

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

The Bachelor of Arts in Sociology applies the unique view and perspective of sociology to study all forms of human behavior from individual and small groups interactions of everyday life to larger institutions that shape our global experiences as humans. Students will develop an inclusive and diverse sociological imagination to examine the lived experiences of themselves and others in terms of race and ethnicity, sex and gender, religion, politics, healthcare, and more. Through diverse, cross-cultural perspectives and voices, students will examine the history and impact of social conflict, inequity, and injustice on individuals, groups, and society. Students will develop key skills in collaboration, information literacy, critical thinking, writing, and social science research methods and analysis. Evaluating sociological research, students will identify and devise ways to engage in social movements that promote social justice in their career fields and daily lives. Sociological knowledge and skills are especially well suited as preparation for careers in diverse fields including business, civil service, research, education, healthcare, social service, business, management, social media, or law.

Degree Program Objectives

In addition to the institutional and degree level learning objectives, graduates of this program are expected to achieve these learning outcomes:

- Differentiate major paradigms, classic and contemporary theories that inform the study of sociology.
- Apply a sociological imagination to everyday social behavior as well as current social issues and crises
- Identify how social stratification influences social inequality and social injustice.
- Discuss how the individual self-concept is directly influenced by social processes and social structures.
- Describe the functions and influence of social institutions on societies.
- Evaluate appropriate ethical considerations, methodological approaches and analysis techniques for sociological research.
- Assess the impact of social change and technology on social life and social relationships.

Degree at a Glance

Code	Title	Semester Hours
	General Education Requirements	30
	Major Required	21
	Select one of the following concentrations:	15

Community Action (p. 2)	
Digital Society (p. 3)	
Education (p. 3)	
Health (p. 3)	
Public Policy (p. 4)	
Social Justice (p. 4)	
Final Program Requirements	3
Elective Requirements	51
Total Semester Hours	120

Degree Program Requirements

General Education Requirements (30 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Arts and Humanities (6 semester hours)¹		
Select 2 courses from the following:		6
ARAB100	Arabic I	
ARAB101	Arabic II	
ARTH200	Art Appreciation	
ARTH241	Film and Literature	
DSIN141	Image Enhancement using Adobe Photoshop	
FREN100	French I	
FREN101	French II	
GERM100	German I	
GERM101	German II	
JAPN100	Introduction to Japanese	
LITR215	Literature of American Encounters, Revolution, and Rebellion	
LITR218	From Abolition to #MeToo: Literature of the American Civil Rights Movement	
LITR222	Pivotal Figures in Early British Literature	
LITR225	British Literature from Wordsworth through the Wasteland	
LITR231	Leadership in World Literature: Antiquity to the Early Modern Period	
LITR233	Literature of the Newly Globalized World: The Individual's Struggle to Adapt	
MUSI200	Music Appreciation	
MUSI250	World Music and Cultures	
PHIL101	Introduction to Philosophy	
PHIL110	Critical Thinking	
PHIL200	Introduction to Ethics	
PHIL202	Philosophy of Science	

PORT100	Introduction to Brazilian Portuguese
RELS201	Introduction to World Religions
RUSS100	Russian I
SPAN100	Spanish I
SPAN101	Spanish II
STEM270	Thinking and Acting Ethically

Civics, Political and Social Sciences (6 semester hours)

SOCI111	Introduction to Sociology	3
SOCI212	Social Problems	3

Communication: Writing, Oral, and Multimedia (9 semester hours)

COMM120	Information and Digital Literacy	3
ENGL110	Making Writing Relevant	3

Select 1 course from the following: 3

COMM200	Public Speaking
ENGL101	Proficiency in Writing
ENGL115	Argumentation and Rhetoric
ENGL210	Introduction to Literature
ENGL220	Technical Writing
ENGL221	Scientific Writing
ENGL226	Effective Business Communication
HRMT101	Human Relations Communication
IRLS200	Information Literacy and Global Citizenship
ITCC231	Introduction to Information Technology Writing
MGMT100	Human Relations

History (3 semester hours)

Select 1 course from the following: 3

HIST101	American History to 1877
HIST102	American History since 1877
HIST111	World Civilization before 1650
HIST112	World Civilization since 1650
HIST121	Western Civilization before The Thirty Years War
HIST122	Western Civilization since The Thirty Years War
HIST221	African-American History before 1877
HIST222	African-American History since 1877
HIST223	History of the American Indian
HIST270	History of Science
STEM185	The History and Context of STEM

Mathematics and Applied Reasoning (3 semester hours)

MATH120	Introduction to Statistics	3
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Natural Sciences (3 semester hours)

Select 1 course from the following: 3

BIOL180	Introduction to Biology
BIOL181	Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology
CHEM180	Introduction to Chemistry

ERSC180	Introduction to Meteorology
ERSC181	Introduction to Geology
EVSP180	Introduction to Environmental Science
PHYS180	Introduction to Physics
SPST180	Introduction to Astronomy
STEM100	Introduction to STEM Disciplines

Total Semester Hours 30

¹ All literature courses require successful completion of ENGL101 - Proficiency in Writing or ENGL110 - Making Writing Relevant.

Major Required (21 semester hours)

Complete at least 2 courses in the Major section before taking SOCI331 or SOCI332.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
SOCI213	Society, Interaction, and the Individual	3
SOCI214	Stratification and Inequality	3
SOCI215	Social Deviance	3
SOCI303	Classical Sociological Theory	3
SOCI305	Contemporary Sociological Theory	3
SOCI331	Research Methods for Sociology	3
SOCI332	Statistics for Social Science	3
Total Semester Hours		21

Students must choose a concentration for this degree program and may select from a Concentration in Community Action, Concentration in Digital Society, Concentration in Education, Concentration in Health, Concentration in Public Policy, or a Concentration in Social Justice.

Concentration in Community Action (15 semester hours)

This interdisciplinary concentration will prepare sociology students for careers that relate to community organization and action. Students will explore organizations, agents of social change, religious organizations, and the role of the family in communities.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Apply the sociological imagination to understanding different types of communities and the motivation of communities to engage in action.

- Analyze communities using organizational sociology theories.
- Identify career paths for sociologists with expertise in community organization and action.

Concentration Requirements (15 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
SOCI312	Organizational Sociology	3
SOCI403	Social Change	3
SOCI420	Sociology of Religion	3
SOCI421	Sociology of the Family	3
CHFD446	Families and Social Action	3
Total Semester Hours		15

Concentration in Digital Society (15 semester hours)

This interdisciplinary concentration will prepare sociology students for professional responsibilities that involve digital communication and media, social media management, and social media analysis. Students will examine how sociological theory applies to digital society, explore online social communities to examine the effectiveness of design and interaction, and identify ways to collect and analyze online social data.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Apply sociological theory to our digital society.
- Examine data provided in online digital communities.
- Identify career paths for sociologists with expertise in digital communication and social media.

Concentration Requirements (15 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
SOCI340	Digital Society	3
SOCI341	Social Analysis of Digital Communities	3
COMM255	Digital Tools and Media in Communication	3
WEBD300	User Interface Design	3
ITMG381	Cyberlaw and Privacy in a Digital Age	3
Total Semester Hours		15

Concentration in Education (15 semester hours)

This interdisciplinary concentration will prepare sociology students for education related career fields. Students will explore organizations, social movements and social change, learning theory, and strategies for measuring and evaluating education programs and institutions.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Compare and contrast education practices and systems using a sociological perspective.
- Evaluate the historical and current relationships between education, inequality, and socioeconomics.
- Identify career paths for sociologists in education related fields.

Concentration Requirements (15 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
SOCI312	Organizational Sociology	3
SOCI403	Social Change	3
EDUC340	Adult Learning Theory	3
CHFD350	Family Life Education	3
EDUC402	Measurement and Evaluation	3
Total Semester Hours		15

Concentration in Health (15 semester hours)

This interdisciplinary concentration will prepare sociology students for health related career fields. Students will explore sociological factors that play a role in health and illness, the history of healthcare institutions, the process of aging and death. Students will examine public health issues in both national and international contexts using a sociological lens.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Analyze the historical and current relationships between health, inequality, and socioeconomics using sociological theories.

- Apply a sociological perspective to evaluating different healthcare systems.
- Identify career paths for medical sociologists in public health and other healthcare related fields.

Concentration Requirements (15 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
SOCI307	Sociology of Aging	3
SOCI423	Sociology of Health and Illness	3
SOCI424	Sociology of Death and Dying	3
PBHE209	Wellness: Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	3
PBHE211	Public Health in America	3
Total Semester Hours		15

Concentration in Public Policy (15 semester hours)

This interdisciplinary concentration will prepare sociology students for careers related to understanding the sociological and bureaucratic factors that relate to public policy in local, national, and international settings. Students will apply sociological theory to understand organizations, political institutions, law, and social change.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Analyze social problems and the public policies and programs designed to solve them.
- Apply a sociological perspective to historical and current issues in public policy such as voting rights, incarceration, and workplace rights.
- Identify career paths for sociologists in public service, administration, and other organizations.

Concentration Requirements (15 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
SOCI311	Political Sociology	3
SOCI312	Organizational Sociology	3
SOCI422	Sociology of the Law	3
SOCI403	Social Change	3

POLS410	Public Policy	3
Total Semester Hours		15

Concentration in Social Justice (15 semester hours)

This interdisciplinary concentration will prepare sociology students for careers in promoting and supporting social justice issues in local, national, and international settings. Students will examine social justice issues related to race and ethnicity as well as gender and sex. Courses will also examine social movements and social change as well as leadership and organizational culture.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Examine causes and consequences of poverty at local, national, and international levels.
- Evaluate availability and effectiveness of social welfare programs and explore new strategies for increasing social justice.
- Identify career paths for sociologists in organizations addressing social justice and social welfare issues.

Concentration Requirements (15 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
SOCI306	Race and Ethnicity	3
SOCI312	Organizational Sociology	3
MGMT312	Leadership & Motivation	3
SOCI403	Social Change	3
SOCI404	Gender and Society	3
Total Semester Hours		15

Final Program Requirements (3 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
SOCI498	Senior Seminar in Sociology (to be taken as the last course before graduation) ¹	3
Total Semester Hours		3

¹ Prerequisite: SOCI111 and completion of all major and elective courses prior to enrollment.

Elective Requirements (51 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select any courses not already taken to fulfill the requirements listed above. Credits applied toward a minor or certificate in an unrelated field may be used to fulfill elective credit for the major.		51
<hr/> Total Semester Hours		51