human sexuality, love and marriage, sex roles parent/child interactions, and the relationship between the family and other cultural institutions. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 330 **3**
POPULAR CULTURE
Pop-culture artifacts and practices are vital cultural spaces for the articulation of our social, political, and personal identities. Focusing on popular culture, the course will examine the communicative roles of cultural artifacts and practices. Sites of interrogation will include pop culture texts, locales, practices, and actors. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 340 **3**
SOCIAL CLASS AND INEQUALITY
An examination of the relationship between inequality and the historical development of societies. Various theoretical perspectives on social stratification will be discussed, as will the concept of class conflict and the role of ideology in the maintenance of inequality. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 350 **3**
SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER
A sociological examination of the social creation of gender and how that concept is transmitted and maintained. The implications of gender will be studied in relation to social, economic, and political stratification. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 356 **3**
POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHY
How many people are there in the world? Why do people move? Why is the world growing as fast as it is? What are the implications of this growth? This course covers the basics of the study of human population called demography. It includes factors and processes of birth, death, and immigration. It covers the history and recent trends in population changes and the resulting problems, policies, and programs. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

Sociology (SOC)

SOC 357 **3**
INEQUALITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY
This course focuses on the societal origins and solutions to environmental problems, the unequal implications of climate change and environmental degradation on global human societies, and the fair treatment and involvement of all people regardless of race, national origin, or income in the development and enforcement of environmental laws and policies. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 360 **3**
RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS
A study of race and ethnic relations in the United States and other countries. The course examines the origins of ethnic conflict, the establishment of ethnic group stratification and the factors that perpetuate ethnic group conflict. Special emphasis will be given to the experience of African Americans. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 371 **3**
SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANCE
An analysis of the sociological theories of deviant behavior. The social construction of deviance will be examined along with an analysis of some of the actions identified as deviant in our society. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 380-389 **1-4**
SPECIAL TOPICS IN SOCIOLOGY
Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 400 **3**
SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY (W)
An overview of the development of sociological theory starting with the classical theorists and ending with the work of contemporary sociological thinkers. This course exposes students to theories and theorists who make up the backbone of modern sociology. The course is designed to cultivate in students the analytical skills they will need to be good social thinkers. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 401 **3**
SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
Same as PSY 401. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 421 **3**
CRIMINOLOGY
This course provides a general introduction to the study of crime and criminality with a particular focus on criminological theory. The measurement of crime, patterns and trends in crime, and crime types are discussed. Prerequisites: SOC 150, 170 or instructor consent.

SOC 450 **3**
SOCIOLOGY OF SPORT
A sociological examination of sports and sport-related behaviors as they occur in social and cultural contexts. Same as PED 450. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 470 **3-8**
INTERNSHIP IN SOCIOLOGY
Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 480 **1-4**
INDEPENDENT STUDY IN SOCIOLOGY
Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 490 **2-4**
SEMINAR IN SOCIOLOGY
Selected topics. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.

SOC 499 **3**
SENIOR SEMINAR IN SOCIOLOGY
This course introduces students to the skills required to conduct research in sociology, providing them with the opportunity to do extensive research and present their findings in a seminar setting.