SIU CARBONDALE Southern Illinois University

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Sociology

Sociology is the science of society. It explains how human groups, institutions, and social movements shape our lives. Sociology develops students' insights into theoretical and practical aspects of life. Sociology students study such topics as deviance, sex and gender roles, social movements, social problems, large-scale business and government organizations, international development, and social change.

Training in sociology is basic both to creative living and to such practical tasks as the development and effective working of businesses, families, community service agencies, political movements and parties, churches, social clubs, government, industry, and schools.

Those with degrees in sociology find meaningful and rewarding employment as consultants to business and government, social change agents (e.g., community organizers), politicians, educators, and diplomats. Like other liberal arts students, sociology majors also enter the business world, particularly in the sales or personnel divisions of major corporations.

An undergraduate major in sociology is excellent preparation for those anticipating graduate study in law, social welfare, business administration, journalism, and many of the technical and scientific fields. In addition, many students have enjoyed the benefits of major-minor combinations between sociology and these other related fields.

The Sociology Major

The major is for students seeking a broad academic background in sociology. Those who want a general liberal arts education in the social sciences or those anticipating graduate study in one of the social sciences usually choose it.

Academic Advisement

A student planning to major or minor in sociology should consult the College of Liberal Arts advising office as early as possible. Subsequently the student will visit a college advisor each semester until all major requirements have been completed.

To graduate with a major in sociology the student must meet all the University Core Curriculum requirements and the requirements of the College of Liberal Arts. The major requires thirty-six hours of coursework. Four courses are required: SOC 108, SOC 301, SOC 308 and SOC 312. Each student must also take three additional 400-level courses in sociology. These requirements are summarized below.

Transfer Students

Credits for some sociology courses taken at community colleges are transferable. Students should have their sociology credits evaluated by the program's director of undergraduate studies at the earliest opportunity. At least 20 hours of sociology credit must be earned at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The three 400-level courses must be taken at a upper-division institution.

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Sociology Degree Requirements

Degree Requirements	Credit Hours	
University Core Curriculum Requirements		39
College of Liberal Arts Academic Requirements		11
Requirements for Major in Sociology		36
1) Sociology Requirements: SOC 108, SOC 301, SOC 308 and SOC 312	12	
2) At least three additional sociology 400-level courses	9	
3) Sociology course electives	15	
Electives		34
Total		120

No more than nine hours of Sociology Core Curriculum courses, including SOC 108, can count toward both the University Core Curriculum requirements and the Sociology major.

Sociology Minor

A minor in sociology consists of a minimum of 15 hours, including SOC 108 and at least three more 300- or 400-level sociology courses at SIU Carbondale. An average GPA of 2.0 or higher must be achieved in sociology courses. No more than six hours of Sociology Core Curriculum courses, including Sociology 108, may count toward both the University Core Curriculum requirements and the sociology minor.

Social Justice Minor

The Social Justice Minor in Sociology is an interdisciplinary course of study in which students take an array of coursework in different topical areas on issues of social justice. A minor in Social Justice requires the successful completion of at least 15 credit hours of coursework, including Contemporary Social Problems (SOC 302), and at least three or more 300- or 400- level courses, all passed with a grade of C or better. The list of approved elective courses will be routinely updated to include special topics courses.

Courses taken at other institutions may apply toward the minor only if those courses are accepted for transfer credit by the home department that offers the course. No more than 2 transfer courses can count toward the minor.

Social Justice Minor Courses:

AFR 209, AFR 215, AFR 311A or HIST 362A, AFR 311B or HIST 362B, AFR 499B, ANTH 202, CMST 201, CMST 301I, CMST 412, CCJ 203, CCJ 310, CCJ 360, CCJ 306, CCJ 374, CCJ 410, CCJ 460 or SOC 461 or WGSS 476, CCJ 475, ENGL 225 or WGSS 225, ENGL 355A or AFR 355A, ENGL 355B or AFR 355B, HIST 324 or WGSS 348, HIST 358I, HIST 365, HIST 366, HIST 403, HIST 407, HIST 416, HIST 429, HIST 487 or AFR 497, PARL 105, PHIL 211, PHIL 309I, PHIL 314 or JRNL 399, PHIL 433, PHIL 435, PHIL 446A or WGSS 456A, POLS 215, POLS 332I, POLS 438 or WGSS 438, SOC 215, SOC 223, SOC 307 or WGSS 315, SOC 407 or WGSS 407, SOC 423 or WGSS 442, SOC 424, SOC 435, SOC 455, SOC 462 or CCJ 462, SOC 476 or POLS 476, WGSS 201, WGSS 320I or LING 320I

Other relevant courses may be substituted with program coordinator or designated faculty approval.

Honors Program in Sociology

The School offers a sociology honors program for academically outstanding sociology majors. Qualifications for acceptance into this program are: (1) an overall grade point average of at least 3.00; and (2) completion of 8 hours in sociology courses with a grade point average of at least 3.25 in all sociology courses taken at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, and the completion of no fewer than six, nor more than fourteen, semester hours in research or independent study which are counted toward the major. Successful completion of the honors program is noted on the academic record at the time the degree is recorded and on the diploma. For details, qualified students interested in this program should consult the program's director of undergraduate studies. Concurrent participation in the University Honors Program is encouraged.

Sociology Courses

SOC101 - Health and Society (University Core Curriculum) This course introduces foundational perspectives on population health and examines current research on the social determinants of health. Emphasis is placed on the interplay of personal, social, and economic factors in shaping health outcomes, ongoing debates regarding their relative influence and mechanisms, and the role of policy and interventions in addressing health disparities. Credit Hours: 2

SOC108 - Introduction to Sociology (University Core Curriculum) [IAI Course: S7 900] An introduction to the sociological perspective on human behavior, the structure and processes involved in social relationships, social stratification and inequality, social institutions, and social change. A survey of major areas of interest in sociology. Required of majors and minors in Sociology. Credit Hours: 3

SOC215 - Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States (University Core Curriculum) [IAI Course: S7 903D] Current theory, research and events in race-ethnic relations in the United States, including the intersection of class, gender and sexuality. Topics include the European colonization of North America, dynamics of immigration, identity formation among ethno-racial groups and political economy of racism. Credit Hours: 3

SOC223 - Introduction to Gender and Society (University Core Curriculum) (Same as WGSS 223) [IAI Course: S7 904D] Examines several theories on gender. Explores patterns of gendered behaviors, gendered institutions, gendered expectations, and gender inequality. Uses a sociological lens to make sense of the gendered world and to examine the evidence that underlie scholarly arguments and perspectives. Credit Hours: 3

SOC298 - Multicultural Applied Experience (Multicultural Applied Experience Course) An applied experience, service-oriented credit in American diversity involving a group different from the student's own. Difference can be manifested by age, gender, ethnicity, nationality, political affiliation, race, or class. Students can sign up for the one-credit experience in the same semester they fulfill the multicultural requirement for the University Core Curriculum or coordinate the credit with a particular core course on American diversity, although neither is required. Students should consult the department for course specifications regarding grading, work requirements and supervision. Graded Pass/Fail only. Credit Hours: 1

SOC301 - Theory and Society Sociological theories explain concrete social phenomena by modeling them abstractly. This course exposes students to exemplary theories, either classical or contemporary, and analyzes the general strategies sociologists used to develop them. Required of majors in sociology. Credit Hours: 3. Credit Hours: 3

SOC302 - Contemporary Social Problems This course explores the definitions, causes, consequences, and solutions of major social problems in contemporary society, including crime, poverty, homelessness, economic inequality, racism, educational disparities, neighborhood segregation, and moral debates. Using insights from sociological perspectives, the course considers what makes something a social problem (and for whom), what causes social problems, how social problems affect individuals and society, and how public policy may solve social problems. Credit Hours: 3

SOC303 - Sociology of Deviance Review of sociological perspectives used in the study of deviance and deviants. Does deviance have functions in society? How is it that a group of individuals comes to be defined as deviant? Examines societal reactions to deviance and consequences for people defined as deviant. Analysis of selected forms of deviance, such as mental illness, "punk" subcultures, eating disorders, drug and alcohol abuse and sex workers. Credit Hours: 3

SOC306I - Popular Culture in Society (University Core Curriculum) Examines the social organization of popular culture, treating popular culture objects as products that are created, manufactured, distributed and consumed. The focus is on the people, activities, organizations and institutions that are involved in popular culture. Credit Hours: 3

SOC307 - Global Perspectives on Sexual Diversity (Same as WGSS 315) This course explores sexual diversity within different hegemonic heterosexual cultures, worldwide. Using insight from historical and sociological analysis, the contemporary development of social movements for lesbians, gays, and bisexuals and their oppositional forces is analyzed, and consequent cultural changes that have resulted from the confrontation of these forces are examined. Credit Hours: 3

SOC308 - Statistics for Social Science Methods and application of statistics in the social sciences. Measures to describe distribution, measures of relationship, statistical inference. Credit Hours: 3. Credit Hours: 3

SOC310 - Science, Technology and Society This course introduces students to a variety of research traditions and debates within the field of science, technology, and society. We will explore the ways in which historical and contemporary patterns of human evolution have created technological problems; why we are dependent and vulnerable to technology; and how access to science and technology and the effects of science and technology have an unequal impact. In addressing these topics, the course will make linkages among local, national, and global processes. We will focus on a variety of areas including: technology and environmental issues, science, technology, and gender, and the effects of technological change on our daily lives. Credit Hours: 3

SOC312 - Elements of Sociological Research The student is introduced to a variety of research methods in the social sciences including use of the library, techniques of observation, and elementary steps in quantitative measurements and analysis. Satisfies the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum requirement. Credit Hours: 3. Credit Hours: 3

SOC321 - Society and the Individual Introduction to basic concepts in sociological and social psychology (microsociology). Examines how individuals create and shape the social world that simultaneously shapes and creates individuals. Emphasizes face-to-face interaction, socialization, social location and identity. Credit Hours: 3

SOC340 - Sociology of Family (University Core Curriculum) The aim of this course is to develop critical and analytical thinking about the family and its role in society. This will entail examining the varying definitions of family, its changing and diverse forms and functions, the interactions between families and other social institutions, and how family life is shaped by the larger social structures of which it is a part, including gender, class, and race-ethnicity. Credit Hours: 3

SOC351 - Sociology of Religion Examines the dynamics of religious institutions in society, and of religious beliefs and attachments among individuals, including the connections between religion and family, health, education, and politics. Credit Hours: 3

SOC352 - Sociology of Music This course analyzes music as a social phenomenon with special attention to race, class, gender, ethnicity, technology and social change. We look at how musicians and their music influence society, and vice versa, using macro and micro sociological perspectives, embedded within various historical and cultural themes. Credit Hours: 3

SOC371 - Population Problems Characteristics and problems of population growth, composition, distribution, mortality, birth control and fertility, international and internal migration, and government policies. Credit Hours: 3

SOC372 - Criminology An examination of the socially constructed nature of crime, and historical and contemporary theories of criminality. Additional topics of interest include types of offenses, methods of studying crime, and the correlates of crime. Credit Hours: 3

SOC386 - Environmental Sociology Focus on social structural conditions and institutions that have changed the natural environment as a social problem. Responses to these problems will be addressed on the individual, group (race, class and gender) and institutional levels. Credit Hours: 3

SOC396 - Readings in Sociology Instructor and student select reading topics which are not covered in depth in regular course offerings. Special approval needed from the department and instructor. Credit Hours: 1-6

SOC397 - Special Topics in Sociology Varying sociological topics selected by the instructor for study in depth and breadth. Topics will be announced in advance of registration for the course. May be repeated 4 times. Credit Hours: 3

SOC399 - Internship in Sociology Designed to provide students majoring in sociology the opportunity to engage in applied sociology and gain valuable work experience. Classroom meetings are required. Restricted to minimum of 3rd Year standing. Special approval needed from the instructor. No more than three hours of 399 to count toward the major. Credit Hours: 2-4

SOC406 - Social Change Theories and problems of social change; their application, with emphasis on the modern industrial period. Credit Hours: 3

SOC407 - Sociology of Sexuality (Same as WGSS 407) Examines a range of social issues related to human sexuality and the interaction between sexuality and other social processes. Emphasis is on the relevant concepts, theories, and methods in the field of sexual studies, the social and historical construction of sexuality and the ways in which social characteristics shape sexual behaviors and desires, sexual variation, including its causes and consequences, how basic social institutions affect the rules governing sexuality, the major moral and political controversies that surround sexuality, and the "dark side" of sexual life. Credit Hours: 3

SOC410 - Reproductive Justice This course will examine reproductive rights and reproductive health, domestically and globally. Though other perspectives will be considered, the primary lens employed in the course will be reproductive justice. Reproductive justice refers to a broad conception of reproductive rights as a component of social justice, including the rights to prevent or terminate a pregnancy, to have children and parent, and to raise children in safe and healthy communities. Thus, the course will examine reproductive rights in relation to gender, racism, ableism, environmentalism, poverty, violence, law, policy, and medicine. Specific topics will include abortion, birth control, sterilization abuse, population control, and more. Credit Hours: 3

SOC415 - Logic of the Social Sciences (Same as PHIL 415) An examination of the theoretical structure and nature of the social sciences and their epistemological foundations. The relationship of social theory to social criticism; theory and praxis. Historical experience and social objectivity. Social theory as practical knowledge. Credit Hours: 3

SOC423 - Sociology of Gender (Same as WGSS 442) Examines social science theory and research on gender issues and contemporary roles of men and women. The impact of gender on social life is examined on the micro level, in work and family roles, in social institutions, and at the global, cross-cultural level. Credit Hours: 3

SOC424 - Social Movements and Collective Behavior An analysis of social behavior in non-institutional settings such as crowds, disasters, riots, mass panics, crazes, cults, and social movements. Emphasis is on the cultural and structural factors leading to collective action and its impact on social change. Credit Hours: 3

SOC435 - Social Inequality Discussion of theories and evidence pertaining to the socio-structural causes and consequences of inequality based on social class, prestige, power, gender, wealth and income. Credit Hours: 3

SOC437 - Sociology of Globalization and Development Survey of sociological theories and research on globalization and development: modernization, dependency, world-system, and global economy.

Problem areas include population growth and control, economic growth and underdevelopment, role of state, transnational corporations, financial institutions, and organizations, non-governmental organizations, work, population, migration, social movements and resistance, gender, race-ethnic, class, and sexuality issues. Credit Hours: 3

SOC455 - Racial Inequality This course is an introductory survey on the sociology of Racial Inequality. As such, the basic objective of this course is to give students a broad understanding of race and inequality issues in society. This course will require students to become familiar with the critical frameworks and concepts through which social scientists make sense of racial inequality; to come to terms with the ideological, political, and economic mechanisms that perpetuate racist structures; to study the past and present historical contexts within which racial inequality is given shape; and to explore potential venues for change. Credit Hours: 3

SOC460 - Sociology of Medicine Analyzes the social structures and issues involved in health, illness, and health-care delivery systems in the United States. Explores the economic and political influences on the role of medicine in society, as well as the organization of medical care and health institutions. Critically examines the social processes and factors that influence health and illness behavior. Credit Hours: 3

SOC461 - Women, Crime and Justice (Same as CCJ 460 and WGSS 476) A study of women as offenders, as victims, and as workers in the criminal justice system. Credit Hours: 3

SOC462 - Victims of Crime (Same as CCJ 462) An examination of the extent and nature of victimization, theories about the causes of victimization, the effects of crime on victims and services available to deal with those effects, victims' experiences in the criminal justice system, the victims' rights movement, and alternative ways of defining and responding to victimization. Credit Hours: 3

SOC465 - Sociology of Aging The adult life cycle from a sociological perspective, with emphasis on the later stages of adulthood. Special topics on aging include demographic aspects, family interaction, ethnicity, and cross-cultural trends. Credit Hours: 3

SOC471 - Introduction to Social Demography Survey of concepts, theories, and techniques of population analysis; contemporary trends and patterns in composition, growth, fertility, mortality, and migration. Emphasis is on relationship between population and social, economic, and political factors. Credit Hours: 3

SOC473 - Juvenile Delinquency (Same as CCJ 473) An in-depth study of theories of delinquency, analytical skills useful in studying delinquent offenders, systematic assessment of efforts at prevention, and control and rehabilitation in light of theoretical perspectives. Six hours of social/behavioral science recommended. Credit Hours: 3

SOC475 - Political Sociology (Same as POLS 419) An examination of the social bases of power and politics, including attention to global and societal political relations, as well as individual-level political beliefs and commitments; primary focus on American politics. Credit Hours: 3

SOC476 - Religion and Politics (Same as POLS 476) Examines the connection between religious beliefs and institutions and political beliefs and institutions. Comparative studies will focus on religious political movements in the United States and throughout the world. Credit Hours: 3

SOC490 - Special Topics in Sociology Varying advanced sociological topics selected by the instructor for study in depth. May be repeated for a maximum of twelve semester hours provided registrations cover different topics. Topics announced in advance. Credit Hours: 3

SOC497 - Advanced Seminar Contemporary issues in sociology and the analysis of these issues. Restricted to 4th Year standing with 20 hours in sociology (including 301), or consent of instructor. Not for graduate credit. Satisfies the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum requirement. Credit Hours: 4

SOC498 - Independent Research Students who wish to pursue specific topics in depth, or who have developed specific research projects, may submit proposals to faculty members who can serve as mentors. Independent research normally results in a significant paper or research report that serves as a demonstration of scholarly competence and concludes the major. May substitute for 497 only when student demonstrates substantial preparation or need. Satisfies the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum

requirement. Not for graduate credit. Restricted to 4th Year standing with 20 hours in sociology (including 301). Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 1-8

Sociology Faculty

Frase, Robert T., Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Purdue University, 2023; 2023. Medical sociology, health inequalities, intergenerational relations, mixed-methods research.

Leach, Brittany, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., The University of Virginia, 2020; 2022. Race, gender, theory, social movements, and public law.

Reed, Jean-Pierre, Associate Professor, Ph.D., California-Santa Barbara, 2000; 2009. Cultural sociology, race relations, social movements, revolutions and change, theory.

Sherkat, Darren, Professor, Ph.D., Duke University, 1991; 2001. Religion, social movements, quantitative methods.

Sutherland, David Kyle, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., The University of British Columbia, 2023; 2023. Medical sociology, identity, stigma, and social inequality.

Whaley, Rachel B., Associate Professor, Ph.D., University at Albany, State University of New York (SUNY), 1999; 2006. Gender, Criminology, and quantitative methods.

Wienke, Chris, Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh, 2003; 2008. Family, sexuality, gender, mental health, and social inequality.

Emeriti Faculty

Alix, Ernest K., Associate Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Southern Illinois University, 1966.

Burger, Thomas, Associate Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Duke University, 1972.

Danaher, William F., Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., North Carolina State University, 1994.

Hendrix, Lewellyn, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Princeton University, 1974.

Nall, Frank C., II, Associate Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Michigan State University, 1959.

Patterson, Edgar I., Assistant Professor, Emeritus, M.A., University of Kansas, 1961.

Schneider, Mark A., Associate Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Yale University, 1985.

Ward, Kathryn B., Professor, Emerita, Ph.D., University of Iowa, 1982.

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