

Sociology

Department Website: <http://sociology.uchicago.edu>
Program of Study

The discipline of sociology explores the nature, structure, and dynamics of social life, and also its causes and consequences for the world. With this broad mandate, sociology encompasses a diversity of substantive interests, methodological approaches, and theoretical orientations. Sociologists study diverse social phenomena ranging from online conversations, friendship, and families to neighborhoods, governments, and global markets. They study cities and communities, inequality, social mobility and social class, patterns of population change and migration, social identities such as race, class, and gender, ethnic relations and social conflict, social media and digital interaction, and social dimensions of sex, health, business, education, law, politics, religion, and science. Sociologists study the emergence, stabilization, disintegration, and wide-ranging implications of these social institutions, behaviors, and meanings. Methodologies of the field range from ethnography, interviews, and historical research to surveys, computational modeling, and big data analysis.

The University of Chicago's sociology department was the first in the United States, and it stewards the *American Journal of Sociology*, the discipline's longest running sociology journal. Chicago sociology builds on these legacies by continuing to sponsor pathbreaking research. Chicago training in sociology confers deep understanding of social organization and human relations, along with skill in drawing inferences from data, which has made it attractive for students considering careers in business, social media, data science, education, law, marketing, medicine, journalism, social work, politics, public administration, and urban planning. Chicago's sociology education forms an excellent basis for specialized graduate work and affords entry to careers in federal, state, and local agencies, as well as into business enterprises, private foundations, and research institutes. Chicago's sociology program provides a preeminent foundation for students considering careers in advanced research and university teaching. The program is designed to meet the needs of diverse students, and students declare a student-designed specialty that reflects their course work and BA thesis research, such as *social policy* or *social analytics*.

Program Requirements

Students pursuing a BA degree in sociology are expected to complete the following requirements. All required sociology courses are offered annually, and students should inquire directly of the director of undergraduate studies if they need to know when a course will be offered in the next academic year.

A. Social Theory

Two required courses acquaint students with some of the fundamental problems and analytic perspectives of the field of sociology.

SOCI 2002 Social Structure and Change. The central objective of this course is to introduce students to the sociological study of individuals in society—how individual actions are shaped by their position in society, while contributing to its structure and change. We focus on sociological approaches to American society, its position in the international system, and principal dimensions including race and ethnicity, age, gender, and social class.

SOCI 2005 Sociological Theory. Drawing on the classics as well as on contemporary works in sociological theory, this course raises questions about the nature of sociological theory and its relation to both empirical research and sociological inquiry. Authors include Weber, Durkheim, Simmel, Dewey, Parsons, and Merton.

With the approval of the undergraduate program director, students may use other courses toward this requirement.

B. Methodology

Students are required to take at least one of the following methodology courses.

SOCI 2001 Sociological Methods. This course introduces the philosophy and practice of social research. It explores questions of causality in social research and the limits of knowledge. It then covers the basic practices that are components of all methods of social research through an in-depth examination of interviews, ethnography, surveys, and archival, online, and computational research. Students spend the quarter working on a series of assignments that culminate in a research proposal for the BA thesis.

SOCI 20140 Qualitative Field Methods. This course introduces techniques and approaches to ethnographic field research. Emphasis is placed on quality of attention and awareness of perspective as foundational aspects of the craft. Students conduct research at a site, compose and share field notes, and produce a final paper distilling sociological insight from fieldwork.

C. Statistics

Students must take the following statistics requirement.

SOCI 2004 Statistical Methods of Research. This required course provides a comprehensive introduction to widely used quantitative methods in sociology and related social sciences. Topics include analysis of variance and multiple regression, tools used often by practicing social scientists. Substitutes for this course are STAT 20000 Elementary Statistics or higher. Students with AP examination credit for Statistics may count it toward this requirement, although we encourage such students to take an additional social science statistics course.

D. Additional Courses

Students must take seven additional courses in sociology or related fields, and at least four of these must be in sociology. They may be drawn from any of the 20000-level courses in sociology and, after the student completes SOCI 20002 Social Structure and Change, from any 30000-level courses in sociology that have not been cross listed with undergraduate course numbers. Students may also count graduate courses (e.g., 40000-level or higher) in which they may enroll with permission of course instructors toward this requirement.

Courses outside of sociology must be approved by the undergraduate program director. Students must submit the College's General Petition Form (<https://college.uchicago.edu/advising/forms-and-petitions>) for review. With a few exceptions, courses offered in the Division of the Social Sciences are accepted. Other courses with significant social science content or special relevance to a student's BA thesis may also be accepted.

Area of Specialization. At least three of the additional courses in sociology or related fields, outlined above, must comprise a self-defined area of specialization. Students will declare a specialization which reflects an emphasis of their course work and BA thesis research. Students in the Class of 2019 and beyond are required to develop a specialization; students in the Classes of 2017 and 2018 may elect to do so.

Students are encouraged to consider their specialization from the time that they enter the program in order to guide their selection of courses and prepare them for the substantial research project of the BA thesis. Students formally propose their specialization at the start of their penultimate quarter of residence (ordinarily, this will be due in January of the student's fourth year). The proposal should include a theme with three (or more) courses in sociology or related fields that students have completed or are completing within that domain. These proposals are to be submitted on the College's General Petition Form (<https://college.uchicago.edu/advising/forms-and-petitions>) and must be approved by the undergraduate program director. Some examples of specializations might be:

- **Urban Studies** (e.g., SOCI 20215 Urban Health, SOCI 20219 Urban Ethnography, SOCI 20221 Crime and the City)
- **Social Policy** (e.g., SOCI 20192 The Effects of Schooling, PBPL 22300 Policy Implementation)
- **Gender and Sexuality** (e.g., SOCI 20107 Sociology of Human Sexuality, SOCI 20175 The Sociology of Deviant Behavior, GNSE 10310 Theories of Gender and Sexuality)
- **Organizations** (e.g., SOCI 20101 Organizational Analysis, PLSC 27500 Organizational Decision Making, ECON 28000 Industrial Organization)
- **Social Analytics** (e.g., SOCI 20157 Mathematical Models, SOCI 20209 Culture and Social Networks, STAT 22600 Analysis of Categorical Data)
- **Demography** (e.g., SOCI 28062 American Families: Inequality and Change, SOCI 20103 Social Stratification)

E. BA Thesis

During their fourth year, students majoring in sociology are expected to complete an original project of sociological inquiry on a topic of their choice, culminating in a final paper from twenty to forty pages in length. The project is an independent research project in which questions are formulated and data are collected and analyzed by the student. Recent projects have included studies of emerging forms of social interaction on the Internet, conflict and safety in urban Chicago neighborhoods, immigration and national identity in Germany and Guatemala, processes of gendering in the workplace, homosexuality and AIDS in South Africa, church leadership transition among Korean immigrants, the power of public rhetoric in public housing, role models among Mexican American youth, gender roles in families of graduate students, peer pressure and teenage pregnancy, and attitudes toward immigration.

The senior project is written under the guidance of an assigned preceptor from the department and a faculty member that students select during Spring Quarter of SOCI 29998 Sociology BA Thesis Seminar. After a faculty member agrees to advise a student's thesis, the student will have the faculty member sign a hard copy of the *BA Thesis Faculty Advisor Consent Form* available for printing at sociology.uchicago.edu/sites/sociology.uchicago.edu/files/AdvisorConsentForm_0.pdf, which is to be turned in to the Department of Sociology office. Students may register for additional reading courses (SOCI 29997 Readings in Sociology); however, only two sociology reading/research courses can be counted toward courses required for the sociology major.

BA Seminar. The senior project is researched, discussed, and written in the context of SOCI 29998 Sociology BA Thesis Seminar, which is a required yearlong course. *Students are required to attend this senior seminar in Spring Quarter of their third year and in the Autumn and Winter Quarters of their fourth year, but they must register for the seminar in only one of the three terms.* Students who plan to study abroad during any of these quarters must still participate in the seminar by completing required assignments and submitting them online and on time. The completed thesis is submitted during Spring Quarter of their fourth year. Students graduating in a quarter other than Spring Quarter must turn in their theses by Friday of seventh week of their final quarter. When circumstances justify it, the department may set individual deadlines and procedures.

Summary of Requirements

Two of the following:

SOCI 20002	Social Structure and Change
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SOCI 20005	Sociological Theory	
or approved substitute		
One of the following:		100
SOCI 20001	Sociological Methods	
SOCI 20140	Qualitative Field Methods	
SOCI 20004	Statistical Methods of Research **	100
Three approved courses in an area of specialization *		300
Four additional courses in sociology or related fields *		400
SOCI 29998	Sociology BA Thesis Seminar	100
Total Units		1200

* No more than three courses from outside sociology and no more than two reading and research courses may be used toward the major. Students must submit the College's General Petition Form (<https://college.uchicago.edu/advising/forms-and-petitions>) for approval of courses outside sociology. See "Additional Courses" section for details.

** May substitute STAT 20000 or higher

Grading

All courses required for completion of the sociology program must be taken for quality grades (e.g., not P/F).

Honors

If the student's cumulative GPA is at or above 3.25 and the student's GPA in the major is at or above 3.5, the student may be nominated for graduation with honors on the basis of the excellence of the thesis. The thesis must be based on *substantial individual research* conducted under the guidance of a faculty member, and it must be evaluated both by the student's adviser and by the program chair at A- or A.

Entering the Major

No special application is required for admission to the sociology program, but students should discuss their plans with their College adviser prior to declaring the major. They must then declare their intention to major at my.uchicago.edu and inform the Department of Sociology at sociology.uchicago.edu/content/majoring-sociology-intake-form, which includes a short entry survey. Students may enter the program at any time upon completion of any social sciences general education sequence, but no later than the beginning of Spring Quarter in their third year.

Students are encouraged to complete the required introductory sociology courses (SOCI 20002 Social Structure and Change and SOCI 20005 Sociological Theory) as early as possible, and to enroll in a required methodology course by Spring Quarter of their third year, the quarter in which students begin SOCI 29998 Sociology BA Thesis Seminar.

Advising

Students should address technical questions regarding the program (e.g., required courses, petitions) to the undergraduate program director. During Spring Quarter of the third year, students will also select a faculty member to serve as adviser. Students may wish to contact their faculty adviser to address general questions regarding the discipline of sociology and to receive guidance in designing an individualized program of study and selecting a specialization.

Handbook

Students interested in pursuing the BA degree in sociology are encouraged to read the brochure *Undergraduate Program in Sociology*, which is available in the Office of the Department of Sociology (SS 307).

Sociology Courses

SOCI 20000. Invitation to Sociology. 100 Units.

What do sociologists do all day? This course introduces students to the vast terrain of contemporary sociology, including: culture, deviance, economic life, education, family, health and the body, politics, population, professions, race, science and knowledge, and sex/gender, employing institutionalization as a basic lens that leads sociology to have a somewhat different approach from other social sciences. Why an invitation? Unlike introductory courses that cover 10 topics in 10 weeks with an emphasis on foundational texts, students will get to know sociology by reading and analyzing a rotating selection of books and articles that exemplify the field today. Students will complete exercises and write-ups that link claims about the social world to evidence. Throughout the quarter, class format takes a variety of forms, including lectures, informal presentations, student-led discussions, debates, and guest speakers.

Instructor(s): J. Martin and J. Trinitapoli Terms Offered: Spring

SOCI 20001. Sociological Methods. 100 Units.

This course introduces the philosophy and practice of social research. Working from the idea that the research process is fundamentally a critical dialogue, we begin by exploring questions of causality and the epistemology of social research. Then we turn to examine the basic practices that are a component of all methods of social research through an in-depth examination of interviews, ethnography, surveys, and archival research. Assignments culminate in a research proposal for the BA thesis.

Instructor(s): R. Vargas Terms Offered: Spring

Note(s): Required of students who are majoring in Sociology

SOCI 20002. Social Structure and Change. 100 Units.

The title of this course is traditional more than it is descriptively accurate. It should be called How to Think Sociologically. Rather than attempt to survey the state of the field as introductory courses typically do, this course advances a particular vision of the discipline. We will be reading authors that fundamentally inform this vision (not all of whom were sociologists proper), including Durkheim, Weber, Simmel, Garfinkel, Goffman, Geertz, Levi-Strauss, Mauss, Bourdieu, and Fanon. We will learn how to identify properly sociological objects and how to engage in various modes of sociological analysis. We will discuss social facts, forms, types, and relations; the collective nature of social reality, social identities such as race and gender, and social class. We may even get to talk about social structure and change. The course has been designed to provide students majoring in sociology a more solid-although, again, a very particular-disciplinary foundation. The readings fill the gap between the classical sociology covered in the social science cores Self and Power and the contemporary sociology covered by other departmental offerings.

Instructor(s): M. Garrido Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Required of students who are majoring in Sociology

SOCI 20004. Statistical Methods of Research. 100 Units.

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to widely used quantitative methods in sociology and related social sciences. Topics include analysis of variance and multiple regression, considered as they are used by practicing social scientists.

Instructor(s): S. Raudenbush Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Priority registration for Ugrad Sociology majors and Sociology PhD students. No prior instruction in statistical analysis is required. Others by consent of instructor.

Note(s): Students are expected to attend two lectures and one lab per week. Required of students who are majoring in Sociology

Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 30004

SOCI 20005. Sociological Theory. 100 Units.

The course provides a basic introduction to modern sociological theory. Readings focus on classic texts by Weber, Durkheim, Simmel, and Dewey, ending with an individually chosen (by each student) text by a theoretical writer from outside Europe and North America. Lectures provide a background history of modern social thought.

Instructor(s): A. Glaeser Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): Required of students who are majoring in Sociology.

SOCI 20101. Organizational Analysis. 100 Units.

This course is a systematic introduction to theoretical and empirical work on organizations broadly conceived (e.g., public and private economic organizations, governmental organizations, prisons, professional and voluntary associations, health-care organizations). Topics include intraorganizational questions about organizational goals and effectiveness, communication, authority, and decision making. Using recent developments in market, political economy, and neoinstitutional theories, we explore organizational change and interorganizational relationships for their implications in understanding social change in modern societies. Social network analysis will inform much of the discussion.

Instructor(s): E. Laumann Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PBPL 23000, SOCI 30101

SOCI 20103. Social Stratification. 100 Units.

Social stratification is the unequal distribution of the goods that members of a society value - earnings, income, authority, political power, status, prestige etc. This course introduces various sociological perspectives about stratification. We look at major patterns of inequality throughout human history, how they vary across countries, how they are formed and maintained, how they come to be seen as legitimate and desirable, and how they affect the lives of individuals within a society. The readings incorporate classical theoretical statements, contemporary debates, and recent empirical evidence. The information and ideas discussed in this course are critical for students who will go on in sociology and extremely useful for students who want to be informed about current social, economic, and political issues.

Instructor(s): R. Stolzenberg Terms Offered: Spring. Cancelled - Not offered in 2018/19

Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 30103

SOCI 20104. Urban Structure and Process. 100 Units.

This course reviews competing theories of urban development, especially their ability to explain the changing nature of cities under the impact of advanced industrialism. Analysis includes a consideration of emerging metropolitan regions, the microstructure of local neighborhoods, and the limitations of the past American experience as a way of developing urban policy both in this country and elsewhere.

Instructor(s): F. Stuart Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): CRES 20104, GEOG 32700, SOCI 30104, GEOG 22700, SOSC 25100

SOCI 20107. Sociology of Human Sexuality. 100 Units.

After briefly reviewing several biological and psychological approaches to human sexuality as points of comparison, this course explores the sociological perspective on sexual conduct and its associated beliefs and consequences for individuals and society. Substantive topics include gender relations; life-course perspectives on sexual conduct in youth, adolescence, and adulthood; social epidemiology of sexually transmitted infections (including AIDS); sexual partner choice and turnover; and the incidence/prevalence of selected sexual practices. Network analytic approaches will be introduced.

Instructor(s): E. Laumann Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Introductory social sciences course

Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 30107, GNSE 27100

SOCI 20125. Rational Foundations of Social Theory. 100 Units.

This course introduces conceptual and analytical tools for the micro foundations of macro and intermediate-level social theories, taking as a basis the assumption of rational action. Those tools are then used to construct theories of power, social exchange, collective behavior, socialization, trust, norm, social decision making and justice, business organization, and family organization.

Instructor(s): K. Yamaguchi Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 30125

SOCI 20126. Japanese Society: Functional/Cultural Explanations. 100 Units.

The objective of this course is to provide an overview of social structural characteristics and the functioning of contemporary Japanese society by a juxtaposition of universalistic functional (or rational) explanations and particularistic cultural (and historical) explanations. As well become clear as complementary to each other. Substantively, the course primarily focuses on 1) the forms of social interaction and structure, 2) work organization and family, and 3) education, social inequality, and opportunity. The course also presents discussions of the extent to which Japan is "unique" among industrial societies. In covering a broad range of English-language literature on Japanese society, the course not only presents reviews and discussions of various alternative theoretical explanations of the characteristics of Japanese society, but also a profound opportunity to critically review and study selected sociological theories..

Instructor(s): K. Yamaguchi Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 30126

SOCI 20140. Qualitative Field Methods. 100 Units.

This course introduces techniques of, and approaches to, ethnographic field research. We emphasize quality of attention and awareness of perspective as foundational aspects of the craft. Students conduct research at a site, compose and share field notes, and produce a final paper distilling sociological insight from the fieldwork.

Instructor(s): O. McRoberts Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 20140, CRES 20140

SOCI 20157. Mathematical Models. 100 Units.

This course examines mathematical models and related analyses of social action, emphasizing a rational-choice perspective. About half the lectures focus on models of collective action, power, and exchange as developed by Coleman, Bonacich, Marsden, and Yamaguchi. Then the course examines models of choice over the life course, including rational and social choice models of marriage, births, friendship networks, occupations, and divorce. Both behavioral and analytical models are surveyed.

Instructor(s): K. Yamaguchi Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 30157

SOCI 20175. The Sociology of Deviant Behavior. 100 Units.

This course examines how distinctions between "normal" and "deviant" are created, and how these labels shift historically, culturally, and politically. We analyze the construction of social problems and moral panics (e.g., smoking, "satanic" daycares, obesity) to explore how various moral entrepreneurs shape what some sociologists call a "culture of fear." Additionally, we investigate the impact on individuals of being labeled "deviant" either voluntarily or involuntarily, as a way of illustrating how both social control and social change operate in society.

Instructor(s): K. Schilt Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 20170

SOCI 20192. The Effects of Schooling. 100 Units.

From at least the Renaissance until some time around the middle of the twentieth century, social class was the pre-eminent, generalized determinant of life chances in European and, eventually, American societies. Social class had great effect on one's social standing; economic well-being; political power; access to knowledge; and even longevity, health, and height. In that time, there was hardly an aspect of life that was not profoundly influenced by social class. In the ensuing period, the effects of social class have receded greatly, and perhaps have even vanished. In their place formal schooling has become the great generalized influence over who gets access to the desiderata of social life, including food, shelter, political power, and medical care. So it is that schooling is sociologically interesting for reasons that go well beyond education. The purpose of this course is to review what is known about the long-term effects of schooling.

Instructor(s): R. Stolzenberg Terms Offered: Spring. Cancelled - Not offered in 2018/19

Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 30192

SOCI 20226. Urban Schools and Communities. 100 Units.

This course focuses on urban communities and the contextual factors influencing the organization of schools. It emphasizes historical, anthropological, and sociological perspectives as we explore questions about the purpose and history of public schools, the influences on the character of their structure and organization (especially in urban areas), and the surrounding context, such as housing, policy, race and class. The topics detailed below provide essential intellectual perspectives on the history, work, and complexities of urban schools.

Instructor(s): S. Stoelinga Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 27821, PBPL 27821

SOCI 20233. Race in Contemporary American Society. 100 Units.

This survey course in the sociology of race offers a socio-historical investigation of race in American society. We will examine issues of race, ethnic and immigrant settlement in the United States. Also, we shall explore the classic and contemporary literature on race and inter-group dynamics. Our investigative tools will include an analysis of primary and secondary sources, multimedia materials, photographic images, and journaling. While our survey will be broad, we will treat Chicago and its environs as a case study to comprehend the racial, ethnic, and political challenges in the growth and development of a city.

Instructor(s): S. Hicks-Bartlett Terms Offered: Autumn Spring

Equivalent Course(s): MAPS 30233, SOCI 30233

SOCI 20242. States, Markets, and Bodies. 100 Units.

An introduction to political economy, this course will introduce students to theories, concepts, and tools for studying relations between states and markets that affect the structure of power relationships. Taking a global approach, we will examine the different forms of state repression, the consequences of a neoliberal and decentralized global market, and its affects on individual people/workers. This course is motivated by three interrelated questions: (1) What is the appropriate role of the government in the economy? (2) How should states govern their citizens? (3) What is the role of the individuals who make up civil society?

Instructor(s): K. Hoang Terms Offered: Winter

SOCI 20251. Trade, Development and Poverty in Mexico. 100 Units.

With a focus on the past two decades, this interdisciplinary course explores the impact of economic integration, urbanization, and migration on Mexico and, to a lesser extent, on the United States—in particular, working class communities of the Midwestern Rust Belt. The course will examine work and life in the borderland production centers; agriculture, poverty, and indigenous populations in rural Mexico; evolving trade and transnational ties (especially in people, food products and labor, and drugs) between the U.S. and Mexico; and trade, trade adjustment, and immigration policy.

Instructor(s): C. Broughton Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): This course is offered in alternate years.

Equivalent Course(s): LACS 24901, PBPL 24901

SOCI 20253. Introduction to Spatial Data Science. 100 Units.

Spatial data science consists of a collection of concepts and methods drawn from both statistics and computer science that deal with accessing, manipulating, visualizing, exploring and reasoning about geographical data. The course introduces the types of spatial data relevant in social science inquiry and reviews a range of methods to explore these data. Topics covered include formal spatial data structures, geovisualization and visual analytics, rate smoothing, spatial autocorrelation, cluster detection and spatial data mining. An important aspect of the course is to learn and apply open source software tools, including R and GeoDa.

Instructor(s): L. Anselin Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): STAT 22000 (or equivalent), familiarity with GIS is helpful, but not necessary

Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 30253, GEOG 20500, MACS 54000, GEOG 30500

SOCI 20263. Human Migration. 100 Units.

At any moment, spatial location is a fixed, essential characteristic of people and the places they inhabit. Over time, individuals and groups of people change places. In the long run, the places themselves move in physical, social, economic and political space. These movements can be characterized by their origins and destinations, as intentional or accidental, forced or voluntary, individual or collective, within political borders (e.g. the farm-to-city migration of the 1940's in the U.S.), migration across political boundaries (e.g. "displacement" of pariah ethnicities after World War II), and by other criteria. All of these phenomena are aspects of migration. This course reviews contemporary demographic research and theory concerning the nature of migration, and its extent, causes and consequences for individuals and collectivities. The demographic perspective absorbs a wide range of disciplinary perspectives, including those of psychology (e.g. individual decision-making), sociology (collective behavior, stratification, race and ethnicity), economics (rational behavior, macroeconomic conditions), and more.

Instructor(s): R. Stolzenberg Terms Offered: Winter. Cancelled - Not offered in 2018/19

Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 30263

SOCI 20264. Wealth. 100 Units.

Wealth is the value of a person's accumulated possessions and financial assets. Wealth is more difficult for social researchers to measure than earnings and income, and wealthy people are notoriously uncooperative with efforts to study them and their assets. Further, wealth data conveys less information than income data about the lives of the middle- and lower-classes -- who tend to have little or no wealth at all. However, information about wealth gives fundamentally important insight into the values, attitudes, behavior, consumption patterns, social standing, political power, health, happiness and yet more characteristics of individuals and population subgroups. This course considers the causes and consequences of wealth accumulation for individuals, the social groups to which they belong, and the societies in which they dwell.

Instructor(s): R. Stolzenberg Terms Offered: Winter. Cancelled - Not offered in 2018/19

Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 30264

SOCI 20268. Health, Medicine, and Human Rights. 100 Units.

The World Health Organization, United Nations and other international bodies consider health a fundamental human right. At the same time, most countries around the world are characterized by profound inequalities in health and wellbeing. In this course, we leverage sociological and social scientific concepts through a human rights framework to understand how these inequalities in mental and physical health are perpetuated by the structure and culture of society, with an emphasis on U.S. society. We will also examine medicine as an institution with a problematic history of repeated human rights violations (in the U.S. and around the world) and explore how that history shapes the current practice of medicine, medical research, and relations between doctors and patients. Finally, we will explore how institutions provide (or fail to provide) equal access to healthcare, and how state understandings of the right to health influence the lives of individuals and communities.

Instructor(s): Mueller, Anna; Offidani-Bertrand, Carly Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): CHDV Distribution: B, C, D

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 23440, CHDV 23440

SOCI 20274. Urban Spatial Archaeology II. 100 Units.

This course builds off Urban Spatial Archaeology I, by focusing on more specific ways to apply the concepts of space and time to contemporary urban research issues. Students will also learn methods for analyzing the data they chose to digitize in the previous quarter, which will culminate in a research paper on a topic of their choosing. Students will walk away from this course with a deeper understanding of how researchers and policy makers think of space and time with respect to a particular urban issue. In addition, students will have produced a research paper and data visualization that would critique the ways researchers have traditionally conceptualized time and space.

Instructor(s): R. Vargas Terms Offered: Spring. Cancelled - Not Offered in 2018/2019

Prerequisite(s): SOCI 20273/30273 and GEOG 20273/30273

Equivalent Course(s): GEOG 20274, SOCI 30274, GEOG 30274

SOCI 20280. The Politics of Popular Sovereignty: Participation and Protest. 100 Units.

If government is of, by and for the people, what kinds of politics are possible? Certainly, politics will operate through established institutions such as elections and legislatures. But popular politics may also take other forms: petitions, social movements, protest in the streets, and cultural critique. These efforts often fail, sometimes dramatically, but they have also contributed to major social change including the abolition of slavery, the expansion of rights, and demands for new understandings of justice. This course will explore the history of popular politics within democratizing societies, the development of new forms of collective mobilization and technologies of political influence, and the changing relation of popular politics to formal political institutions.

Instructor(s): E. Clemens Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 20280

SOCI 20281. Library Methods for the Social Sciences. 100 Units.

This course is a graduate introduction to the methods involved with "research with records"--that is, material like manuscripts, books, journals, newspapers, ephemera, and government and institutional documents. (Such material has been typically printed but may now be stored electronically as well as physically.) The course covers the essentials of project design, bibliography, location, access, critical reading, source evaluation and provenance, knowledge categorization and assembly, and records maintenance. The course is a methodological practicum and will involve both small-scale exercises and a larger project. Major texts include Thomas Mann's Oxford Guide to Library Research and Andrew Abbott's Digital paper.

Instructor(s): A. Abbott Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): Advanced undergrads by consent

Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 40142

SOCI 20282. Immigrant America. 100 Units.

Nearly 60 million immigrants have arrived in the U.S. in the past 50 years, mostly from Latin America and Asia, but also from Africa and the Middle-East. Today, a near-record 14% of the country's population is foreign born compared with just 5% in 1965. These profound demographic changes raise critical questions: Why do immigrants come to the U.S.? What impact do they have on U.S. society? Are today's immigrants fundamentally different from previous waves of immigrants? Are these immigrants assimilating to the U.S. or retaining their culture? Why do some immigrant groups appear to fare better than others? This course will expose students to the latest social science research on contemporary immigration to the United States. We will explore its origins, adaptation patterns, and long-term effects on American society.

Instructor(s): R. Flores Terms Offered: Autumn

SOCI 20284. Survey Research Practicum. 100 Units.

The Survey Research Practicum is designed to give students real world experience in planning and administering a mixed-mode survey research project using an address based sample. The course will focus on the planning and administration of a ready-to-field survey, and on understanding how trade-off decisions in the planning phase may affect survey errors. This is a hands-on course in which students will take part in the actual how-to of data collection. Students will take part in every phase of the operational design and project execution. In the process of planning and fielding the survey, students will learn to; prepare a scope of work and write a budget, prepare and submit an IRB application, properly staff a field operation, learn to conduct a standardized survey interview, track fieldwork and disposition outcomes, calculate response rates, process and clean data, and prepare a methodological report. Students will also assist in the development and implementation of methodological experiments in order to understand how changes to the survey design affect data outcomes.

Instructor(s): K. Ulrich Terms Offered: Autumn

SOCI 28080. Sociology of Medicine. 100 Units.

We often think of medical diagnoses as objective labels that reflect verifiable biological realities-but are they always? This course complicates the biomedical model of health and illness by exploring the social, cultural, economic, and political factors that shape medical research, clinical practice, and the structure of the healthcare delivery system. Focusing primarily on the American context, students will investigate how disease labels interact with social non-conformities, how medical diagnoses can serve as forms of social control, and how healthcare inequalities emerge. Students will also learn about resistance to stigma and medicalization, as well as the relationship between experiences of illness and new technologies, such as gene sequencing and the Internet.

Instructor(s): A. Brewer Terms Offered: Spring

SOCI 28081. The Social Life of the Law. 100 Units.

How does the American legal system create, solidify, or attempt to rectify social inequalities and injustices? This course investigates the relationship(s) between law and society, with a focus on the American civil legal system's historical and current role in inequality, social problems, and social disputes. We will examine the ways in which individuals and groups are oriented towards and mobilize the law within the constraints of the legal system and everyday life. We will ask: What are the roots of "equality" as the basis for addressing social discrepancies? What are the consequences of equality and rights forming the foundation for claims and cases in the American legal system? How do the overlaps of the criminal justice system, civil law, and everyday understandings of legality create or deny legal outcomes? What have the legal claims made by historical and current social movements brought into the picture and what has been left out of frame? In a political context that debates the worthiness of rights-based claims-making, where can we go from here?

Instructor(s): K. Hendricks Terms Offered: Autumn

SOCI 28082. Sociology of Higher Education. 100 Units.

This course is designed to introduce students to the sociological study of higher education in the United States. The course will examine the purpose of college and how inequalities in student pathways through higher education are shaped by individual context and institutional structure. This course will consider a number of critical problems and questions regarding higher education, including those related to preparation and access, forms of capital, campus experience, achievement, and outcomes.

Instructor(s): M. Osborne Terms Offered: Winter

SOCI 29997. Readings in Sociology. 100 Units.

Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. With consent of instructor, students may take this course for P/F grading if it is not being used to meet program requirements.

Terms Offered: Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring

Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor and program chair.

SOCI 29998. Sociology BA Thesis Seminar. 100 Units.

This required yearlong course is a forum for students who are majoring in sociology to present their BA papers. Students attend the seminar in Spring Quarter of their third year and in Autumn and Winter Quarters of their fourth year. They may enroll during any one of these quarters, but must attend all three. They submit a completed thesis during Spring Quarter of their fourth year. Students who are not graduating in June should participate in three quarters of the senior seminar in the twelve months before graduation. Students who plan to study abroad during Spring Quarter of their third year should consult with the Undergraduate Program Chair well in advance of their trip. For a general statement about the BA paper, students should obtain the brochure Undergraduate Program in Sociology in the departmental office.

Terms Offered: Autumn, Winter, Spring

Prerequisite(s): Open only to students who are majoring in sociology.

Note(s): Must be taken for a quality grade.



Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Times was used instead of Trajan.

Times was used instead of Palatino.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.