

SOCIOLOGY (SOC)

SOC 200

Introduction to Sociology

Introduces students to the structure and operation of society. The course analyzes individual behavior and emphasizes social problems.

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 203

Engaging Sociology

A more visual and performative, communication-intensive alternative to SOC 200. Students read and take short quizzes on chapters from a standard text and prepare weekly assignments that apply the associated concepts and insights. Assignments vary, from reviewing scholarly articles and identifying and exploring sociological databases to taking photographs to bringing in music and film clips illustrating political and social cartoons and designing and/or identifying spaces, devices, and clothing that illustrate the topics at hand.

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 208

Social Psychology and Society

Explores different aspects of everyday judgments and their sometimes undesirable social consequences, especially the Fundamental Attribution Error. Other topics include various types of group influences on individual judgment and behavior, as well as persuasion, "brainwashing," helping behavior, and prejudice. Formerly called SOC 308.

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 211

Introduction to the Sociology of Space

This introductory sociology course deals with people's general experience of space and how space and spatial arrangements affect people, social interaction, and the sense of community. It is designed to develop knowledge and understanding as well as analytical and perceptive skills. Our experiences of the spatial dimension of reality will be examined from various perspectives: emotional; cognitive; functional; symbolic; and cross-cultural. Our study objects range from everyday experiences to questions of community and city planning. Basic sociological concepts and research methods will be introduced and related to the topics covered. This course is required for SOC 311 (Social Use of Space).

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 212

Contemporary Social Problems

Investigates various "social problems" and how they came to be defined as problematic. The course covers such general sociological concepts and theoretical perspectives as symbolic interactionism, conflict theory, structural functionalism, and constructionism. Students also examine the role of state advocates and the media in defining social problems. Case studies illustrate how different theoretical perspectives lead to different "solutions" and policy recommendations.

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 285

Introductory Special Topics in Sociology

Investigates a topic of current interest at an introductory level. Topic will be announced by instructor at scheduling time. There are no prerequisites for this course. Course may be taken multiple times, provided the topic is different each time.

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 301

The Social Dimension of Science

Examines how social and psychological factors influence the reasoning and behavior of scientists. By contrasting traditional views of science with actual scientific practice, the course aims to understand such phenomena as "hype," resistance to scientific discovery, controversy, vicious competition, error, self-deception, and fraud.

Prerequisite(s): [(HUM 200-299)]

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 302

Science and Belief

Explores the relationship between science and belief by comparing Western science with other belief systems, science with religion, and science with pseudo-science. The course also examines cultural and ideological influences on scientific knowledge and public faith in science.

Prerequisite(s): [(HUM 200-299)]

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 303

Science in Society

Examines the role of the institution of science, scientific knowledge, and scientists in society. The course focuses on areas where science significantly influences and is influenced by political, economic, and cultural institutions and contexts.

Prerequisite(s): [(HUM 200-299)]

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 305

Social Communication

Studies the variety of subtle ways, verbal and nonverbal, in which humans communicate in personal, professional, and public life, and how to identify and solve problems and misunderstandings that typically arise. Topics include the social nature of humans, interpersonal communication, interaction within and between groups, teamwork, leadership, and intercultural communication.

Prerequisite(s): [(HUM 200-299)]

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 311

Social Use of Space

Gives students basic insights into people's experience of space and the effect of spatial arrangements on people's behavior. The course explores the differences in conceptions between planners and users and the need to take the user into account in spatial design.

Prerequisite(s): [(SOC 211)]

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Social Sciences (S)

SOC 340

Social Organization and Control

Surveys theories explaining the organization and structure of complex societies. The problem of social control, or the capacity of a society to regulate itself formally and informally according to its desired principles, is viewed as a central problem of social organization. Same as PS 340.

Prerequisite(s): [(HUM 200-299)]

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 348

Deviant Behavior and Conformity

Analyzes the definition, development, and control of deviant behavior in relation to social processes. Societal reaction to and the amount, distribution, and behavioral systems of various forms of deviance (drug addiction, suicide, crime, alcoholism, illegitimacy, etc.) are examined.

Prerequisite(s): [(HUM 200-299)]

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 351

Sociology of Work

Begins with a brief comparison of the nature, role, and meaning of work across time and space. The course continues with a survey of some of today's most important topics in the study of work, primarily looking at the United States and other developed countries.

Prerequisite(s): [(HUM 200-299)]

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 362

Technology and Social Change

Examines the social implications of selected emerging and cutting-edge technologies with an emphasis on recent developments and events. The course investigates the consequences of those technologies for society using both short-term and long-term perspectives and including moral, ethical, socioeconomic, and educational considerations. Same as PS 362.

Prerequisite(s): [(HUM 200-299)]

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 385

Topics in Sociology

Investigates a topic of current interest in Sociology which will be announced by the instructor when the course is scheduled.

Prerequisite(s): [(HUM 200-299)]

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 425

Privacy

This course explores current conceptualizations of and behaviors about privacy. It is a reading-intensive, film-based, senior-level seminar on the design and engineering of privacy, the case law and policy aspects of privacy, professions deeply engaged in issues of privacy, the commercial business of privacy, and the cultural and cross-cultural cognitive, personal, and interpersonal behaviors of privacy.

Prerequisite(s): [(SOC 190-299 and SOC 300-399)]

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 490

Senior Seminar

This is the capstone course for sociology majors. It is intended to bring together a number of concepts, methodological approaches, and research skills while exploring a particular topic of current significance within the discipline.

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Social Sciences (S)

SOC 491

Undergraduate Research in Sociology

Working with a member of the sociology faculty, students will choose a topic, conduct research, and complete an original, independent research project.

Prerequisite(s): [(SOC 190-299 and SOC 300-399)]

Credit: Variable

Satisfies: Communications (C)

SOC 497

Directed Readings

Consists of independent reading or analysis, centered on particular problems and supervised by a member of the Sociology faculty.

Credit: Variable; maximum 3 credit hours.

Prerequisite(s): [(SOC 190-299 and SOC 300-399)]

Credit: Variable

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 498

Exercises in Behavioral Observation

Provides students with an opportunity to acquire better field-work skills by providing a forum for discussing and practicing the craft. This is a seminar in advanced ethnographic methods. Permission of instructor is required.

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)