

Course Descriptions

Sociology

SOC 1900 Men and Women in Contemporary Society A systematic analysis of roles of men and women, with particular emphasis upon problems of adjustment and conflict in contemporary society. 3 hours

SOC 2000 Principles of Sociology An introduction to, and survey of, the discipline of Sociology and its major fields of study. A scientific study and analysis of human behavior and interaction, our social nature and the social world (groups, cultures, religions, institutions, communities and societies) in which we live. Selected concepts, theories and research findings pertaining to social life at both the national and international level are presented and explored. 3 hours

SOC 2100 Modern Social Problems The course aims to develop a theoretical framework for understanding selected social problems in American society in such areas as: intergroup conflict, race, poverty, juvenile delinquency and crime, population changes, and mass communication. Problems selected for emphasis may vary with the instructor. 3 hours

SOC 2600 Introduction to Criminal Justice An overview of the criminal justice system as it currently operates in its three major components: police, courts, corrections. A broad-based interdisciplinary perspective is employed to introduce the beginning student to the process of criminal justice in modern America. Particular attention is placed in the discretionary authority of officials who are engaged in the decision making roles required to process suspects from arrest to release. 3 hours

SOC 2610 Law Enforcement Certification - Variable Topics The following topics allow Criminal Justice majors to become certifiable as police officers: safety and first aid; police physical skills; criminal investigation; firearms; traffic; patrol procedures; precision driving; and police practical problems. Prerequisite: Permission of Criminal Justice Program advisor. Variable hours

SOC 2820 Methods of Data Collection This course is an introduction to the quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection in the social sciences. Major topics include ethical issues in social research, library usage and report style, problem formulation, measurement, causation, sampling, survey research, and field research and other observational techniques. Prerequisite: SOC 2820 3 hours

SOC 2830 Methods of Data Analysis This course is an examination of data analytic methods in the social sciences. Major topics include frequency distributions, graphic presentation of data, measures of central tendency, measures of variability, cross-tabulation, statistical inference (significance tests), and bivariate regression and correlation. 3 hours

SOC 3000 Sociological Theory A study of major theoretical viewpoints in contemporary sociology. The course is oriented toward the understanding, application, and extension of these major perspectives. Prerequisite: SOC 2000. 3 hours

SOC 3040 Nonwestern World This course uses the evolution of modes of production as a key to gaining a meaningful understanding of the cultures of Africa and Asia. Its conceptual framework is the ageless struggle of humankind to (1) come to terms with nature (cultural evolution), (2) come to terms with one another (social evolution), and (3) raise consciousness (the evolution of "universalizing" values). This enables the student to compare and contrast African, Asian, and "Western" cultures; to analyze the impact of these cultures on one another; and to understand the "indivisible nature of the human condition." 4 hours

SOC 3140 Ethnic Relations A study of race and ethnic relations, stressing a global perspective on social relations among varied peoples at different levels of development, and in different parts of the world. 3 hours

SOC 3200 Introduction to Social Psychology An introduction to social psychological theory and research, covering the interaction of individuals and the relationships of individuals to groups. Includes such topics as social influence, attitudes, socialization, and personality. 3 hours

- SOC 3340 Pacific Rim - Asian Societies A sociological analysis of Asian Pacific Rim societies (such as China, Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, and Singapore) in various stages of industrialization and modernization, with consideration of their influence on American society. 3 hours
- SOC 3350 Modern Latin American Societies An introduction to contemporary Latin American societies focusing on their developmental problems and processes. Topics may include rural-urban migration, land reform, and governmental development policies in the urban industrial sector. 3 hours
- SOC 3360 Modern Japanese Society An introduction to Japanese society, focusing upon current developments in the process of industrialization and urbanization. Examines the impact of these processes on Japanese population, family life, village organization, urban community, class structure, and personality. 3 hours
- SOC 3520 Introduction to Social Gerontology An exploration of the social, psychological, economic, and physical aspects of aging. Consideration will be given to institutional programming for older people in the United States and other societies. 3 hours
- SOC 3530 The City and Society An examination of the city and the process of urbanization from earliest times to the present. Focusing upon the United States, emphasis will be placed on the characteristics, problems, and consequences of urban growth and development. 3 hours
- SOC 3620 Criminology An overview of the field of criminology. The areas considered range from the definitions, origins, and extent of crime and law, to causal theories of criminal behavior, to types of crimes and victims. Particularly stressed is an analysis of the relationship between law and society and social structure to crime. 3 hours
- SOC 3630 Criminal Justice Process This course describes and explains the criminal justice process from a sociological perspective. An analysis of the substantive and procedural criminal law as it relates to criminal justice is presented. The major focus is on the explanation of discretionary criminal justice decision making from arrest to sentencing. Prerequisite: SOC 3620. 3 hours
- SOC 3640 Sociology of Law Enforcement A sociological analysis of the process of law enforcement as it involves municipal, state, and federal agencies. Includes analysis of the police "working personality," social role, isolation from other social groups, vulnerability to corruption through politics and/or organized crime, and abuses of authority. The development and comparison of the police role will be traced from its roots in England to the present American position. Prerequisite: SOC 3620. 3 hours
- SOC 3650 Correctional Process An overview of the correctional process as a function of the criminal justice system in contemporary society. A broad perspective is employed based on existing criminological theory and accumulated knowledge of the social, political, and economic influences on the phenomenon of crime and delinquency. The uses of institutional placements, intermediate sanctions, and community-based programming to fulfill the formal and informal goals of corrections are critically assessed. Prerequisite: SOC 3620. 3 hours
- SOC 3730 Sociology of Health and Illness Introduction to the concepts of health and illness in our society; ways of measuring disease; the impact of social class, race, religion, and ethnicity on the perception and distribution of disease. Attention will also be paid to the social structure of the health care delivery system and of alternative systems of medical care. Prerequisite: SOC 2000. 3 hours
- SOC 3900 Marriage and Family Relations A sociological analysis of the structural and interactional aspects of marriage and family groups in contemporary society, with emphasis on the American middle class. Consideration is given to change and diversity in family patterns, norms, and values, and to factors contributing to family unity or disorganization. Prerequisite: SOC 2000. 3 hours
- SOC 4120 Child Abuse This course is an examination of child abuse in American society. Medical, psychological, educational, psychiatric, legal, and treatment perspectives are combined in a social analysis. The origins, family context, nature, extent, and social consequences of child abuse are discussed. Currently practiced social and legal solutions are presented, as well as possible social change required to respond to this phenomenon. 3 hours

- SOC 4210 Childhood Socialization An investigation of social development of the child from birth to adolescence. The course will focus on the child's interactions with parents and peers as these influence processes of learning, language acquisition, role playing, the organization of knowledge, and development of self. Prerequisite: SOC 3200. 3 hours
- SOC 4220 Adolescent Socialization An investigation of social learning and personality development in adolescence. This course examines the effects of interaction patterns and group allegiances, social class membership, biological maturation, sex roles and self-awareness on adolescent behavior, personality development, and orientation toward the adult world and adulthood. Prerequisite: SOC 3200. 3 hours
- SOC 4540 Juvenile Delinquency A study of juvenile delinquency as a social problem. Extent, causative factors, methods of treatment, and programs of prevention and control are covered. When feasible, students visit community programs. Prerequisite: SOC 2000. 3 hours
- SOC 4560 Social Stratification An analysis of the nature, causes and consequence of class and status differences within societies. Stress is placed upon such concepts as mobility, class, status and differential power. Conflict and functional theories of stratification are treated. Prerequisite: SOC 2000. 3 hours
- SOC 4580 Juvenile Justice Casework This course is a seminar/practicum in the area of non-formal treatment of juvenile offenders and their families. The course focuses on the holistic assessment, decision making and treatment of juveniles brought to the attention of the court for delinquent behavior. Each student is expected to provide a wide range of casework services for a minimum of one hour per week. These services include home visits, interaction with schools and numerous other community agencies. Prerequisite: SOC 4540. 3 hours
- SOC 4590 Juvenile Justice This course deals with the processing of offenders through the juvenile justice system with concentration on the philosophy and functioning of juvenile courts. Personal and organizational factors that are associated with, or that determine offenders' passage through, the juvenile court are examined. Prerequisite: SOC 4540. 3 hours
- SOC 4660 Advanced Criminology This is the capstone course for the criminal justice major. The course examines the intersection of criminological theory, public policies on crime, and political ideology. A number of important crime control policies are analyzed. Students are asked to examine the political philosophy and theoretical ideas which underlie these policies, the research evidence on their effectiveness, and their political implications. This course is approved as a writing-intensive course which may fulfill the baccalaureate-level writing requirement of the student's curriculum. Prerequisites: SOC 2820, 2830, 3620, 3630, 3640, and SOC 3650. 3 hours
- SOC 4670 The Police and Community Dynamics Study of the role of the police in the community by looking at the public's perceptions, knowledge, and expectations, and the police's responsibilities in community relations. This course stresses the practical application of knowledge to contemporary issues facing police such as the use of deadly force, police performance, neighborhood patrols, politics of law enforcement, minority relations, victimless crime, and the resolution of police/community differences. Prerequisite: SOC 3640. 3 hours
- SOC 4680 The Police and Crime Prevention This course provides an intensive examination of the important issue of crime prevention. Crime prevention is viewed within the larger political process and is related to the etiology of criminal behavior. The utility of general and specific prevention is discussed, looking at techniques and programs of both the police and community including target hardening and methods of decreasing the opportunity for victimization. The security business and various security techniques will also be analyzed. Prerequisite: SOC 3640. 3 hours
- SOC 4790 Female/Male Interaction Examines the variable of gender as it influences interaction between women and men. Topics include female/male stereotypes, differences in female/male verbal and non-verbal codes, and female/male interaction on the job. (Cross-listed with COM 4790.) 3 hours
- SOC 4800 Advanced Sociology This is the capstone course for Sociology majors. It locates the various theories and methods used in sociology to examine the social world in which we live. The students are expected to critically examine the social world in which we live, the theoretical underpinnings, and the relevant research evidence dealing with several illustrations of social institutions and social processes. This course is approved as a writing-intensive course which may fulfill

the baccalaureate-level writing requirement of the student's curriculum. Prerequisites: SOC 2820, 2830, 3000, and 3200. 3 hours

SOC 4900 Social Context of Sexual Behavior This course focuses on a systematic analysis of contemporary sexual codes and behavior in American society. Present-day beliefs and practices are viewed in historical context (especially from 1900 to the present) to gain insight into what is today, with the purpose of projecting what may be in the future. This sociological, historical, social psychological analysis examines current patterns of beliefs and behavior in terms of their immediate and potential effects and consequences both for individuals and couples, and also for society. Prerequisite: SOC 2000. 3 hours

SOC 4920 The Family as a Social Institution The family viewed in historical and cross-cultural perspectives. A structural-functional analysis of the family institution and the relationship between the social structure of society and the family system. Emphasis is placed on change and comparative analysis. Prerequisite: SOC 200 or equivalent. 3 hours

SOC 4950 Special Topics in Sociology or Criminal Justice: Variable Topics A specialized course dealing, each time it is scheduled, with some particular aspect of sociology or criminal justice not usually included in other course offerings. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. Prerequisite: SOC 2000. 1 to 3 hours

SOC 4960 Criminal Justice Internship Opportunity is provided through the Criminal Justice Program for supervised experiences in state and local criminal justice agencies. Approved application is required. 2 to 8 hours

SOC 4980 Sociology Internship Opportunity is provided for supervised experiences in local organizations or activities in such areas as criminal justice, gerontology, and urban studies. Approved application required. 2 to 8 hours

5000-level courses in the Department of Sociology are designed for a graduate student audience. Advanced undergraduates with at least 12 hours of prerequisites and junior class status will be allowed to enroll. Prerequisites must include SOC 2000 or its equivalent in another related social science discipline; and two 3000- or 4000-level courses (i.e., one of each; or two of one). Exemptions for these may be granted on a case-by-case basis.

SOC 5150 Sociology of Mental Illness This course will be concerned with examining the contemporary meaning of concepts of mental health and mental illness. The course will also consider the amount and kind of mental illnesses (especially the differences by social class, age, gender, race, marital status, urban versus rural living, and migration), the structure of the mental health care delivery system, the nature of help-seeking for mental illness, and community care and public policy for mental illness. Prerequisite: SOC 2000 or graduate standing. 3 hours

SOC 5200 Studies in Social Psychology: Variable Topics Further analysis of selected topics in social psychology not intensively covered in other courses. Specific topic will be designated in the course title when scheduled. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. Prerequisite: SOC 3200 or graduate standing. 3 hours

SOC 5210 Social Psychology of Emotions An examination of human emotions as they relate to thinking, motivation, and social action. Emphasis will be given to the ways in which emotions signal the importance of social events for the individual self, the role of group norms in defining situationally appropriate emotional feeling and expression, the management of emotions, and the ways that emotions function as both determinants and consequences of patterns of interpersonal activity. Prerequisite: SOC 3200 or graduate standing. 3 hours

SOC 5220 Social Psychology of Prejudice An analysis of the processes through which prejudice is learned and influences individual thought and social interaction. The nature of contemporary forms of prejudice will be analyzed, along with their cultural, cognitive, and motivational bases. Emphasis will be placed on how stereotypes are acquired and maintained, the consequences of prejudice for social interaction and intergroup conflict, and classic and contemporary strategies for the reduction of prejudice and discrimination. Students will be encouraged to conduct research projects involving topics of their choice. Prerequisite: SOC 3200 or graduate standing. 3 hours

SOC 5250 Research Design and Analysis in Social Psychology This course will provide students with the knowledge necessary to evaluate research, to understand the relationship between theory and the research operations that are used to test and generate theory, and to design and carry out original research on social psychological topics. Students will learn about the appropriate use of survey, observational, experimental and quasi-experimental methods as applied to both field and

laboratory settings. Class projects will teach students to design and conduct original research in social psychology, and to analyze data using relevant statistical techniques. Prerequisites: SOC 2820 and 3200 or graduate standing. 3 hours

SOC 5600 Corporate and Governmental Crime An examination of the crimes committed by business corporations and government agencies. The course describes the nature, extent, and costs of these organizational crimes, explains the structural and organizational force which give rise to such crimes and analyzes the problem of controlling organizational offenders. The course also examines the political process whereby corporations and governments come to be defined as deviant or criminal. Prerequisites: SOC 2000 or 2100, SOC 2600, and SOC 3620, and one other upper-level (3000- or 4000-level) course or graduate standing. 3 hours

SOC 5610 Violence and U.S. Society This course analyzes the nature, extent and causes of violence associated with the United States. The forms of violence to be analyzed include interpersonal, institutional, and structural violence; recent theory and research on violence will be reviewed and various prevention and control policies will be discussed. Prerequisites: SOC 2000 or 2100, SOC 2600, and SOC 3620, and one other upper-level (3000- or 4000-level) course. 3 hours

SOC 5620 Victimology The study of crime victims, the probabilities of victimization, victim-offender relationships, the treatment of victims by the criminal justice system, and the economic, social, and psychological impact of victimization. An analysis of coping strategies is discussed and the role of the victim in the criminal justice system is analyzed. Prerequisite: SOC 2000 or 2100, SOC 2600, and SOC 3620, and one other upper-level (3000- or 4000-level) course or graduate standing. 3 hours

SOC 5630 Gender and Justice This course provides an overview of the relatively recent field of women, crime and justice, with particular direction guided by an issues approach. A wide variety of current research and theory in this realm are critically examined. The specific subtopics covered in this course encompass gender and discrimination in society at large, within the sociological/criminological academy, and within the criminal justice system. Broad feminist theoretical and methodological perspectives are drawn upon to contour the examination of women as criminal offenders, as victims of crimes such as rape and intimate violence, and as professional workers within the criminal justice system. Prerequisites: SOC 2000 or 2100, SOC 2600, and SOC 3620, and one upper-level (3000 to 4000) course. 3 hours

SOC 5680 Race, Ethnicity, and Justice This course addresses the multicultural dynamics that effect the definition(s) and distribution of justice in the United States. The primary focus is the differential treatment of African Americans, American Indians, Latinos, and Asian Americans throughout the major institutions of society, particularly the legal institution. A critical analysis of the social, political, and economic forces that support the current social structure will direct the inquiry. Prerequisites: SOC 2000 or 2100, SOC 2600, and SOC 3620, and one upper-level (3000 to 4000) course. SOC 3140 is encouraged. 3 hours

SOC 5780 Sociology of Law An examination of legal organizations, the legal profession, and legal norms in the United States and other western societies. Emphasis will be placed upon the relationship between the legal system and the society in which it functions. Prerequisite: SOC 2000 or equivalent or graduate standing. 3 hours

SOC 5900 Variable Topics in Sociology An examination of a selected topic in the field of sociology. The focus of the course may be theoretical, methodological, or substantive. Possible topics could include feminist theory, sampling and survey design, poverty, and cultural studies. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. 3 hours

SOC 5980 Directed Individual Study A program of independent study (reading or research) to provide the unusually qualified sociology student with the opportunity to explore a topic or problem of interest, under the guidance of one of the faculty of the department. The initiative for planning the topic for investigation must come from the student. Approval is contingent upon the merit of the proposal. Two or three hours credit per semester, cumulative to six hours. Enrollment beyond the first semester may be either for the same topic or for a new topic. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and the department chairperson. 2 to 6 hours