Sociology (Department, Major, Minor, Courses, Faculty)

Sociology is the science of society. It explains how human groups, institutions, and social movements shape our lives. Sociology develops students’ insights into theoretical and practical aspects of life. Sociology students study such topics as deviance, sex and gender roles, social movements, social problems, large-scale business and government organizations, international development, and social change.

Training in sociology is basic both to creative living and to such practical tasks as the development and effective working of businesses, families, community service agencies, political movements and parties, churches, social clubs, government, industry, and schools.

Those with degrees in sociology find meaningful and rewarding employment as consultants to business and government, social change agents (e.g., community organizers), politicians, educators, and diplomats. Like other liberal arts students, sociology majors also enter the business world, particularly in the sales or personnel divisions of major corporations.

An undergraduate major in sociology is excellent preparation for those anticipating graduate study in law, social welfare, business administration, journalism, and many of the technical and scientific fields. In addition, many students have enjoyed the benefits of double majors or major-minor combinations between sociology and one of these related fields. Sociology and paralegal studies is an example of double majors involving two programs that are both in the College of Liberal Arts, while sociology and journalism are double majors involving programs in the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts.

The Sociology Major. The major is for students seeking a broad academic background in sociology. Those who want a general liberal arts education in the social sciences or those anticipating graduate study in sociology should consult the College of Liberal Arts advising office as early as possible. Subsequently the student will visit a college advisor each semester until all major requirements have been completed.

To graduate with a major in sociology the student must meet all the University Core Curriculum requirements and the requirements of the College of Liberal Arts. The major requires thirty-six hours of course work. Four courses are required: Sociology 108, 301, 308 and 312. A capstone course during the senior year, Sociology 497 or 498, which requires prior consent of instructor, is also required. Each student must also take two additional 400-level courses in sociology. These requirements are summarized below.

Transfer Students. Credits for some sociology courses taken at community colleges are transferable. Students should have their sociology credits evaluated by the department’s director of undergraduate studies at the earliest opportunity. At least 20 hours of sociology credit must be earned at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The two 400-level courses must be taken at a senior level institution and Sociology 497 or 498 must be taken at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology, College of Liberal Arts

University Core Curriculum Requirements .......................................................... 41
College of Liberal Arts Academic Requirements (See Chapter 4) ............. 11

Requirements for Major in Sociology .............................................................. 36
1) Sociology Requirements: Sociology 108, 301, 308 and 312.................. 14
2) Senior Year Work: Sociology 497 (or 498) ......................................... 4
3) At least two additional sociology 400-level courses ............................ 6
4) Sociology course electives .................................................................... 12
Electives ...................................................................................................... 32
Total ........................................................................................................... 120

No more than nine hours of Sociology Core Curriculum courses, including Sociology 108, can count toward both the University Core Curriculum requirements and the Sociology major.

Sociology Suggested Curricular Guide

FIRST YEAR (FALL/SPRING)

UCOL 101 ......................................................................................................... 1 / -
Core Science .................................................................................................. 3 / 3
MATH, SOC 108s ....................................................................................... 3 / 3
Human Health, Core Humanities .................................................................. 5 / 3

ENGL 101,102 ................................................................................................ 3 / 3
Fine Arts ....................................................................................................... 3 / 3
Total ............................................................................................................. 15 / 15

SECOND YEAR (FALL/SPRING)

Elective, Social Science ................................................................................ 3 / 3
Humanities ................................................................................................... 3 / -
CMST 101 .................................................................................................. 3 / -
Foreign Language ....................................................................................... 3 / -
300 or 300-level SOC Electives ................................................................. 3 / 3
Electives ..................................................................................................... 3 / 3
Total ............................................................................................................. 15 / 15

THIRD YEAR (FALL/SPRING)

SOC 301s, Elective ...................................................................................... 3 / 3
SOC 306, 312s ........................................................................................... 4 / 4
SOC Electives ............................................................................................. 3 / 3
Integrative Studies ....................................................................................... 3 / -
Electives ..................................................................................................... 3 / 6
Total ............................................................................................................. 16 / 16

FOURTH YEAR (FALL/SPRING)

SOC 497/498s ............................................................................................. - / 4
400-level Sociology courses ....................................................................... 3 / 3
Electives ..................................................................................................... 14 / 6
Total ............................................................................................................. 15 / 13

See University Core Curriculum.
Required for the sociology major.
Two semesters (usually 8 semester hours) of a foreign language are required for all liberal arts students.
Electives hours should be used to explore areas of interest and to enhance career opportunities; courses may be selected to satisfy liberal arts requirements.
CoLa requires a writing intensive course beyond the English composition requirements of the Core Curriculum. Information on courses that will fulfill this requirement is available from the academic advisor.

Sociology Minor

A minor in sociology consists of a minimum of 15 hours, including Sociology 108 and at least three more 300- or 400-level sociology courses at SIU Carbondale. An average GPA of 2.0 or higher must be achieved in sociology courses. No more than six hours of Sociology Core Curriculum courses, including Sociology 108, may count toward both the University Core Curriculum requirements and the sociology minor.

Honors in Sociology

The department offers an honors program for academically outstanding sociology majors. Qualifications for acceptance into this program are: (1) an overall grade point average of at least 3.00; and (2) completion of 8 hours of sociology courses with a grade point average of at least 3.25 in all sociology courses taken at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, and the completion of no fewer than six, nor more than fourteen, semester hours in research or independent study which are counted toward the major. Successful completion of the department’s honors program is noted on the academic record at the time the degree is recorded and on the diploma, i.e., Departmental Honors in Sociology. For details, qualified students interested in this program should consult the department’s director of undergraduate studies. Concurrent participation in the University Honors Program is encouraged.

Courses (SOC)

108-3 Introduction to Sociology, (University Core Curriculum) [IAI Course: S7 900] An introduction to the sociological perspective on human behavior, the structure and processes involved in social relationships, social stratification and inequality, social institutions, and social change. A survey of major areas of interest in sociology. Required of majors and minors in Sociology.

215-3 Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States, (University Core Curriculum) [IAI Course: S7 903D] Current theory, research and events in race-ethnic relations in the United States, including the intersection of class, gender and sexuality. Topics include the European colonization of North America, dynamics of immigration, identity formation among ethno-racial groups and political economy of racism.

223-3 Women and Men in Contemporary Society, (University Core Curriculum)(Same as WGSS 223) [IAI Course: S7 904D] Examines theories of woman’s and men’s roles in society. Surveys contemporary gender inequalities in the U.S. and developing countries. Special attention
given to employment, race, sexual assault, feminist movements, alternative family/lifestyles and childrearing.

233-3 **Sport and Modern Society.** (Same as KIN 245) An examination of the social, cultural, political and economic aspects of contemporary sport. Special attention given to gender, race, and social class issues related to sport.

298-1 **Multicultural Applied Experience.** (Multicultural Applied Experience Course) An applied experience, service oriented credit in American diversity involving a group different from the student's own. Difference can be manifested by age, gender, ethnicity, nationality, political affiliation, race, or class. Students can sign up for the one-credit experience in the same semester they fulfill the multicultural requirement for the University Core Curriculum or coordinate the credit with a particular core course on American diversity, although neither is required. Students should consult the department for course specifications regarding grading, work requirements and supervision. Graded Pass/Fail only.

301-3 **Theory and Society.** Sociological theories explain concrete social phenomena by modeling them abstractly. This course exposes students to exemplary theories, either classical or contemporary, and analyzes the general strategies sociologists used to develop them. Required of majors in sociology.

302-3 **Contemporary Social Problems.** Examines how social phenomena come to be defined as social problems and the outcomes of these processes for specific cases. How is it that a social phenomenon comes to be seen as a social issue? Analysis of selected social problems and critical assessment of claimmaking about these problems.

303-3 **Sociology of Deviance.** Review of sociological perspectives used in the study of deviance and deviants. Does deviance have functions in society? How is it that a group of individuals comes to be defined as deviant? Examines societal reactions to deviance and consequences for people defined as deviant. Analysis of selected forms of deviance, such as mental illness, “punk” subcultures, eating disorders, drug and alcohol abuse and sex workers.

304I-3 **Global Perspectives on the Family.** (University Core Curriculum) People around the world experience family life under different circumstances and from different perspectives. This course will focus on these differences and how societies have evolved to meet the needs of family units within their different social settings. Other key topics that affect families around the world will be discussed: global economy and families, gender inequality, familial violence, and environment concerns.

306I-3 **Popular Culture in Society.** (University Core Curriculum) Examines the social organization of popular culture, treating popular culture objects as products that are created, manufactured, distributed and consumed. The focus is on the people, activities, organizations and institutions that are involved in popular culture.

307-3 **Global Perspectives on Sexual Diversity.** (Same as WGS 315) This course explores sexual diversity within different hegemonic heterosexual cultures, worldwide. Using insight from historical and sociological analysis, the contemporary development of social movements for lesbians, gays, and bisexuals and their oppositional forces is analyzed, and consequent cultural changes that have resulted from the confrontation of these forces are examined.

308-4 **Statistics for Social Science.** Methods and application of statistics in the social sciences. Measures to describe distribution, measures of relationship, statistical inference.

310-2 **Science, Technology and Society.** This course introduces students to a variety of research traditions and debates within the field of science, technology, and society. We will explore the ways in which historical and contemporary patterns of human evolution have created technological problems; why we are dependent and vulnerable to technology; and how access to science and technology and the effects of science and technology have an unequal impact. In addressing these topics, the course will make linkages among local, national, and global processes. We will focus on a variety of areas including: technology and environmental issues, science, technology, and gender, and the effects of technological change on our daily lives.

312-4 **Elements of Sociological Research.** The student is introduced to a variety of research methods in the social sciences including use of the library, techniques of observation, and elementary steps in quantitative measurements and analysis. Satisfies the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum requirement.

321-3 **Society and the Individual.** Introduction to basic concepts in sociological and social psychology (microsociology). Examines how individuals create and shape the social world that simultaneously shapes and creates individuals. Emphasizes face-to-face interaction, socialization, social location and identity.

322-3 **Community Organization.** This course applies basic sociological concepts and perspectives to issues of community organization. The course is designed to provide insights into how communities meet (or why they fail to meet) residents’ needs. Communities are arenas of social interaction where most important relationships are structured by the presence of informal groups and formal organizations. Informal groups provide the building blocks of any community and play important roles in setting the norms and standards of accepted social behavior. Formal organizations (businesses, schools, government agencies) control significant human and financial resources which give them influence and power to shape the direction of change within a community.

340-3 **Family.** The family in historic and contemporary society; evolution of the modern family; changes in family functions, structure, roles; and an examination of variation and change in family systems.

350-3 **Sociology of Leisure.** This course examines leisure, broadly defined, in a sociological context. What can we learn about ourselves, and about society, by examining leisure involvement? How do various social institutions influence leisure behavior, and how do individuals respond to those influences? Using leisure as an organizing principle, this course reinforces understanding of sociological concepts, theories, and methods.

351-3 **Sociology of Religion.** Examines the dynamics of religious institutions in society, and of religious beliefs and attachments among individuals, including the connections between religion and family, health, education, and politics.

371-3 **Population Problems.** Characteristics and problems of population growth, composition, distribution, mortality, birth control and fertility, international and internal migration, and government policies.

372-3 **Criminology.** An examination of the socially constructed nature of crime and historical and contemporary theories of criminality. Additional topics of interest include types of offenses, methods of studying crime, and the correlates of crime.

386-3 **Environmental Sociology.** Focus on social structural conditions and institutions that have changed the natural environment as a social problem. Responses to these problems will be addressed on the individual, group (race, class and gender) and institutional levels.

396-1 to 6 **Readings in Sociology.** Instructor and student select reading topics which are not covered in depth in regular course offerings. Special approval needed from the department and instructor.

397-3 to 12 **Special Topics in Sociology.** Varying sociological topics selected by the instructor for study in depth and breadth. Topic will be announced in advance of registration for the course. May be repeated 4 times.

399-2 to 8 **Internship in Sociology.** Designed to provide students majoring in sociology the opportunity to engage in applied sociology and gain valuable work experience. Classroom meetings are required. Restricted to minimum of junior standing. Special approval needed from the instructor. No more than three hours of 399 to count toward the major.

406-3 **Social Change.** Theories and problems of social change; their application, with emphasis on the modern industrial period.

407-3 **Sociology of Sexuality** (Same as WGS 496) Examines a range of social issues related to human sexuality and the interaction between sexuality and other social processes. Emphasis is on the relevant concepts, theories, and methods in the field of sexual studies, the social and historical construction of sexuality and the ways in which social characteristics shape sexual behaviors and desires, sexual variation, including its causes and consequences, how basic social institutions affect the rules governing sexuality, the major moral and political controversies that surround sexuality, and the “dark side” of sexual life.

415-3 **Logic of the Social Sciences.** (Same as PHIL 415) An examination of the theoretical structure and nature of the social sciences and their epistemological foundations. The relationship of social theory to social criticism; theory and praxis. Historical experience and social objectivity. Social theory as practical knowledge.

423-3 **Sociology of Gender.** (Same as WGS 442) Examines social science theory and research on gender issues and contemporary roles of men and women. The impact of gender on social life is examined on the
micro level, in work and family roles, in social institutions, and at the
global, cross-cultural level.
424-3 Social Movements and Collective Behavior. An analysis of
social behavior in non-institutional settings such as crowds, disasters,
riots, mass panics, crazes, cults, and social movements. Emphasis is on
the cultural and structural factors leading to collective action and its
impact on social change.
426-3 Social Factors in Personality and Behavior. (Same as PSYC
464) Advanced study of social psychology from both sociological and
psychological perspectives. Analyzes the reciprocal influence of groups
and individuals, including the development of self, social interaction,
gender and ethnic relations, impression management, interpersonal
attraction, and social influence.
435-3 Social Inequality. Discussion of theories and evidence pertaining
to the socio-structural causes and consequences of inequality based on
social class, prestige, power, gender, wealth and income.
437-3 Sociology of Globalization and Development. Survey of sociological theories and research on globalization and
development: modernization, dependency, world-system, and global
economy. Problem areas include population growth and control,
economic growth and underdevelopment, role of state, transnational
corporations, financial institutions, and organizations, non-government
organizations, work, population, migration, social movements and
resistance, gender, race, ethnic, class, and sexuality issues.
438-3 Sociology of Ethnic Relations in World Perspective. Examines theories, concepts and research on the structure of ethnic
relations and ethnic problems in contemporary societies in major world
regions. Assimilationist, pluralist, secessionist, and militant types of
ethnic and racial group relations are covered in selected societies.
Designed for students with advanced interest in comparative ethnic
relations. SOC 215 is recommended.
455-3 Racial Inequality. This course is an introductory survey on the
sociology of Racial Inequality. As such, the basic objective of this course is
to give students a broad understanding of race and inequality issues in
society. This course will require students to become familiar with the
critical frameworks and concepts through which social scientists make
sense of racial inequality; to come to terms with the ideological, political,
and economic mechanisms that perpetuate racist structures; to study the
past and present historical contexts within which racial inequality is given
shape; and to explore potential venues for change.
460-3 Sociology of Medicine. Analyzes the social structures and issues
involved in health, illness, and health-care delivery systems in the United
States. Explores the economic and political influences on the role of
medicine in society, as well as the organization of medical care and
health institutions. Critically examines the social processes and factors
that influence health and illness behavior.
461-3 Women, Crime and Justice. (Same as CCJ 460 and WGSS 476)
A study of women as offenders, as victims and as workers in the criminal
justice system.
462-3 Victims of Crime. (Same as CCJ 462) An examination of the
extent and nature of victimization, theories about the causes of
victimization, the effects of crime on victims and services available to
deal with those effects, victims’ experiences in the criminal justice
system, the victims’ rights movement, and alternative ways of defining
and responding to victimization.
465-3 Sociology of Aging. The adult life cycle from a sociological
perspective, with emphasis on the later stages of adulthood. Special
topics on aging include demographic aspects, family interaction,
ethnicity, and cross-cultural trends.
471-3 Introduction to Social Demography. Survey of concepts,
theories, and techniques of population analysis; contemporary trends and
patterns in composition, growth, fertility, mortality, and migration.
Emphasis is on relationship between population and social, economic,
and political factors.
473-3 Juvenile Delinquency. (Same as CCJ 473) An in-depth study of
theories of delinquency, analytical skills in studying delinquent offenders,
systematic assessment of efforts at prevention, and control and
rehabilitation in light of theoretical perspectives. Six hours of
social/behavioral science recommended.
474-3 Sociology of Education. Methods, principles, and data of
sociology applied to the educational situation; relation of education to
other institutions and groups.
475-3 Political Sociology. (Same as POLS 419) An examination of the
social bases of power and politics, including attention to global and
societal political relations, as well as individual-level political beliefs and
commitments primary focus on American politics.
476-3 Religion and Politics. (Same as POLS 476) Examines the
connection between religious beliefs and institutions and political beliefs
and institutions. Comparative studies will focus on religious political
movements in the United States and throughout the world.
490-3 Special Topics in Sociology. Varying advanced sociological topics
selected by the instructor for study in depth. May be repeated for a
maximum of twelve semester hours provided registrations cover different
topics. Topics announced in advance.
497-4 Senior Seminar. Contemporary issues in sociology and the
analysis of these issues. Restricted to senior standing with 20 hours in
sociology (including 301), or consent of instructor. Not for graduate
credit. Satisfies the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum requirement.
498-1 to 8 Independent Research. Students who wish to pursue specific
topics in depth, or who have developed specific research projects, may
submit proposals to faculty members who can serve as mentors.
Independent research normally results in a significant paper or research
report that serves as a demonstration of scholarly competence and
concludes the major. May substitute for 497 only when student
demonstrates substantial preparation or need. Satisfies the CoLA Writing-
Across-the-Curriculum requirement. Not for graduate credit. Restricted to
senior standing with 20 hours in sociology (including 301). Special
approval needed from the instructor.

Sociology Faculty
Alix, Ernest K., Associate Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Southern
Illinois University, 1966.
Barber, Kristen M., Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of
Southern California, 2011.
Burger, Thomas, Associate Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Duke
University, 1972.
Calhoun, Thomas C., Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., University of
Crowe, Jessica A., Associate Professor, Ph.D., Washington
State University, 2008.
Danaher, William F., Professor, Ph.D., North Carolina State
University, 1994.
Hawkes, Roland K., Associate Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D.,
Hendrix, Lewellyn, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Princeton
University, 1974.
Nall, Frank C., II, Associate Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D.,
Michigan State University, 1959.
Patterson, Edgar L., Assistant Professor, Emeritus, M.A.,
University of Kansas, 1961.
Reed, Jean-Pierre, Associate Professor, Ph.D., California-
Santa Barbara, 2000.
Schneider, Mark A., Associate Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D.,
Yale University, 1985.
Sherkat, Darren, Professor, Ph.D., Duke University, 1991.
Ward, Kathryn B., Professor, Emerita, Ph.D., University of
Iowa, 1982.
Whaley, Rachel B., Associate Professor, Ph.D., University at
Albany, State University of New York (SUNY), 1999.
Wienke, Chris, Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of