

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES OF STUDY

SOCIOLOGY

SOCI 101.INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

General perspectives of sociologists toward human behavior in social groups, the individual as a social actor, interaction pattern between social groups, inter-institutional differentials in human behavior, and dynamics of social systems. SOCI 101 is required of all sociology majors. (General Education – Behavioral and Social Perspectives)

Three credit hours.

SOCI 202. SOCIAL PROBLEMS

This course features descriptions and discussion of contemporary social problems, with a focus on using sociological theories to explain their origins. Special attention is paid to potential solutions and the organizations or social movements advocating for them. (General Education – Behavioral and Social Perspectives) **Three credit hours.**

SOCI 221.UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH IN SOCIOLOGY

In this course students engage in a faculty-directed research project or assist with faculty research. This course may be repeated for additional credit as the topic of the research project changes. Prerequisite: Instructor permission. Graded pass/fail. **One credit hour.**

SOCI 227.SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

This course offers an introductory survey of the sociology of social movements. Particular social movements to be studied may include (but are not limited to) environmental, civil rights, feminist, gay rights, class-based, hate-based, and international social movements. Significant attention will be paid to the history, theory, and methods of social movement research and the role of social movements in contemporary society. Prerequisite: “C” or better in SOCI 101, or instructor permission. **Three credit hours.**

SOCI 228.POPULAR CULTURE AND THE MASS MEDIA

This course addresses the sociology of popular culture; and the mass media through theories of the construction and reproduction of popular culture, the role and influence of the mass media in society; connections to systems of race, class, and gender stratification; and the sociology of particular forms of mass media. Prerequisite: “C” or better in SOCI 101, or Instructor permission. **Three credit hours.**

SOCI 229.DRUGS, ALCOHOL, AND SOCIETY

This course provides an overview of the relationship between human societies and chemical substances. More than just how drugs affect the body, this course explores how drugs affect societies and how they, in turn, react through the creation of laws and norms. Topics covered include the sociological contexts of drug use, drug laws and policies, and social patterns and correlates. (General Education – World Cultures) **Three credit hours.**

SOCI 250.CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE LEGACY OF DR. BENJAMIN E. MAYS

This course examines the life and legacy of Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, a native of Greenwood County, minister, professor, advocate for civil rights, and as president of Morehouse College, mentor to such leaders as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The course includes the study of race and civil rights in American society during Dr. May’s lifetime (1894-1984) and beyond. Cross-listed with HIST 250. Prerequisite: Instructor permission. **Three credit hours.**

SOCI 271.SPECIAL TOPICS IN SOCIOLOGY

This course provides an exploration of topics and issues not currently included in the sociology curriculum. The course may be repeated for additional credit as the topic changes. Prerequisite: “C” or better in SOCI 101, or instructor permission. **Three credit hours.**

SOCI 275.SOCIAL INEQUALITIES

This course focuses on the causes and consequences of systems of class, gender, race, and ethnic stratification within the United States. It addresses the history of systems of stratification, how they impact the distribution and reproduction of wealth, power, and privilege, and efforts to mitigate social inequalities. Prerequisite: “C” or better in SOCI 101 or permission of the instructor. **Three credit hours.**

SOCI 294.SOCIOLOGY OF THE SOUTH

The American South is a fascinating social, economic, and cultural landscape with rich historical and contemporary significance. Although the culture of the region may appear homogenous, in reality the South is a mosaic of people, viewpoints, languages and practices. This course addresses the sociology of the South through the respective lenses of class, race and gender stratification. Prerequisites: Prerequisite: "C" or better in SOCI 101, or a "C" or better in either HIST 111 or 112, or permission of the instructor. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 311.INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WORK

The course explores the concepts of generalist social work practice and the personal and professional skills needed in the field of social work. The course introduces basic social work practice that incorporates a range of skills needed to intervene in numerous practice settings with varied client populations. It integrates the ethics, principles, and values of social work as well as the knowledge base to support strategies used in improving clients' life situations. Cross-listed with SW 311. Prerequisites: SOCI 101 and either PSYC 101 or PSYC 102. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 314.SOCIAL WELFARE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

This course examines the history of social welfare, including the values, beliefs, and attitudes that have shaped social welfare in the United States. The course examines a variety of social issues and addresses political and economic factors that affect social welfare policy. Cross-listed with SW 314. Prerequisite: "C" or better in SOCI 101, and in either PSYC 101 or PSYC 102. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 315.NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

This course explores topics and issues related to non-profit organizations that are found at both the micro and macro levels of society to illustrate how non-profit organizations provide direct and indirect services to individuals, communities, and other organizations. The course covers the structures, funding, and various types of non-profit organizations. Prerequisite: SOCI 101 and POLS 101, or instructor permission. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 317.SOCIAL WORK INTERVENTION

This course develops skills required for case management in a variety of disciplines. It provides the opportunity to learn and practice assessment, intervention, and evaluation skills needed in a variety of careers that involve working with individuals, families, and large and small groups within either government or non-profit social services agencies. Cross-listed with SW 317. Prerequisites: SOCI 101, and PSYC 101 or PSYC 102. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 321.MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY

This is a holistic exploration of the ways in which health, illness, and medical practices are socially patterned across society. It involves analysis of the institutions that provide health and human services, including healthcare institutions, government agencies, and non-profit organizations. Prerequisite: "C" or better in either SOCI 101 or 202. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 322.SOCIOLOGY OF MENTAL HEALTH

This course examines sociocultural variations in the predictability of psychopathology of mental disorders. The course provides a critical analysis of the complex organizations, etiologies, typologies, and social policies relative to the phenomenon of mental health. Prerequisite: "C" or better in either SOCI 101 or SOCI 202. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 328.SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER

This course analyzes the role of gender and sexuality in society. It explores the social construction of gender; cross-cultural research variations of masculinity, femininity, and secularity; how gender and sexuality impact life chances and well-being; and gendered dimensions of social institutions, such as the economy, media, family, religion, politics, science, and the law. Prerequisite: "C" or better in either SOCI 101 or SOCI 202. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 329.RACE AND ETHNICITY

This course examines the nature of race and ethnicity as they are constructed in social and cultural contexts. Of particular concern are the ways in which race and ethnicity relate to systems of stratification, how they shape individual and group identity; and the intersection of these concepts with prominent institutions such as politics, sports, and the economy. The course also examines both historical and cultural examples of prejudice and discrimination. Prerequisite: "C" or better in SOCI 101 or SOCI 202, or instructor permission. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 331.DEVIANCE AND SOCIAL CONTROL

This course concerns the sociology of deviance and social control at both individual and organizational levels of society. Theories of deviance, different forms of deviance, mechanisms of social control, and how deviant behavior is related to questions of power, identity, and systems of race, class, and gender stratification, will all be addressed. Prerequisite: "C" or better in either SOCI 101 or SOCI 202. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 351.SOCIOLOGY OF FAMILY

This course provides an in-depth cross-cultural analysis of family systems. It will involve an examination of the major aspects of the family. In addition, attempts will be made to understand the basic sociological perspectives employed in the analysis of family. Prerequisite: completion of at least 40 credit hours of university coursework. Junior/senior status recommended. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 356.SOCIOLOGY OF SPORTS

This course addresses the sociology of sports in the United States. Sports relationships at micro, meso, and macro levels of sociological reality will be examined. Particular attention will be paid to understanding how sporting activities are embedded in systems of class, race, and gender stratification and how they relate to social institutions such as the family, politics, media, religion, and the economy. Prerequisites: "C" or better in either SOCI 101 or SOCI 202, or instructor permission. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 361.SOCIOLOGY OF AGING

This course is an in-depth comparison of social problems and issues of aging and how they relate to both time and place. Theories of aging will be introduced and analyzed with reference to the variations and similarities of the aging experience across the world. Prerequisite: Junior/senior status recommended. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 363.ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY

This course is an introduction to the field of environmental sociology. It addresses the impact of natural and built environments upon human populations; the relationships between nature, culture, and society; the causes and consequences of environmental degradation in the United States and around the world; and differential responses of individual, institutional, and non-institutional actors to environmental problems. Junior/senior status recommended. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 371.SPECIAL TOPICS IN SOCIOLOGY

This course is an exploration of topics and issues not currently included in the sociology curriculum. This course explores emergent areas within sociology as informed by theory. It may be taken for additional credit as the topic changes. Prerequisite: "C" or better in either SOCI 101 or SOCI 202. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 377.SPECIAL TOPICS IN GLOBAL ISSUES AND CULTURES

Special or experimental course that either explores a sociological topic relevant to specific cultures and societies or explores a sociological issue relevant to non-western cultures and societies. Junior/senior status recommended. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 389.CULTURES OF VIOLENCE

This course explores key foundational topics by defining types of violence, introducing the history and causes of violence, as well as discussing cultural environments of violence (domestic, global, religious, etc.), as well as tactics, targets, and counterterrorism. Contemporary information regarding ethnic violence, emerging terrorist movements, and social media and violence are also included. Junior/senior status recommended. (General Education – World Cultures) *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 397.SOCIOLOGY OF RISK

This course provides students with the skills to analyze risk at different levels of social reality, helping students to better manage risk in their own lives and communities. Philosophical and theoretical perspectives on the nature of risk, key debates in the field of risk studies, and how specific populations around the world are differentially vulnerable to risk will be addressed. Junior/senior status recommended. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 398.METHODS OF SOCIAL RESEARCH

This course introduces the logic and conduct of social research, relationships between theory and empirical evidence, formulation of hypotheses, conduct and analysis of field research, research design, and techniques for data collection and analysis. Prerequisites: "C" or better in SOCI 101 and MATH 211 and six additional hours of SOCI, CRIM, or HUS coursework. Prerequisites may be waived at the discretion of the instructor or chair. *Three credit hours.*

SOCI 399.SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

This course examines the major theoretical orientations in classical and contemporary sociological thought. It explores the social, political, cultural, and historical contexts in which sociological theory has developed, how sociological theory changes over time, and the role of theory in building sociological knowledge. Topics will include how to theorize on different levels of sociological reality, and how to make practical use of theory to answer empirical questions about social life. Prerequisites: "C" or better in SOCI 101 and SOCI 202, and three additional hours of SOCI coursework. Prerequisites may be waived at the discretion of the instructor or chair. ***Three credit hours***

SOCI 407, 408, 409.RESEARCH IN SOCIOLOGY

These courses involve students engaging in a student-directed research project on a topic of sociological interest and are offered on demand to qualified students. Students may count a maximum of three credit hours of Research in Sociology (SOCI 407, SOCI 408, or SOCI 409) toward major requirements. Prerequisite: Instructor permission. ***One to three credit hours.***

SOCI 433.CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

This course is designed to be the companion class to SOCI 399. Whereas SOCI 399 mainly addresses the concerns of classical sociological theorizing, this course covers sociological theory from the mid-20th century to the present. Topics to be addressed include Parsonian Sociology, the Frankfurt School, Symbolic Interactionism, Feminism, contemporary theories of race and ethnicity, modern and postmodern theory and globalization. Prerequisites: "C" or better in SOCI 399 and/or departmental approval. ***Three credit hours.***

SOCI 499.SENIOR CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE

This senior capstone experience provides an opportunity for students to synthesize the knowledge they have learned as a sociology major, examine the role of sociology and sociologists in society today, and learn strategies for putting a sociology degree to work in a post-collegiate context. Prerequisites: "C" or better in SOCI 398 and SOCI 399. ***Three credit hours.***