

Sociology (SOC)

Division of Social Sciences

- **Three Tracks: General Sociology, Criminal Justice, and Children and Families**
- **Major: 43 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: Sociological Analysis (SOC 498) and a senior thesis**
- **Research: Methods of Social Research (W) (SOC 496)**

Description of Major:

The sociology program offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology, within a liberal arts context, by providing three 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.
- 3. Children and Families Track:** This track prepares students for a variety of careers in social welfare agencies and community organizations as well as graduate work in social work, law school, sociology, or criminal justice. Students in this track will learn about the larger social, political, and economic forces affecting children and families in contemporary society.

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		22 crs.
SOC 150	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3
SOC 270	SOCIAL PROBLEMS	3
SOC 340	SOCIAL CLASS AND INEQUALITY	3
<i>or</i>		
SOC 350	SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER	3
<i>or</i>		
SOC 360	RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS	3
SOC 400	SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY (W)	3
SOC 496	METHODS OF SOCIAL RESEARCH (W)	3
SOC 498	SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS	3
MTH 170	STATISTICS	4

SOCIOLOGY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS:
GENERAL TRACK 43 crs.

Complete the core requirements, plus the following:

SEVEN ADDITIONAL SOCIOLOGY ELECTIVES 21
SOCIOLOGY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS:
CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRACK 43 crs.

Complete the core requirements, plus the following:

SOC 170 INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE	3
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SOC 220 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY	3
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SOC 230 POLICE AND URBAN SOCIETY	3
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or

SOC 235 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS	3
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SOC 371 SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANCE	3
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THREE ADDITIONAL SOCIOLOGY ELECTIVES 9
SOCIOLOGY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS:
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TRACK 43 crs.

Complete the core requirements, plus the following:

FOUR COURSES FROM:

SOC 250 CHILD WELFARE	3
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SOC 279 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION AND CHANGE	3
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SOC 320 SOCIOLOGY OF FAMILIES	3
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SOC 375 PRACTICUM IN APPLIED SOCIOLOGY	3
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SOC 390 SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY	3
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THREE ADDITIONAL SOCIOLOGY ELECTIVES 9
SOCIOLOGY MINOR REQUIREMENTS:
GENERAL TRACK 18 crs.

SOC 150 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3
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SOC 400 SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY (W)	3
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SOC 340 SOCIAL CLASS AND INEQUALITY	3
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or

SOC 350 SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER	3
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or

SOC 360 RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS	3
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ADDITIONAL UPPER-LEVEL
SOCIOLOGY ELECTIVES 9
SOCIOLOGY MINOR REQUIREMENTS:
CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRACK 18 crs.

SOC 150 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3
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SOC 170 INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE	3
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SOC 220 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY	3
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SOC 230 POLICE AND URBAN SOCIETY	3
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or

SOC 235 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS	3
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SOC 340 SOCIAL CLASS AND INEQUALITY	3
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or

SOC 350 SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER	3
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or

SOC 360 RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS	3
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SOC 371 SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANCE	3
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SOCIOLOGY MINOR REQUIREMENTS:
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TRACK 18 crs.

SOC 150 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3
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SOC 340 SOCIAL CLASS AND INEQUALITY	3
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or

SOC 350 SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER	3
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or

SOC 360 RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS	3
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FOUR COURSES FROM THE FOLLOWING 12 crs.

SOC 250 CHILD WELFARE	3
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SOC 279 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION AND CHANGE	3
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SOC 320 SOCIOLOGY OF FAMILIES	3
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SOC 375 PRACTICUM IN APPLIED SOCIOLOGY	3
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SOC 390 SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY	3
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Sociology (SOC)

<p>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. Each semester. IAI-S7900</p>	<p>SOC 279 3 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION AND CHANGE This course covers the study of communities and strategies for creating community change to help all people have a greater say in their community. Fall, even years.</p>
<p>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. Each semester.</p>	<p>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. As needed.</p>
<p>SOC 220 3 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY An introduction to the study of juvenile delinquency including a focus on theoretical background and current trends. Fall, annually.</p>	<p>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. As needed.</p>
<p>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. Spring, annually.</p>	<p>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. As needed.</p>
<p>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. Fall, annually.</p>	<p>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. Spring, annually.</p>
<p>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. Cross-listed as GLS 240. Prerequisites: application and instructor consent. Spring, as needed.</p>	<p>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. Fall, annually.</p>
<p>SOC 250 3 CHILD WELFARE This course covers the history of child welfare, defining and recognizing child maltreatment, professional responses to child maltreatment, the skills necessary to work with child victims, and child abuse prevention. The course is designed for students pursuing careers in criminal justice, education, social work, sociology, psychology, nursing, paralegal, and other areas where knowledge of child maltreatment and advocating for children might be necessary. As needed.</p>	<p>SOC 354 3 URBAN SOCIOLOGY An introduction to the study of urban areas. The history and development of urbanization, processes of urban change and conflict, and social and psychological effects of urban life will be examined. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent. As needed.</p>
<p>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. Each semester. IAI: S7901</p>	

Sociology (SOC)

<p>SOC 355 RURAL SOCIOLOGY An introduction to the study of rural areas in contemporary U.S. and global society. Key topics explored include the meaning of rural in contemporary society, measurements of rurality, social change within U.S. and world society, diversity within rural areas in the U.S., agriculture and natural resource use, and challenges facing rural society. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent. Spring, even years.</p> <p>SOC 356 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. As needed.</p> <p>SOC 357 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. Spring, odd years.</p> <p>SOC 360 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. Spring, annually.</p> <p>SOC 371 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. Fall, annually.</p> <p>SOC 375 PRACTICUM IN APPLIED SOCIOLOGY An introduction to sociological practice through a combination of 90 hours of practical experience in a public/private setting and weekly classroom sessions. Classroom sessions are guided applications of sociological concepts, methods, and skills. Prerequisite: SOC 150 and instructor consent. Spring, odd years.</p> <p>SOC 380-389 SPECIAL TOPICS IN SOCIOLOGY Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent. As needed.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>1-4</p>	<p>SOC 390 SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY This course focuses on the process of social welfare policy formation, the history of social welfare policy in the United States, and the implications of policy change on individuals. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent. Fall, odd years.</p> <p>SOC 400 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. Spring, annually.</p> <p>SOC 401 SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY Same as PSY 401. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent. Spring, annually.</p> <p>SOC 450 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. As needed.</p> <p>SOC 461 CRIMINAL PROCEDURE Designed for prospective law students and law enforcement professionals, as well as any student who could benefit from an in-depth analysis of the real-life criminal court system from the admissibility of evidence through the court process to sentencing. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent. As needed.</p> <p>SOC 462 CRIMINAL LAW This course is designed especially for prospective law students and law enforcement professionals. The basics of criminal laws, legal accountability, and defenses will be presented. Students will be expected to apply legal principles to real-world situations. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent. As needed.</p> <p>SOC 470 INTERNSHIP IN SOCIOLOGY Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.</p> <p>SOC 480 INDEPENDENT STUDY IN SOCIOLOGY Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent.</p> <p>SOC 490 SEMINAR IN SOCIOLOGY Selected topics. Prerequisite: SOC 150 or instructor consent. As needed.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3-8</p> <p>1-4</p> <p>2-4</p>
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Sociology (SOC)

SOC 496 **3**

METHODS OF SOCIAL RESEARCH (W)

The first senior capstone course in which students are introduced to social science writing and research skills. 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. Students will develop a research proposal. Prerequisite: SOC 400, senior standing, and 12 completed hours in sociology. Fall, annually.

SOC 498 **3**

SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

The second senior capstone course for sociology majors focusing on a review and integration of sociological knowledge. Students will explore career and graduate school opportunities. Students will complete their research projects in this course. Prerequisite: Senior standing, SOC 496, MTH 170. Spring, annually.