

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
SOCIOLOGY
Fall 2017

Undergraduate Courses

SOC 1010 – Introductory Sociology (3)

Olick, enrl 240 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 120 MW 9-9:50am

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)

Bair, enrl 120 MW 1-1:50pm

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 Section 1 - Criminology (3)

Greenland, enrl 200 MW 3-4:15pm

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 2230 Section 2 - Criminology (3)

PeeksMease, enrl 30 TR 8-9:15 am

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 2442 – Systems of Inequality (3)

Pendergrass, enrl 60 TR 9-9:50am

This course will examine various types of inequality (race, class, gender) in the US and abroad. We will discuss sociological theories covering various dimensions of inequality, considering key research findings and their implications. We will examine to what extent ascriptive characteristics impact a person's life chances, how social structures are produced and reproduced, and how individuals are able or unable to negotiate these structures.

Dependent section required.

SOC 2559 – New Course in Sociology - Sociology of Culture (3)

Reed, enrl 60 MW 12-12:50pm

Examines the role of meaning in social life, with a focus on how different theories of culture allow analysis of the relationship of culture to exchange, authority, solidarity, and domination. Analysis of key cultural artefacts (movies, texts, monuments, etc.) is combined with the study of theories of social performance, fields of cultural production, and semiosis. The role of culture during moments of social crisis and transformation is also considered.

Dependent section required.

SOC 2595 – Microsociology (3)

PeeksMease, TR 9:30-10:45am

This course provides an intro to sociological analysis & the subfield of microsociology. The emphasis is deliberately micro and interactional, rather than macro and structural. Questions addressed include: How does society influence how we think, feel, believe, act, and interact with others? What influences the self, social identity, shared social meanings, social roles, and one's position in society? How do we recreate, contest & change society?

SOC 2595 – Immigration & Society (3)

Vickerman, enrl 60 MW 4-4:50pm

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.

Dependent section required.

SOC 3020 – Introduction to Social Theory (3)

Fuchs, enrl 60 TR 10-10:50am

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

Dependent section required.

SOC 3090 – Philosophical Foundations of Social Theory (3)

Fuchs, enrl 35 TR 12:30-1:45pm

This course pursues the question of the ways in which classical social theory is rooted in, and indebted to, philosophy and metaphysics. This will be shown through four cases: Kant's "Critique of Pure Reason," Hegel's "Phenomenology of Spirit," Nietzsche's "Will to Power," Heidegger's "Being and Time." Problems central to all sciences and modes of cognition, such as knowledge & truth, theory & ideology, and agency vs. causality will be covered.

SOC 3120 – Sociology Research Workshop (4)

Guterbock, enrl 72 MW 2-2:50pm

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 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 MW 2-3:15pm

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 3640 – Human Society in History (3)

Kumar, enrl 35 TR 11-12:15pm

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 & Society (3)

Skubby, 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 TR 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 4052 – Sociology of Religious Behavior (3)

Wilcox, enrl 20 MW 2-3:15pm

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

This course will examine established religious traditions as well as dynamic new religions and attempt to account for the stability of religious beliefs and institutions and explain why new religions are a constant feature of human cultures. We will also examine and attempt to explain why millennialism and prophecies of “end-times” are intrinsically a part of some religious traditions. Each student will develop a project, related to the thematic emphasis of the seminar, for the class web page.

SOC 4140 – Sociology of Consumption (3)

Markarova, enrl 20 TR 11-12:15pm

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 4280 - Sociology of Mental Illness & Health (3)

Skubby, enrl 20 TR 9:30-10:45 am

This course explores mental health and illness in social context, focusing especially on the history, definitions, social and cultural determinants, and consequences of conceptualization 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 4559 – New Course in Sociology - Sociology of Power and Authority (3)

Reed, enrl 20 MW 2-3:15pm

Examines the questions of power and authority in society, with a focus in particular on the historical changes in power relations from the 18th century to the present. Particular foci include: variation in how elites access and justify power; the relationship between culture and interests; power, the body, and the self; and performative approaches to power. Students are asked write their own analyses of contemporary power relations.

SOC 4559 – New Course in Sociology - Religion and American Culture (3)

Wood, enrl 20 TR 12:30-1:45pm

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

Using sociological and historical approaches, this course examines the connections between religion and American culture, including family life and gender, politics, race, the challenges of immigration and religious diversity, and science. Students will consider both the ways in which the distinctively American context has shaped religious life in the United States and the reverse: how religion continues to shape American culture.

SOC 4600 – Gender & Culture (3)

Corse, enrl 20 TR 2-3:15pm

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

How the social definition of gender affects and is affected by cultural artifacts such as literature, movies, music, and TV. Students are expected to be familiar with general sociological concepts and theory and be regularly prepared for participation in a demanding seminar.

SOC 4810 – Undergraduate Internship Program (4)

Farber,

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 3.4 in sociology (or overall GPA of 3.4 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. Application required: <http://www.virginia.edu/sociology/forms/independentstudyform.pdf>

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 Statistics (Grad) (3)

Gorman, enrl 12 T 5-7:30pm

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

SOC 5020 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) (History of Sociology)

Kumar, enrl 12 W 3:30-6pm

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 R 9:30am-12pm

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 5420 – Social Stratification (3)

Roksa, enrl 12 R 12:30-3pm

Prerequisites: SOC 5030, 7130 or their equivalent, or instructor permission.

Studies the distribution of rewards and punishments and the resulting social inequalities in cross-cultural and historical perspective. Analyzes negative liabilities such as arrest, imprisonment, unemployment, and stigmatization, and positive assets such as education, occupation, income, and honor. Draws on the literature of both stratification and deviance/criminology. Focuses on the distributive aspects of power and the resulting social formations such as classes, and status groups.

SOC 7980 - Graduate Research Workshop (3)

Bair, enrl 12 M 3:30-6pm

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 – Sociological Issues (1)

Olick, enrl 25 R 3:30-6pm

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

SOC 8031 – Sociology ProSeminar (3)

Olick, enrl 10 W 10am-12:30pm

The ProSeminar provides an introduction for first year graduate students to the discipline and profession of Sociology, as well as to the Sociology Department.

SOC 8054 – Political Sociology (3)

Wang, enrl 12 T 2-4:30pm

Explores the relationships between social structure and political institutions. Competing theories about such topics as power structures, political participation, ideology, party affiliation, voting behavior, and social movements are discussed in the context of recent research on national and local politics in the United States.

SOC 8998 – Non-Topical Research, Preparation for MA Research (1-12)

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

SOC 8999 – Non-Topical Research (1-12)

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

SOC 9010 – Directed Readings (credit to be arranged)

SOC 9050 – 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 options may not apply credits for Directed Readings to the 24-hour requirement. Up to 6 hours of credits for SOC 905/906 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 (1-12)

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

SOC 9999 – Non-Topical Research, After Ph.D. Proposal (1-12)

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