

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
SOCIOLOGY
Fall 2018

Undergraduate Courses

SOC 1010 – Introductory Sociology (3)

Hunter, enrl 240, MW 9-9:50am

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 1010 – Introductory Sociology (3)

Fuchs, enrl 35, TR 1-1:50pm

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.

SOC 2052 – Sociology of the Family (3)

Pugh, enrl 180, MW 1-1:50pm

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 2230 Sec. 100 – Criminology (3)

Greenland, enrl 180, TR 2-2:50pm

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.

Dependent section required.

SOC 2230 Sec. 002 – Criminology (3)

Buckelew, enrl 30, TR 8-9:15am

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 11-11:50am

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.

SOC 2595 – Immigration & Society (3)

Vickerman, enrl 60, MW 12-12:50pm

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 2900 – Economy & Society (3)

Poliillo, enrl 60, TR 9-9:50 am

Markets, firms, and money are part of everyday experience. Economists insist that they should work similarly independently of their social context. The central idea of economic sociology is that economic institutions are 'embedded' in social relations. We will study what embeddedness means, and what it implies. We look at how institutions constitute markets; how rationality varies; and how money interacts with social relations in unexpected ways.

Dependent section required.

SOC 3020 – Introduction to Social Theory (3)

Fuchs, enrl 60, TR 2-2:50pm

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 3120 – Sociology Research Workshop (4)

Guterbock, enrl 72, MW 11-11:50am

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)

TBD, enrl 35, MW 3:30-4:45pm

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 3440 – Chinese Society (3)

Wang, enrl 24, MW 2-3:15pm

This seminar provides a survey of Chinese society and social changes in the reform-era (1979 to the present). It uses sociological analysis to comprehensively examine various aspects of contemporary Chinese society including: economic development, social inequality, governance, political reform, nationalism, religion, ethnicity, and popular culture. *Meets Non-Western Studies Requirement.*

SOC 3470 – Sociology of Development (3)

Wang, enrl 35, MW 3:30-4:45pm

This study of the development of human societies explores the five major 'techo-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 3559 – Sociology of Innovation (3)

Polillo, enrl 35, TR 11-12:15pm

Creative destruction, the creative economy, innovation, risk: these terms have become commonplace in debates about the character of our current landscape. This course grounds these concepts in the sociology of innovation. We will draw from an eclectic set of readings ranging from the analysis of intellectual creativity to the sociology of the arts, from the political economy of financial markets to the sociology of collaboration and teamwork.

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 & Society (3)

TBD, enrl 60, MW 9-9:50am

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.

Dependent section required.

SOC 3820 – Social Movements (3)

Slez, enrl 35, MW 3:30-4:45pm

Social movements are an historical and global phenomenon of great complexity and variety. Because the topic can be so broad, the course is organized around case studies of civil rights, the industrial workers' movement, environmentalism, religious fundamentalism, and the counter movements to globalization. These cases will be used to illustrate variety of themes and principles, and you will learn about specific events, personalities, organizations, and dynamics that shaped these movements. By this method, you will gain specific knowledge about important social movements, as well as an overview and general orientation to the sociology of this dynamic area of social life.

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 4057 – Family Policy (3)

Wilcox, enrl 20, MW 3:30-4:45pm

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

The relationship between family and society as expressed in policy and law. Focus on the effects of formal policy on the structure of families and the interactions within families. The American family system

will be examined as it has responded to laws and policies of government and private industry and to change in society.

SOC 4070 – Sociology of Art (3)

Greenland, enrl 20, TR 11-12:15pm

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

This class is designed as a seminar on the sociology of art. Students are expected to be familiar with general sociological concepts and theory. In this class we will cover material from a wide range of perspectives in an attempt to understand the social context of art. The course is structured as a seminar, which makes class attendance and preparation essential.

SOC 4140 – Sociology of Consumption (3)

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

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 4230 – Deviance and Social Control (3)

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

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor.

An examination of a variety of deviant behaviors in American society and the sociological theories that explain societal reactions and attempts at social control. Focus on enduring conditions such as drug addiction, alcoholism, and mental illness.

SOC 4350 – Comparative Gender Stratification (3)

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

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

The course examines (1) theories of gender stratification, (2) the extent of, and changes in, gender stratification in the U.S. and (3) a cross-cultural look at the extent of gender stratification from our hunting-and-gathering ancestors to today's information/biotech society. The course will also (4) look at contemporary examples of both local level gender equality/near equality and extreme gender inequality (e.g., in Taliban Afghanistan).

SOC 4480 – Sociology of Professions (3)

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

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

What is a profession? Why do professions play such a prominent role in society? This course examines the complex nature of professional work, the problem of professional ethics, the influence of professions as political actors, and sources of inequality in professional earnings and prestige.

SOC 4559 Sec 1 – New Course in Sociology – Topic: Race, Crime and Punishment (3)

Buckelew, enrl 20, TR 11-12:15pm

This course explores the role of race in shaping patterns of crime and punishment in the United States. Students will analyze theoretical frameworks, data, and public policy to understand how key institutions and systems, like corrections, education, and immigration, relate to the overrepresentation of minorities in the criminal justice system.

SOC 4660 – Sociology of Power and Authority (3)

Prerequisites: Six credits of sociology or permission of instructor

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 to write their own analyses of contemporary power relations.

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

Corse, enrl 5, Department Consent Required

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)

Corse, enrl 5, Instructor Consent Required

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)

Corse, enrl 12, Instructor Consent Required

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)

Slez, enrl 12, W 9:30am-12:00pm

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.

SOC 5030 – Classical Sociological Theory (3) (History of Sociology)

Kumar, enrl 12, R 9:30am – 12:00 pm

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 5056 - Sociology of Culture (3)

Reed, enrl 120, T 5:00-7:00pm

This course is designed as a graduate level introduction to and overview of the field of cultural sociology. The seminar format makes class preparation and attendance crucial. Students are expected to have done the reading and be prepared for discussion every week. Students will be graded on three short papers, preparing and leading class discussion one week, and a final research design or annotated bibliography, and class presentation.

SOC 5140 – Qualitative Methods (3)

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

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 7980 - Graduate Research Workshop (3)

Bair, enrl 12, M 2-4:30pm

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 – Sociological Issues (1)

Olick, enrl 25, R 3:30-6:00pm

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, M 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 8710 – Sociology of Organizations (3)

Gorman, enrl 12, T 10am-12:30pm

An examination of formal organizations in government, industry, education, health care, religion, the arts, and voluntary associations. Considers such topics as power and authority, communication, “informal” relations, commitment and alienation.

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 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.