

Sociology

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It is the goal of the sociology department to prepare students for graduate study, employment and effective Christian participation in a variety of social settings ranging from the family and peer groups to churches and large multinational corporations.

Sociology concentrates attention on the basic processes of social interaction that result in human personality and society. The behavior of humans in groups and organized systems such as the family, work, and government is studied. Sociology also looks at the way human behavior is regulated and standardized around major societal values as compared with biblical standards and values.

The sociology major has four different emphases to allow students to learn the sociological insights and methods that will be most appropriate for their future plans. Three of the emphases are interdisciplinary, which allows the student to focus on an area of study (urban, family or policy issues) rather than a specific academic field. For many students, the sociology major provides an attractive mechanism for double majoring. Since the credit requirement is relatively low and the sociology content allows students to connect the reality of social life to insights from other majors, a double major provides practical utility, expanded employment possibilities and greater intellectual cross-disciplinary development.

Sociology (BA)

The bachelor of arts degree with a major in sociology requires two years of one foreign language and 39 hours in the major, including a 20-hour core and a 19-hour concentration.

Major Requirements

SOC 250	2	Principles of Research and Analysis
SOC 350	3	Social Research Methods
SOC 355	3	Applied Social Statistics
SOC 493	2	Sociology Integrative Seminar
SOC 498	1	Sociology Senior Thesis

Select one course from the following:

*SOC 361	3	History of Social Thought
*SOC 365	3	Contemporary Social Thought

Electives

Select two courses from:

SOC 100	3	Introduction to Sociology
SOC 210	3	Contemporary Social Issues
SOC 220	3	Ethnic and Minority Issues

*Courses in both areas may count only once.

In addition, the major requires 19 hours in one of the following concentration areas:

Family Studies

This concentration focuses on understanding human behavior through the family life cycle. Students interested in working with families through churches, social service agencies or other venues might be particularly interested in this emphasis.

Concentration Requirements

SOC 340	3	Sociology of Children and Families
SOC 381	3	Marriage and Family Systems
SWK 340	3	Working with Children
SWK 355	3	Helping Troubled Families

Select one course from the following:

SOC 393	1	Practicum
SOC 450	1	Directed Research

Electives

Select one elective course from:

SOC 315	3	Social Inequality and Stratification
SOC 410	3	Community and Urban Affairs
SOC 420	3	Organizational Policies and Programs

Select one elective course from:

CAS 382	3	Family Communication
CED 221	3	Ministry to Youth
PSY 240	3	Child Psychology
PSY 250	3	Life Span Development
PSY 340	3	Adolescent Psychology
PSY 390	3	Christian Marriage

Policy Studies

The policy studies concentration provides an interdisciplinary consideration of policies and social programs from organizational, governmental and private agency perspectives. Students interested in the development or implementation of programs or policies at for-profit or nonprofit organizations, service agencies, churches, or government offices might be particularly interested in this emphasis.

Concentration Requirements

SOC 315	3	Social Inequality and Stratification
SOC 420	3	Organizational Policies and Programs
POS 331	3	Public Policy
SWK 362	3	Social Policy

Select one course from the following:

SOC 393	1	Practicum
SOC 450	1	Directed Research

Electives

Select one elective course from:

SOC 340	3	Sociology of Children and Families
SOC 381	3	Marriage and Family Systems
SOC 410	3	Community and Urban Affairs

Select one elective course from:

CAS 411	3	Communication in Organizations
ECO 190	3	Issues in Economics
ECO 202	3	Principles of Macroeconomics
IAS 330	3	Human Relations in Organizations
MGT 352	3	Management Analysis and Practice
SWK 231	3	Social Welfare: Historical Perspectives and Development

Sociology requirements continued on next page

Sociological Studies

This emphasis is a traditional sociology major that allows students to maintain greater flexibility in their course scheduling and also maximize the sociological focus of their studies. Students interested in pursuing graduate work in sociology or having greater flexibility in course scheduling might be particularly interested in this emphasis.

Concentration Requirements

Select one course not taken in the core from the following:

*SOC 361	3	History of Social Thought
*SOC 365	3	Contemporary Social Thought

Select one course from the following:

SOC 393	1	Practicum
SOC 450	1	Directed Research

Select an additional three hours from any combination of:

SOC 393	1-4	Practicum
SOC 450	1-4	Directed Research

Study in an approved off-campus program.

Electives

Select four elective courses from:

SOC 315	3	Social Inequality and Stratification
SOC 340	3	Sociology of Children and Families
SOC 381	3	Marriage and Family Systems
SOC 410	3	Community and Urban Affairs
SOC 420	3	Organizational Policies and Programs

*Courses in both areas may count only once.

Urban Studies

This concentration area offers students the opportunity to learn about urban life through classroom study and field experience. Students interested in addressing urban needs through service agencies, churches or government offices might be particularly interested in this emphasis.

Concentration Requirements

SOC 315	3	Social Inequality and Stratification
SOC 410	3	Community and Urban Affairs

Select one course from the following:

SOC 393	1	Practicum
SOC 450	1	Directed Research

Select six hours in an approved urban program.

Electives

Select one elective course from the following:

SOC 340	3	Sociology of Children and Families
SOC 381	3	Marriage and Family Systems
SOC 420	3	Organizational Policies and Programs

Select one elective course from the following:

CED 392	3	Urban Ministry
ENS 200	3	Environment and Society
SWK 320	3	Unleashing the Oppressed

Sociology/Systems (BS)

The bachelor of science degree with a major in sociology/systems consists of the 39-hour sociology major and curriculum requirements in systems analysis. All systems curriculum courses must be completed with a grade of C- or better.

Systems Curriculum Requirements

COS 120	4	Introduction to Computer Science I
IAS 330	3	Human Relations in Organizations
MAT 151	4	Calculus I
MAT 382	3	Advanced Statistical Methods
SYS 101	3	Introduction to Systems
SYS 390	3	Information Systems Analysis
SYS 392	1	Systems Seminar
SYS 394	3	Information Systems Design
SOC 393	3-4	Practicum

Select one course from the following:

COS 121	4	Introduction to Computer Science II
COS 240	3	Business Application Programming

Select one course from the following:

MAT 210	4	Introductory Statistics
MAT 352	4	Mathematical Statistics

Select one course from the following:

*SYS 401	4	Operations Research
*SYS 402	4	Modeling and Simulation

Systems Electives

Select at least three hours of electives, in addition to those required in the major or systems.

COS 265	3	Data Structures and Algorithms
COS 382	3	Language Structures
MAT 230	4	Calculus II
MAT 240	4	Calculus III
MAT 245	4	Linear Algebra
MAT 251	4	Differential Equations
SYS 214	3	Principles of Human Computer Interaction
SYS 310	3	E-Commerce
*SYS 401	4	Operations Research
*SYS 402	4	Modeling and Simulation
SYS 403	3	Operations Management

*Courses in both areas may count only once.

Sociology Minor

The sociology minor requires 18 hours.

Minor Requirements

Select one course from the following:

SOC 100	3	Introduction to Sociology
SOC 210	3	Contemporary Social Issues

Select one course from the following:

SOC 361	3	History of Social Thought
SOC 365	3	Contemporary Social Thought

Electives

Select 12 hours of sociology electives.

Sociology Courses

SOC 100 3 hours
Introduction to Sociology
A study of the principles and concepts of sociology in the context of present day social systems. Attention is given to major contemporary analyses of social events, processes, and institutions. *Meets general education civic engagement or general social science requirement. Offered spring semester.*

SOC 170 1-4 hours
Selected Topics
A course offered on a subject of interest but not listed as a regular course offering. *May count toward the departmental major and general education requirements.*

SOC 200 3 hours
Cultural Anthropology
An introduction to the principles of cultural anthropology, including the analysis of major anthropological theories and concepts and an examination of social institutional arrangements in small-scale societies. *Only offered periodically.*

SOC 210 3 hours
Contemporary Social Issues
An introduction to the study of social problems from several perspectives. Problems in areas such as drug abuse, crime, education, and the family are examined in the light of basic principles of sociology. *Meets general education civic engagement or general social science requirement. Offered fall semester.*

SOC 220 3 hours
Ethnic and Minority Issues
An analysis of inter-group relations in the United States. Topics include a consideration of the mechanisms of group interaction between dominant and subordinate groups and the experiences and histories of the primary minority groups in the United States. *Meets general education civic engagement or general social science requirement. Offered fall semester.*

SOC 250 2 hours
Principles of Research and Analysis
Intended to prepare students to effectively make sense of the bewildering variety of numbers available in contemporary societies about people, organizations, and social outcomes, this course is an introduction to the key principles of social measurement and basic ways numbers are used to represent patterns in the social world. *Offered fall semester.*

SOC 270 1-4 hours
Selected Topics
A course offered on a subject of interest but not listed as a regular course offering. *May count toward the departmental major and general education requirements.*

SOC 310 3 hours
Religion and Society
An examination of the cultural and structural influences that guide the forms religion takes in society and the processes through which religious ideas, behaviors, and institutions are constructed. Attention is given to the sociological theory and research that underlies religious behavior. *Meets general education general social science requirement. Offered periodically.*

SOC 315 3 hours
Social Inequality and Stratification
This course examines the social systems (cultural and structural) that determine outcomes in wealth, power and social prestige. The primary focus is on class systems. *Offered fall semester of every other year (alternates with SOC 420).*

SOC 330 3 hours
Social Change and Social Movements
This course focuses on the basic premises of social change including the evolutionary, conflict and cyclical theories of social change, and the organized activities of collective behavior and social movements that encourage or discourage social change. Special attention is given to the theoretical contributions of the structural strain, resource mobilization and social constructionists' perspectives. *Meets general education general social science requirement. Offered periodically.*

SOC 340 3 hours
Sociology of Children and Families
This course examines the sociological foundations of childhood including family formation, childhood socialization and the changing cultural significance of children. This course also examines the divergent roles, styles and functions of parenting. *Offered fall semester of every other year (alternates with SOC 381).*

SOC 350 3 hours
Social Research Methods
An exploration of the primary methods of social research and data collection. Topics include defining a research question and design, and data collection from operationalization to data entry. *Prerequisite: SOC 250. Offered fall semester.*

SOC 355 3 hours
Applied Social Statistics
An introduction to statistical analysis for social research issues. The course focuses on the uses of statistics, choosing appropriate statistics for a given problem and interpreting statistical output. *Meets general education mathematics requirement. Prerequisite: SOC 250. Offered spring semester.*

SOC 360 1-4 hours
Independent Study
An individualized, directed study involving a specified topic.

SOC 361 3 hours
History of Social Thought
Primary emphasis is placed upon the contributions of sociologists since the time of Comte. The writings and concepts of leading sociologists in both Europe and America are studied. *Meets general education general social science requirement. Offered fall semester of every other year (alternates with SOC 365).*

SOC 365 3 hours
Contemporary Social Thought
An analysis of social theory as it is practiced today. Building on the classical works of Marx, Durkheim, Weber, Simmel and Mead, this course focuses on how modern sociologists have incorporated the classical writers to explain social developments. Special attention is given to postmodernists, social constructionists, functionalists, neo-Marxists, neo-Weberians and leading feminist thinkers. *Meets general education general social science requirement. Offered fall semester of every other year (alternates with SOC 361).*

SOC 370 1-4 hours
Selected Topics
A course offered on a subject of interest but not listed as a regular course offering. *May count toward the departmental major and general education requirements.*

SOC 381 3 hours
Marriage and Family Systems
A study of the changing state of family systems in America. The course also examines how work, social class, ethnicity and gender affect family structure and function. *Meets general education general social science requirement. Offered fall semester of every other year (alternates with SOC 340).*

SOC 393 1-4 hours
Practicum
Supervised learning involving a first-hand field experience or a project. Generally, one hour of credit is awarded for a minimum of 40 hours of practicum experience. *Offered primarily during summer.*

SOC 410 3 hours
Community and Urban Affairs
Consideration of problems relating to community structure, development and process, beginning with a historical overview of the development of cities. Special emphasis is placed upon the interrelationships of various groupings within communities, particularly within the urban scene. A field trip to a major urban center provides "hands-on" learning. *Offered spring semester.*

SOC 420 3 hours**Organizational Policies and Programs**

A study of the social dynamics that guide and shape organizations in modern societies. The class prepares students to see and work with the structures of organizations like the church, government agencies, for-profit companies and nonprofits. The focus is on the application of organizational theories to organizational settings and includes projects on the development of organizational programs. *Offered spring semester every other year (alternates with SOC 315).*

SOC 450**1-4 hours****Directed Research**

Investigative learning involving closely directed research and the use of such facilities as the library or laboratory.

SOC 480**1-4 hours****Seminar**

A limited-enrollment course designed especially for upper-class majors with emphasis on directed readings and discussion.

SOC 490**1-2 hours****Honors**

Individualized study or research of an advanced topic within a student's major. Open to students with at least a 3.00 GPA in the major field.

SOC 493**2 hours****Sociology Integrative Seminar**

This course provides students with the opportunity to approach the field of sociology holistically and integrate faith and sociological insight. *Offered spring semester.*

SOC 498**1 hour****Sociology Senior Thesis**

Students will complete a senior thesis that demonstrates an ability to apply sociological perspective through a theoretical or methodological analysis of a sociological topic they have chosen. *Offered spring semester.*

Notes
