Sociology (BA)

This program is offered by the College of Arts & Sciences/Anthropology & Sociology Department.

Program Description
Courses in sociology (SOCL) teach students to develop a "sociological imagination," providing students with the tools to systematically study society, social change, and social stability; to understand the structures and patterns that shape social interaction between individuals, groups, and nations; to recognize the ways individual choices are influenced by larger social structures; to critically interpret social patterns from multiple perspectives; and to understand human diversity and cultural variation locally and globally.

Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:
- Describe the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in sociology.
- Analyze and apply research methods in sociology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.
- Implement the use of critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to examine problems related to sociology.
- Evaluate the diversity within and across countries.
- Assess, explain, and predict the effect of structural factors on personal, social, and organizational issues.

Degree Requirements
A minimum of 128 credit hours consisting of the following:
- 43 required credit hours within the sociology major.
- Of the required 43 hours, 21 hours must be at the 3000 level and above with at least 9 hours at the 4000 level.
- 3 international language requirement credit hours
- Applicable University Global Citizenship Program hours
- Electives

Courses completed with a grade below a C- do not count toward fulfilling the specific course requirements of the major.

No more than 6 credit hours obtained in senior thesis, practica, independent learning experiences, reading courses, and assessment of prior learning may be applied toward the 43 credit hours required for a major.

Transfer students can apply up to 15 credit hours of approved SOCI course work from other colleges/universities towards the SOCI major. Students may transfer in 3 credit hours of approved foreign language course work to meet the international language requirement for sociology.

International Language Requirement
- A minimum of three hours in a non-native language is required in addition to the requirements for the major.

Courses used towards the International Language requirement may also be used to fulfill general education requirements or a major/minor in a foreign language.
- Transfer students who have completed their 3 credits at an institution of higher education are considered to have fulfilled the requirement, as are students who have scored a “3” or higher on an Advanced Placement exam in a non-native language.
- For students whose native language is not English, a passing grade on the TOEFL will count as their foreign language requirement. Students who are from bilingual families but have no evidence of academic study of the second language on a transcript will need to take one course.

Curriculum
The 43 credit hours required for the sociology major include the following:
- SOCI 1100 Introduction to Sociology (3 hours)
- SOCI 1800 Careers in Sociology (1 hour)
- SOCI 2750 Introduction to Measurement and Statistics (3 hours)
- SOCI 2825 Introduction to Research Methods (3 hours)
- SOCI 3550 Sociological Theory (3 hours)
- SOCI 4900 Senior Overview or SOCI 4825 Senior Thesis (3 hours)
- Sociology Electives (12 hours)

At least ONE course from EACH of the following five content areas:

Social Interaction and Change
- SOCI 2175 Social Movements (3 hours)
- SOCI 2600 Topics in Social Informatics (3)
- SOCI 3175 Social Psychology (3 hours)
- SOCI 4175 Globalization and Social Change (3 hours)

Social Institutions
- SOCI 2275 Topics in Social Institutions (3 hours)
- SOCI 4276 Organizational Theory (3 hours)
- SOCI 3276 Sociology of Media and Technology (3 hours)

Crime, Deviance, and Social Control
- SOCI 2300 Topics in Deviance and Social Control (3 hours)
- SOCI 2375 Global Social Problems (3 hours)
- CRIM 3300 Criminology Theory (3 hours)
- SOCI 3380 Transnational Crime (3 hours)

Inequality
- SOCI 2400 Topics in Inequality (3)
- SOCI 3450 Sex and Gender (3 hours)
- SOCI 3475 Race and Ethnicity (3 hours)
- SOCI 4475 Class, Status, and Power (3 hours)

Demography and Community
- SOCI 2575 Urban Sociology (3 hours)
- SOCI 3575 Environmental Sociology (3 hours)
- SOCI 4575 Demography and Social Network Analysis (3 hours)