

Sociology (SOC)

Courses

SOC 001 Introduction to Sociology 4 Credits

Patterns of social interaction, group behavior and attitudes provide a focus on the relationship of the individual to society. Social structure and social change within the institutions of society provide a focus on the relationship of society to the individual. The influences of social class, gender and race are explored at each level of analyses. Theories, methods and research results provide micro and macro models for understanding society.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 100 Seminar in Sociology 1-4 Credits

Topics in sociology.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 103 (AAS 103) Race and Ethnicity in the Contemporary U.S. 4 Credits

examines race and ethnicity from a sociological perspective. Focus on the role of the major racial and ethnic communities in modern American society. Explores the roles of race and ethnicity in identity, social relations, and social inequality. Topics include racial and ethnic communities, minority/majority groups, assimilation, prejudice and discrimination, identity, and the social construction of the concept of "race."

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 104 (POLS 104) Political Sociology 4 Credits

An introduction to political sociology through an examination of the major sociological questions concerning power, politics, and the state. Covers questions concerning state formation, nationalism, social movements, globalization, political culture and participation, and civil society.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 105 Social Origins Of Terrorism 4 Credits

Examines the social, religious, and political foundations of terrorism by studying the roots of terrorism historically and cross-nationally. We will look at the differing kinds of terrorism, including political terrorism in the Middle East, antiabortion terrorism in the United States, ecoterrorism, and religious and state terrorism throughout the world. Students will have a chance to better understand the beliefs of terrorists, conditions that produce and sustain terrorism, and the origins of political violence more generally.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 106 (AAS 106, LAS 106) Race and Ethnicity in the Americas 4 Credits

How is it possible that someone who is officially considered black in the United States States, can embody different racial identities throughout current Latin America? Even more, how is it possible that people considered consider white nowadays were not officially so in early twentieth-century US (although they were viewed as white in the Latin American context at the same time period)? This course offers a historical comparative analysis of the nature and dynamics of race between the United States and Latin America.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 110 (WGSS 110) Women's Work in Global Perspective 4 Credits

This course brings to the forefront the intersections of race, class, gender, and nation with women's employment around the world. We will examine women's paid and unpaid work in the U.S., Europe, Asia, Latin America, and Africa in an effort to understand the striking persistence of gender inequality over time and across the world. Topics of study include: work and family relations, women's domestic labor, factory work, and agribusiness. In addition, we will explore the ways in which women have organized for changes in work and in their communities in order to conceive of possibilities for the future of women's work.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 114 (ASIA 114) Social Issues in Contemporary China 4 Credits

Dramatic economic, cultural and social changes are underway in China today and have aroused much debate among social scientists, East and West. The following social issues are critical for understanding China's development trajectory: inequality and poverty; rapid demographic shifts; provision of health care services; provision of education services; and becoming an "information society." We will explore how these issues intersect with old hierarchies in China, urban-rural differences, and gender differences.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 115 A Nation of Immigrants: The American Experience 4 Credits

The course provides an introduction to contemporary immigration, conceptualizing it as a social and economic process, as well as a human experience that is simultaneously liberating and limiting. Through immigration we will analyze processes of assimilation and resistance, the construction of cultural boundaries, the development of modern nation-states, as well as the role race plays in current debates about immigrants. The course advances a critical perspective by questioning how immigration is framed in the West, particularly in the United States.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 116 (GS 116, JST 116) Jewish Community and Identity 4 Credits

A century ago, large Jewish communities existed throughout the world, including North Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and South America. Today, over 80% of all Jews live in North America or Israel. This course focuses on these historical changes in Jewish communities and the transformation of Jewish identities and social life in recent years, particularly in the U.S. and in Israel.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 125 Social Psychology of Small Groups 4 Credits

Theories and empirical research regarding interpersonal behavior in small groups. Classroom exercises and group simulations.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 128 (WGSS 128) Race, Gender, and Work 4 Credits

Race, Gender and Work is a class designed to help students understand racial and gender inequalities as they relate specifically to work and employment. We explore the origins and histories of inequalities, the ways in which inequalities persist and/or change today, and what steps might be taken toward creating a more equal society.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 130 Sociology of Sports 4 Credits

This course provides an encompassing explanation of the process of globalization in the twentieth century through exploring the diffusion of sports, inquiring whether the sports has been connected to multiple forms of Empires, i.e. colonialism and imperialism. To do so, we will use sports to explore social and racial tensions, analyze mechanism of resistance, re-conceptualize the boundaries of social, economic and political spheres, examine the adoption of cultural practices, as well as understanding the construction of modern nation-states.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 135 (COMM 135, JOUR 135) Human Communication 4 Credits

Processes and functions of human communication in relationships and groups.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 138 The Sociology of Reality TV 4 Credits

How does The Bachelor shed light on courtship rituals, and what can Dance Moms teach us about the social meaning of childhood? Reality television shows may seem like frivolous fun, but they are also illuminating cultural artifacts that reflect contemporary American tastes, norms, and values. In this course—by reading sociological work, paired with episodes of reality shows—students learn to analyze these forms of entertainment through a social scientific lens.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 141 Breaking the Rules: Social Deviance 4 Credits

What institutions exert control over human behavior, and what are the incentives for adhering to social norms? Why do some people break those rules? What are the consequences of rule breaking? In this course, after examining theoretical scholarship on deviant behavior, students apply those theories to real-world examples— for example, criminal activities and policing, drug use, sexuality, body modification, mental illness, and atypical behavior at school and work...Are you ready? Let's get weird.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 144 (AAS 144) Global Hip Hop and Social Change 4 Credits

Hip Hop has become a global phenomenon. We will analyze how and why socially Conscious Hip Hop, as a tool for social change, has expanded to Latin America, Africa, and the Middle East.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 152 (HMS 152) Alcohol, Science, and Society 4 Credits

Alcohol use and abuse, its historical function in society, moral entrepreneurship, status struggles and conflict over alcohol. Current problems with attention to special population groups and strategies for prevention of alcohol abuse.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 155 (AAS 155, LAS 155) Afro-Latino Social Movements in Latin America & the Caribbean 4 Credits

This course focuses on Afro-Latinos who make up nearly 70% of the population of the Americas. Despite the large amount of people of African descent living in the Americas, Afro-Latinos are an understudied population who face significant amounts of racial discrimination in their countries. Who are Afro-Latinos? Where do they live? How are they challenging the racism that they face? These are questions we will tackle in this course.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 160 (HMS 160) Medicine and Society 4 Credits

Sociological perspectives on health, illness, and medical care. Focus on social epidemiology, social psychology of illness, socialization of health professionals, patient-professional relationships, medical care organization and policies.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 162 (HMS 162) AIDS and Society 4 Credits

Impact of the AIDS epidemic on individuals and on social institutions (medicine, religion, education, politics, etc.); social and health policy responses; international experience; effect of public attitudes and policy on people affected directly by AIDS.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 163 (AAS 163) Sociology of Hip Hop Culture 4 Credits

Hip Hop culture is a complex form of artistic practices reflecting and impacting the environments in which they were produced. Through readings, music and video, this class will uncover the origins of Hip Hop by examining the musical history of the Afro-diaspora in the 20th century. Further study will reveal how the young Bronx, NY underclass in the 1970s fused elements of past musical styles with their own personal and political expression that sparked a worldwide phenomenon and culture industry.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 165 Contemporary Social Problems 4 Credits

Studies of major problems facing contemporary society.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 166 (AAS 166) Wealth and Poverty in the United States 4 Credits

examines the sociology of wealth and poverty affluence and disadvantage, "rags and riches" in American Society. Focus is a critical analysis of the wealth gap, its causes, consequences, and social context. We will consider the roles of wealth and poverty in determining life chances and structuring opportunity, as well as their roles in the perpetuation of social inequality across generations. We will address contemporary debates surrounding public policy, tax laws, antipoverty programs and other reform efforts aimed at decreasing the gap between the "Haves" and the "Have-Nots."

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 171 (REL 171) Religion And Society 4 Credits

An introduction to the sociology of religion. Covers classical and contemporary approaches to defining and studying the role of religion in society. Emphasis on understanding religious beliefs and practices in the United States, the sources and contours of religious change, and the effects of religion on individuals and society. Specific topics include religious fundamentalism, religious conversion, religious practices and authority, secularization, religion in public life, religion in social change, religious terrorism, and the ways in which religion impacts our personal health, educational attainment, and family life.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 177 (AAS 177, LAS 177) Cuba: Race, Revolution and Culture 4 Credits

This course analyzes the role of race & "culture" in the Afro Cuban struggle for equality. By focusing on the arts: particularly music, film & literature, this course will analyze the development of race during Cuba's colonial period; the Afro Cuban challenge to the "race blind" political and cultural movements of the Cuban Republic. We will then wrap up the semester by addressing the significance of contemporary cultural movements that challenge the social issues currently facing Afro Cubans.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 300 Apprentice Teaching 1-4 Credits**SOC 302 The Sociology Of Cyberspace 4 Credits**

An examination of social life on the Internet and the World Wide Web. Topics may include sociocultural and psychological aspects of communication in cyber-environments (e.g., email, chat rooms, news groups, MUDS, etc.), interpersonal relationships and group development, the nature of community, the politics of cyberspace (control and democracy), privacy and ethics, and economic dimensions. Examination of past and current case studies.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 310 (AAS 310, WGSS 310) Gender, Race and Sexuality: The Social Construction of Differences 4 Credits

Students will engage with current debates about the meaning and use of racial and sexual classification systems in society. We will examine the historical and sociological contexts in which specific theories of racial and sexual differences emerged in the U.S. We will also explore the ways in which changes in the images have implications on the role racial, gender, and sexual identity plays in our understanding of the relationship between difference and inequality.

Prerequisites: SOC 103 or SSP 103

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 313 (AAS 313) Social Movements 4 Credits

Explores the origins, dynamics, and consequences of social movements through both sociological theory and empirical case studies. Covers questions of what constitutes a social movement, where and when social movements arise, who joins a social movement, and how social movements are able to contribute to change. Answers to these questions highlight issues of social movement recruitment and leadership, interactions between movements and the media, the state, and the broader public, ideology, strategies and tactics, and the factors contributing to the success and failure of social movements. Course readings drawn from case studies on civil rights, women's rights, gay rights, the environment, American Indians, abortion, globalization, antiapartheid, democratization, peace, and Islamic fundamentalism. Must have completed one 100-level SSP course.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 314 (AAS 314, GS 314, HMS 314) Infections and Inequalities: HIV, TB and Malaria in the Global South 4 Credits

This course will explore the social, economic, and environmental causes of HIV, TB, and malaria in developing nations, with a particular focus on the characteristics and causes of these diseases in Sub-Saharan Africa. Students will engage theories and perspectives on development, globalization, and social inequality to explain trends in HIV, TB, and malaria and to understand why certain groups are more vulnerable to infection than others. Prerequisite: Junior/senior standing with declared major/minor in SOC, ANTH, SOAN, HMS, GS, or AAS.

Prerequisites: SSP 121 or PSYC 121

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 316 (HMS 316) Social Epidemiology 4 Credits

Social epidemiology is the study of the distribution and social determinants of health and disease in human populations. This course introduces the basic principles of epidemiological study design, analysis and interpretation, covering topics such as how a disease spreads across populations and how public health interventions can help control or reduce the spread of disease. This course also reviews epidemiology as a social science by reviewing the social causes and consequences of health.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 317 Seminar in Globalization and Social Issues 4 Credits

Advanced seminar that focuses on research and discussion of specialized topics in globalization and social issues. Subjects vary by semester. Junior or senior standing and departmental permission required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 319 (GS 319) The Political Economy of Globalization 4 Credits

This course studies the relationship among economic, political and cultural forces in an era of globalization. Focus is on how global capitalism, the world market and local economics shape and are shaped by social, cultural and historical forces. Topics include political and cultural determinants of trade and investment; culture and the global economy; global capitalism, especially studied through the lens of culture; globalization and patterns of economic growth; cross-cultural study of consumerism; and poverty and inequality.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 322 (GS 322, HMS 322) Global Health Issues 4 Credits

Sociological dimensions of health, illness, and healing as they appear in different parts of the world. Focus on patterns of disease and mortality around the world; the relative importance of 'traditional' and 'modern' beliefs and practices with regard to disease and treatment in different societies; the organization of national health care systems in different countries; and the role of international organizations and social movements in promoting health.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 323 The Child In Family and Society 4 Credits

Influences such as marital discord, family violence, poverty and prejudice on the development of the child from birth through adolescence.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 325 (HIST 325, WGSS 325) History of Sexuality and the Family in the U.S. 3,4 Credits

Changing conceptions of sexuality and the role of women, men, and children in the family and society from the colonial to the post-World War II era. Emphasis on the significance of socioeconomic class and cultural background. Topics include family structure, birth control, legal constraints, marriage, divorce, and prostitution.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 326 (HIST 326) Social Class in American History 3-4 Credits

Changing role of women, minority groups, and the family during the industrial era. Development of the modern class structure and the impact of the welfare state.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 327 (JOUR 327) Mass Communication and Society 4 Credits

A review of theories and research on the relationship of mass communication to social processes. Intensive analysis of selected media products (e.g., TV news, dramas, and sitcoms; films; print; music videos, etc.).

Prerequisites: ANTH 001 or SOC 001

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 328 (GS 328) Global Food Systems 4 Credits

Where does our food come from? How does it get to our tables? Why are there famines in some parts of the world and obesity epidemics in other parts of the world? This course will investigate these questions by focusing on food systems – the chains of social action that link food producers to food consumers. We will also explore a range of alternatives to global food systems that emphasize food democracy, security, and sustainability.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 329 (GS 329) Global Migration 4 Credits

International migration is transforming societies at both the global and national levels, and in both origin and destination areas. Why do people move? What are the consequences of these movements? We will investigate the political and economic explanations for international migration and explore how each act of migration contributes to the trans-nationalization of social relations, alters existing livelihoods, transforms economic production and social support arrangements, and recreates racial, ethnic, and national identities.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 330 (LAS 330) Society, Democracy and Revolution in Latin America 4 Credits

Latin America is a region filled with protest and armed guerrilla movements. Since the fall of the Soviet Union in 1989, at least 5 nations in the region elected openly socialist or communist candidates, many of whom are still in power today. What is happening in Latin America? This course will focus on Latin American perspectives on democracy and social revolution. For many Latin American countries, the move to the 'left,' and the rejection of American capitalism is not that Latin American people embrace socialism, but rather it is a reflection of larger social dynamics at play... or is it?

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 331 (GS 331, WGSS 331) Gendered Experience of Globalization 4 Credits

Women and men experience globalization differently and globalization affects women in different cultural and national contexts. Gender stratification has been intensified by the transnational flow of goods and people. Provides students with a survey of new development in feminist theories on globalization and on gender stratification and development, and links these theoretical frameworks to empirical research about gender issues that have become more prominent with globalization.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 333 Social Psychology of Politics 4 Credits

Political behavior viewed from a psychological and social psychological perspective. Department permission.

Prerequisites: (ANTH 001 or SOC 001 or PSYC 001)

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 341 (HMS 341, WGSS 341) Gender and Health 4 Credits

Relationships of sex differences and gender norms to disease and longevity in the U.S. and around the world. Influence of medical systems on men's and women's lives and the impact of gender-based consumer health movements on health and medical care. Focus on specific topics, e.g. medicalization and commercialization of women's bodies, the politics of reproductive choices, masculinity and health, and gender and mental health.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 343 (HMS 343) Race, Ethnicity, and Health 4 Credits

People who belong to racial and ethnic minority groups are exposed to more health risks, have disproportionately high levels of sickness and excess deaths, and have limited access to good quality healthcare. This course provides students with theoretical and empirical insights into the intersection of race, ethnicity, and health in the U.S. Historical and contemporary patterns in U.S. demography, race relations, residential segregation, environmental justice, and social stratification will be explored in the context of health and health care.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 345 (AAS 345) Colonialism and the Black Radical Tradition 4 Credits

Karl Marx was not the only figure who developed an influential theory of social revolution. A cadre of theorists from the Global South have extensively theorized about the issues facing their particular nations, and they have developed social theories that have challenged social and global inequality. This theory-based course will focus on the anti-colonial and post-colonial thought of radical black intellectuals from the Black America, the Caribbean, and West Africa.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 351 (WGSS 351) Gender and Social Change 4 Credits

Changes in gender roles from social psychological and structural perspectives. Comparative analyses of men and women (including people of color) in the social structure; their attitudes and orientations toward work, family, education, and politics.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 355 Sociology Of Education 4 Credits

Examines the social organization of education as a social institution and the role of schools in society. Focus is primarily on educational processes in the United States. Topics include: IQ, curriculum, tracking, educational inequality, primary/secondary/higher education, private vs. public, informal education and social capital, effects on and of race/class/gender, schools as agents of socialization, educational policy and school reform.

Prerequisites: (ANTH 001 or SOC 001)

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 364 (WGSS 364) Sociology of the Family 3,4 Credits

Sociological analysis of families in the United States, including investigations of historical and contemporary patterns. Issues addressed include parenting, combining work and family, divorce and remarriage, family policies.

Prerequisites: ANTH 001 or ANTH 011 or ANTH 012 or SOC 005 or SOC 021 or PSYC 021 or SOC 001

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 365 (WGSS 365) Inequalities at Work 4 Credits

Primary focus is on race, gender, and class as axes of disadvantage and privilege in work and employment. We will explore both theories and empirical studies of inequality as well as their social, political, and practical ramifications for the workplace. The course will be conducted seminar-style and the class will rely heavily on student participation.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 366 Sociology of Aging 4 Credits

Residential patterns, social policies and services for the aged. Alternative political strategies, health programs, living arrangements and workplace choices considered. The changing roles of the elderly in American and other societies, and the special problems they face. Impact of changing age structure.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 370 (ES 370, GS 370) Globalization and the Environment 4 Credits

This course investigates globalization and the environment including how globalization has influenced society-nature relationships, as well as how environmental conditions influence the globalization processes. A key focus will be on the rapidly evolving global economic and political systems that characterize global development dynamics therefore resource use. Particular attention is paid to the role of multi-national corporations, international trade, and finance patterns and agreements. Questions related to consumption, population, global climate change, toxic wastes, and food production/distribution represent key themes.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 371 Special Topics 1-4 Credits

Advanced work through supervised readings. Consent of department chair required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 373 Seminar In Sociology 4 Credits

Intensive consideration of selected topics in contemporary theory or research in sociology. The subject matter varies from semester to semester.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Prerequisites: ANTH 001 or ANTH 011 or SOC 005 or SOC 021 or PSYC 021 or SOC 001

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 374 Social Stratification: Race, Class, Gender 3 Credits

This course is an introduction to social stratification. Examines social inequality as an organizing principle in complex societies. Explores the intersection of the "great divides" of race, class, and gender. Through readings from classical sociological theory to cutting-edge literature we embark on a critical analysis of the causes and consequences of social stratification and social mobility in the United States and in a global context.

Prerequisites: ANTH 001 or SOC 001

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 375 (REL 375) The Christian Right In America 4 Credits

What do we know about the Christian Right? Who are they? What do they believe? Where do they come from? Seminar explores answers to such questions through a focus on the history of the Christian Right as well as its ideologies and beliefs, the people who are a part of it, and its evolving relationship to the American political system.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 379 Race And Class In America 4 Credits

This course focuses on the ways in which race and class intersect in the social, economic, and political structures of American society. Through sociological literature, fiction, nonfiction, film, and other media we will explore the place of race and class in American society. We will examine how race and class operate on a personal, "micro" level, while at the same time operating on a large scale, "macro" level.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 389 Honors Project 1-6 Credits

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

SOC 391 Evaluation Research 3 Credits

Application of social research methods of evaluation of the effectiveness of social programs. Measurement, research design, criteria of effectiveness and decision making. Consent of department chair.

Prerequisites: SR 111

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 393 Supervised Research 1-4 Credits

Conducting sociological or social psychological research under the supervision of a faculty member. Consent of department chair required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 395 Internship 1-4 Credits

Supervised experience involving nonpaid work in a setting relevant to sociology/social psychology. for credit. Open only to department majors.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 399 Senior Thesis 2-4 Credits

Research during senior year culminating in senior thesis. Required for sociology/social psychology majors seeking departmental honors. Consent of department chair required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 401 Classical Social Theory 3 Credits

Explores influential sociological theory, the differences among classical theoretical traditions, the main strengths and weaknesses of such traditions. Emphasis is placed on understanding the uses of theory in research, and the implications of theoretical models when applied to contemporary research and problems.

SOC 402 Sociology of Cyberspace 3 Credits

The course focus is on case-based discussion in the social psychology and sociology of the Internet and the World Wide Web. Questions of what it means to be an individual online, how relationships develop, the nature of groups, democracy and power, and education are considered.

SOC 404 (ES 404) Socio-cultural Foundations of Environmental Policy Design 3 Credits

This course is based on the premise that social and ecological sustainability require new policy approaches. Drawing on social, organizational, and behavioral theory, students will learn techniques for analyzing and critiquing existing environmental policies and designing more effective policies. Case studies highlight how cultural values, social norms, public opinion and politics shape policies and their outcomes. We examine the entire policy process from how environmental problems are defined, to how organizations implement policies and how policies are evaluated.

SOC 410 Statistics for Sociological Inquiry 3 Credits

Principles of statistical inference including hypothesis testing and analysis of variance. Covers univariate and multivariate techniques, including probability, correlation, test statistics, and regression. Emphasis is on the choice of proper approaches to answer research questions and the interpretation of analysis results.

SOC 411 Advanced Research Methods, Part I: Quantitative 3 Credits

Study of quantitative methods of data collection and analysis, measurement and research design issues at an advanced level.

Prerequisites: SOAN 111

SOC 412 Adv Research Methods, Part II, Qualitative 3 Credits

Study of qualitative methods of data collection and analysis, measurement and research design issues at an advanced level.

SOC 413 Research Practicum 3-6 Credits

Supervised research, either with a faculty member or in a community agency, designed to apply research skills to a particular problem as defined by the faculty member or agency in collaboration with the student and supervising instructor. Final paper should demonstrate theoretical understanding, proper application of methodology and data analysis, and results of the project.

SOC 415 Case Studies Of Social Control 3 Credits

Social control leads to social order and also generates social deviance. The processes involved in this dual production are found in the formal institutions of society and in the informal patterns of interaction within groups. Macro and micro level approaches are explored, especially in the drug and alcohol area.

SOC 416 Social Epidemiology 3 Credits

Social epidemiology is the study of the distribution and social determinants of health and disease in human populations. This course introduces the basic principles of epidemiological study design, analysis and interpretation, covering topics such as how a disease spreads across populations and how public health interventions can help control or reduce the spread of disease. This course also reviews epidemiology as a social science by reviewing the social causes and consequences of health.

SOC 418 (WGSS 418) Gendered Experience of Globalization 3 Credits

Women and men experience globalization differently and globalization affects women in different cultural and national contexts. Gender stratification has been intensified by the transnational flow of goods and people. provides students with a survey of new development in feminist theories on globalization and on gender stratification and development, and links these theoretical frameworks to empirical research about gender issues that have become more prominent with globalization.

SOC 419 Global Food Systems 3 Credits

Where does our food come from? How does it get to our tables? Why are there famines in some parts of the world and obesity epidemics in other parts of the world? This course will investigate these questions by focusing on food systems – the chains of social action that link food producers to food consumers. We will also explore a range of alternatives to global food systems that emphasize food democracy, security, and sustainability.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 420 Global Migration 3 Credits

International migration is transforming societies at both the global and national levels, and in both origin and destination areas. Why do people move? What are the consequences of these movements? We will investigate the political and economic explanations for international migration and explore how each act of migration contributes to the trans-nationalization of social relations, alters existing livelihoods, transforms economic production and social support arrangements, and recreates racial, ethnic, and national identities.

SOC 421 (ES 421) Information Ecology 3 Credits

Information theory, critical social theory, and ecological principles are combined to model how information organizes human ecosystems. These concepts are applied to environmental policy analysis using case studies.

SOC 438 Sociology of the Body 3 Credits

This course examines the body not as a biological entity but as a product of complex social forces. We will study how our bodies are connected to social structures, such as class, gender and race. In doing so, students will realize how our bodies are simultaneously expressions of the self as well as powerful social factors. To explore these topics we will analyze the work of thinkers such as Marx, Elias, Goffman, Foucault, Bourdieu, and Butler.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 441 (WGSS 441) Gender and Health 3 Credits

Relationships of sex differences and gender norms to disease and longevity in the US and around the world. Influence of medical systems on men's and women's lives and the impact of gender-based consumer health movements on health and medical care. Focus on specific topics, e.g. medicalization and commercialization of women's bodies, the politics of reproductive choices, masculinity and health, and gender and mental health.

SOC 443 Race, Ethnicity, and Health 3 Credits

People who belong to racial and ethnic minority groups are exposed to more health risks, have disproportionately high levels of sickness and excess deaths, and have limited access to good quality healthcare. This course provides students with theoretical and empirical insights into the intersection of race, ethnicity, and health in the U.S. Historical and contemporary patterns in U.S. demography, race relations, residential segregation, environmental justice, and social stratification will be explored in the context of health and health care.

SOC 454 Urban Education: Inequality and Public Policy 1-4 Credits

Social inequality is found throughout American Society but problems of inequality related to education have perhaps received more attention than those of any other contemporary social institution. Researchers, scholars, journalists, social critics, and observers have studied, written, and talked about educational inequality to an enormous extent. Social service organizations, activists, policymakers, legal professionals, and government officials have focused massive reform efforts and political agendas to tackle inequality in education. Many sociologists have long viewed education not just as an arena of inequality but as the solution to the widespread inequalities they see reflected in society. Urban education has been an especially complex and controversial subject of scrutiny in recent scholarly and popular debates. This course will focus with a sociological perspective on urban education, inequality, and public policy in the contemporary United States. The first portion of the course examines research and literature relevant to the contemporary social problems of urban education and inequality. The second portion of the course will explore the role of public policy in perpetuating educational inequality, and as a potentially promising solution to it.

SOC 461 Seminar In Sociology 1-4 Credits

Topics vary.

SOC 465 (WGSS 465) Inequalities at Work 3 Credits

Primary focus is on race, gender, and class as axes of disadvantage and privilege in work and employment. We will explore both theories and empirical studies of inequality as well as their social, political, and practical ramifications for the workplace.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

SOC 471 Special Topics 1-3 Credits

Intensive study in an area of sociology that is appropriate to the interests and needs of staff and students.

SOC 472 Special Topics 1-3 Credits

Continuation of SSP 471.

SOC 473 Social Basis Of Human Behavior 3 Credits

Development of human behavior from a social psychological perspective. Emphasis placed on the impact of society upon school-age children and adolescents.

SOC 476 Issues In Health Policy Analysis 3 Credits

Sociological analyses of health care and health care policy issues of current concern in American and other societies. Application of analytic frameworks to several major issues such as organization and financing of services, effects of aging populations on needs, impact of new diseases and of new technologies. Students will analyze selected health care problems faced by local communities.

SOC 490 Master's Thesis 1-6 Credits