

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
SOCIOLOGY
FALL 2015**

Undergraduate Courses

SOC 1010 – Introductory Sociology (3)

Olick, enrl 200, MW 11-11:50am

The fundamental concepts and principles of sociology with special attention to sociological theory and research methods. Survey of the diverse substantive fields in the discipline with a primary emphasis on the institutions in contemporary American society.

Dependent section required.

SOC 2052 – Sociology of the Family (3)

Wilcox, enrl 180, MW 12-12:50am

Comparison of family organizations in relation to other social institutions in various societies; an introduction to the theory of kinship and marriage systems.

Dependent section required.

SOC 2220 – Social Problems (3)

Kingston, enrl 120, MW 9-9:50am

An analysis of the causes and consequences of current social problems in the United States: Race and Ethnic relations, poverty, crime and delinquency, the environment, drugs, and problems of educational institutions.

Dependent section required.

SOC 2230 – Criminology (3)

McConnell, enrl 200, MW 4-5:15pm

Socio-cultural conditions affecting the definition, recording, and treatment of delinquency and crime. Examination of Theories of deviant behavior, the role of the police, judicial and corrective systems and the victim in criminal behavior.

SOC 2320 – Gender & Society (3)

Blumberg, enrl 120, MW 10-10:50am

This course emphasizes gender in the United States in today's world. We begin with how gender role socialization, education, language and the media teach us our places as female and male. Then we go on to examine how the genders fare in the major social institutions of our society: the family, the economic sector, the polity, the military, the criminal justice sector, the religious sphere and the health/sports sector. We examine how we got to where we are and how we compare with other women and men in other ages and other places. We conclude by assessing where the genders are heading in the 21st Century.

Dependent section required.

SOC 2559 – Environment & Society (3)

Corse, enrl 35, MW 10-10:50am

This course is an introduction to the topic of environmental sociology. Our central focus will be the relationship between human society and the natural world, with particular attention to the axes of social location, such as race, class, and where people live. We will consider these distinctions in understanding how people are differently affected by, imagine, or influence the natural world.

SOC 2595 – Immigration & Society (3)

Vickerman, enrl 35, MW 5-6:15pm

Immigration is a deceptively simple process, involving, at the simplest level, merely the movement of people across international borders. But why they move, how they move, and how the process is sustained over time are difficult questions to answer. This course examines these key questions and others from a global and historical perspective, with the goal of deepening our understanding of theoretical and policy issues related to immigration.

SOC 2900 – Economy & Society (3)

Polillo, enrl 60, MW 11-11:50am

Markets, firms, banks, money are all part of everyday experience, but how are they organized and operated? What do they mean? How do they vary internationally and across time? The central idea of economic sociology is that capitalist institutions are "embedded" in social relations. We will go beyond this perspective by examining the extent to which social processes constitute the economy, rather than merely providing a context to it.

Dependent section required.

SOC 3020 – Introduction to Social Theory (3)

Fuchs, enrl 60, TR 9:30-10:20am

An introduction to the major theoretical issues and traditions in sociology, especially as developed in the writings of Marx, Weber, and Durkheim, Sociology majors are expected to take this course in their third year.

Dependent section required.

SOC 3090 – Philosophical Foundations of Social Theory (3)

Fuchs, enrl 35, TR 2-3:15pm

Classical and contemporary social theory are and remain rooted in the work of major philosophical thinkers. This course will examine how social theory is anchored in the Western metaphysical canon, and will do so through close readings of contributions by Kant, Hegel, Nietzsche, and Heidegger. Each philosopher will be paired with the work of the classical or contemporary social theorist he inspired the most, such as Hegel and Marx, Kant and Weber.

SOC 3100 – Feminist Theory (3)

Raymond, enrl 35, TR 3:30-4:45pm

Feminist Theory offers a focused exploration of ways that late 20th Century and early 21st Century feminist theorists challenge, alter and deploy central concerns and paradigms of Western cultural assumption. Although Feminist Theory as a category incorporates interdisciplinary and global perspectives, the slant of this course is a focus on Western culture and Feminist Social Theory.

SOC 3120 – Sociology Research Workshop (4)

Guterbock, enrl 72, MW 1-1:50pm

An introduction to data analysis and data processing as well as the conceptualization of sociological problems; Emphasis on individual student projects

Dependent section required.

SOC 3310 – Sociology of Self (3)

Dudaronak, enrl 35, TR 9:30-10:45am

What is the difference between individual and self? Do we carry a fixed, unchangeable self inside, or do we have as many selves as the situations in which we commonly find ourselves? Can we go as far as saying that the self comes from the outside, and if so, when do we internalize it? At birth, once and for all? Or repeatedly and in everyday life? We will explore these questions and more as we venture into an exciting field-sociology of the self.

SOC 3410 – Race & Ethnic Relations (3)

Vickerman, enrl 35, MW 2-3:15pm

Introduces the study of race and ethnic relations, including the social and economic conditions promoting prejudice, racism, discrimination, and segregation. Examines contemporary American conditions, and historical and international materials.

SOC 3470 – Sociology of Development (3)

Blumberg, enrl 35, TR 9:30-10:45am

This study of the development of human societies explores the five major 'techno-economic bases' that have characterized our species' history (hunting-gathering, horticultural, agrarian, industrial and information/biotech) and examines how contemporary macro-level trends affect our lives at the micro-level.

SOC 3490 – Cities & Cultures (3)

Makarova, enrl 30, TR 12:30-1:45pm

Explores the ways in which physical environments shape and are shaped by social life. Examines the relationship between urban space and culture in different historical and social settings, though there is a particular focus on the rise and development of modernity as expressed through the experience of particular cities.

SOC 3510 – Topics in Applied Data Science: Networks and Society (3)

Polillo & Slez, enrl 60, MW 2-2:50pm

This course, broadly speaking, will introduce students to principles of data science through the hands-on study of core problems in social research. This course represents an ideal site for the analysis of the intersection between sociological theory and empirical research, and will include numerous opportunities for hands-on engagement with data.

Network analysis is a prominent area of study within the larger field of data science, due in no small part to the rise of network analysis within the natural sciences over the past decade. Yet the theoretical and technical foundations of modern network analysis can be traced to fields such as sociology and social psychology which focus on the emergence of social groups and the significance of social relationships for various forms of behavior.

Dependent section required.

SOC 3595 – Special Topics in Sociology: Sociology of Criminal Justice (3)

McConnell, enrl 35, MWF 11-11:30am

This course will seek sociological explanations of the criminal justice system. Theories will be applied to the police, courts, and prison. The course will raise questions such as why certain policing strategies are used, why sentencing has changed, why prosecutors seek plea bargains, and why the prison population has increased. Alternatives to the current system, such as community corrections and drug courts, will be considered.

SOC 3640 – Human Society in History (3)

Kumar, enrl 35, TR 2-3:15pm

Human societies exist in time. This course will examine the historical development of a variety of societies from earliest times to the present. Its focus will be on the relation of the West to the rest of the world. The course is particularly intended for social scientists, to make them aware of the historical dimension to human society; but it is open to all.

Meets Historical Studies Requirement.

SOC 3700 – Health and Society (3)

Bergey, enrl 35, TR 2-3:15pm

This course explores the social dimensions of health and illness, focusing especially on the social experience of illness, the social determinants of disease, and the role and meaning of medicine and public health in modern U.S. society. The class examines how we define health problems and their solutions, and it considers the ways in which race, gender, class, age, and sexuality matter for understanding health-related experiences and discourses.

SOC 3710 – Organizations, Institutions, Markets (3)

Gorman, enrl 35, MW 2-3:15pm

This course examines how large organizations-such as corporations, professional firms, and government agencies-interact with environments defined by social institutions and markets. Topics studied include organizational structure, employment practices, deviance, conflict, networks, and survival or failure.

SOC 4055 – Sociology of Law (3)

Black, enrl 20, W 3:30-6pm

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

After a brief history of legal sociology during the past century, the course introduces and elaborates a sociological theory of legal behavior. The primary focus is the case, a specific legal conflict. The theory explains the handling of each case with its social structure, such as the social closeness and social elevation of the parties. Although the course is primarily scientific in emphasis, the practical relevance of the theory is addressed.

SOC 4140 – Sociology of Consumption (3)

Makarova, enrl 20, TR 2-3:15pm

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

This course considers the nature and effects of consumer society; it explores the theories, practices, and politics of modern consumption. Topics include the historical development of consumer society; the role of consumption in creating personal and political identities; the cultural and social meanings of seemingly impersonal objects like money; the commodification of social life; the effects of globalization on the practices of consumption.

SOC 4170 – Theoretical Sociology (3)

Black, enrl 20, M 3:30-6pm

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

This course surveys eight major strategies by which sociologists explain human behavior. Readings illustrate each strategy with particular theories, such as theories of deviant behavior, creativity, and terrorism. The course also addresses several issues in the philosophy of science and endorses a completely scientific style of sociology.

SOC 4420 – Sociology of Inequality (3)

Kingston, enrl 20, MW 2-3:15pm

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

A survey of basic theories and methods used to analyze structures of social inequality. Includes comparative analysis of the inequalities of power and privilege, both their causes and their consequences for social conflict and social change.

SOC 4559–001 Culture & Morality (3)

Hunter, enrl 12, M 5-7:30pm

This course will examine the sociological nature of morality, both at a conceptual and theoretical level and at an empirical and historical level—as a phenomenon of late modernity. Much of our work in this class will be given to examining different areas of social life in ways that make visible the invisible moral claims being made about the good; bringing into relief the moral concerns concealed within late modernity in its various manifestations.

SOC 4559–004 Sociology of Mental Health & Illness(3)

Bergey, enrl 20, TR 11am-12:15pm

This course explores mental health and illness in social context, focusing especially on the history, definitions, social and cultural determinants, and consequences of conceptualizations and treatment of mental illness. It includes an examination of perceptions of mental illness in popular culture, and the spread of psychiatric ideas in more global context.

SOC 4810 – Undergraduate Internship Program (4)

Prerequisites: Students must be a fourth year sociology major with substantial completion of major requirements

An internship placement to be arranged by the supervising faculty. Students will work in various agencies in the Charlottesville community such as health care delivery, social services, juvenile justice, etc. Regular class meetings with the supervising faculty to analyze the intern experience and to discuss assigned reading. *Only three credits can be counted toward the Sociology any-level elective major requirement.*

SOC 4970 – Special Studies in Sociology (1-6)

Prerequisites: Fourth year students with a minimum GPA of 3.2 in sociology (or overall GPA of 3.2 for non-majors) and permission of instructor.

An independent study project conducted by the student under the supervision of an instructor of his or her choice. Students must complete independent study application form available on Sociology Department website.

SOC 4980 – Distinguished Majors Thesis Research (3)

Prerequisites: Admission to the Distinguished Majors Program in Sociology & SOC 3120.

Independent research, under the supervision of a DM faculty adviser, for the DMP thesis.

SOC 4981 – Distinguished Majors Thesis Writing (3)

Prerequisites: Admission to the Distinguished Majors Program in Sociology & SOC 4980.

Writing of the DMP thesis under the supervision of a DM faculty adviser.

Graduate Courses

Courses at the 5000-level are open to advanced undergraduates. All such courses have a prerequisite of six credits of sociology or permission of the Instructor; some have additional prerequisites as noted.

SOC 5020 – Introduction to Grad Statistics (3)

Slez, enrl 12, W 9:30am-12pm

Prerequisites: SOC 3130, or graduate standing, six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

This course will serve as an introduction to multivariate regression, with an emphasis on applications in the field of sociology. Along the way we will review basic concepts related to probability and inference. More specifically, this course will cover ANOVA, t tests, OLS regression, and logistic regression. In sum, the course is designed to teach graduate students in sociology how to use basic statistics to address concrete sociological problems.

Dependent section required.

SOC 5030 – Classical Sociological Theory (3)

Kumar, enrl 12, R 10am-12:30pm

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor; open to advanced undergraduates

Seminar focusing on the writing of Marx, Weber, Durkheim, and other social theories. Open to students in related disciplines.

SOC 5140 – Qualitative Methods (3)

Corse, enrl 12, M 1-3:30pm

This course is designed as an introductory overview of qualitative research methods. The course begins with a review of the logic of social enquiry and the basis for claiming sociological knowledge. We then consider a variety of analytic and interpretive approaches to sociological research. The methods covered include interviewing, grounded theory, content analysis, field methods/ethnography, and historical and comparative sociology using documentary/archival materials. We will be reading theoretical, didactic and exemplary materials.

SOC 5320 – Sociology of Gender (3)

Pugh, enrl 12, T 2-4:30pm

Prerequisites: Graduate status; six credits in sociology or permission from the instructor.

This course will explore the social construction and consequences of gender, covering such topics as work, care, sexuality, identity, politics and inequality. Readings will include the classics as well as newer works in the field.

SOC 5370 – Inequality in Higher Education (3)

Roksa, enrl 12, M 6-8:30pm

Why is there so much inequality in college entry and completion? How can higher education provide opportunity while sorting, selecting, and certifying students? What is the relationship between higher education and economic prosperity? By addressing these, and related questions, we will examine the complex interplay between inequality and opportunity and the relationship between higher education and the society at large.

SOC 7980 – Graduate Research Workshop (3)

Pugh, enrl 12, W 1-3:30pm

This class is designed to help graduate students write professional, sociological articles. Students will come in with (at a minimum) a solid literature review plus data collected and analyzed, and leave with a submission-ready manuscript. We will discuss each article section, present and critique work, consider audience, sharpen arguments and improve writing. Required of 3rd year students; open to others later in the program.

SOC 8030/8040 – Sociological Issues (1)

Olick, enrl 55, R 3:30-6pm

Restricted to Sociology only.

Contemporary issues affecting sociology as a science, as an academic discipline, and as a profession. Frequent guest lectures.

SOC 8051 – Sociology of Work (3)

Gorman, enrl 12, W 5-7:30pm

The division of labor, occupational classification, labor force trends, career patterns and mobility, occupational cultures and life-styles, and the sociology of the labor market.

SOC 8055 – Sociology of Law (3)

Black, enrl 5, W 3:30-6pm

Examines the structure and functioning of the legal institution in primitive and modern societies and the institutionalization of social justice. Consideration will be given to a variety of special issues: conditions under which laws change, the relationship between the legal and political systems, and the social impact of legal sanctions.

SOC 8562 – Selected Topics in Sociology: Culture & Morality (3)

Hunter, enrl 8, M 5-7:30pm

This course will examine the sociological nature of morality, both at a conceptual and theoretical level and at an empirical and historical level—as a phenomenon of late modernity. Much of our work in this class will be given to examining different areas of social life in ways that make visible the invisible moral claims being made about the good; bringing into relief the moral concerns concealed within late modernity in its various manifestations.

SOC 8998 – Non-Topical Research, Preparation for MA Research (3)

For Master's research, taken before a thesis director has been selected.

SOC 8999 – Non-Topical Research (3)

For Master's thesis, taken under the supervision of a thesis director

SOC 9010 – Directed Readings (credit to be arranged)

SOC 9050/9060 – Research Apprenticeship (3-12)

This course provides practical research experience through close collaboration with a faculty member. [Faculty members will propose projects and choose apprentices from the pool of applicants.] Student apprentices will be junior colleagues, involved in all phases of the project. This collaborative effort will lead to a distinct scholarly product, usually a co-authored paper suitable for publication.

SOC 9050/9060 is offered on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis, typically for 3 hours of credit. (Three hours may be counted as part of the 24 hours of graded courses for the M.A. degree, though students selecting this option may not apply credits for Directed Readings to the 24-hour requirement. Up to 6 hours of credits for SOC 9050/9060 may be applied to Ph.D. requirements; however, the number of allowable hours for Directed Readings is correspondingly reduced.)

SOC 9998 – Non-Topical Research, Preparation for Doctoral Research (3-12)

For Doctoral Research, taken before a dissertation director has been selected.

SOC 9999 – Non-Topical Research (After Ph.D. Proposal)

For Doctoral Research, taken after a dissertation director has been selected.