

SOCIOLOGY COURSES (SOCI)

SOCI 121 CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY (3) This course compares how certain universal human patterns, e.g., the family, economy, religion, education and political systems, are approached by different peoples/cultures in the contemporary world. The course specifically considers how different peoples/cultures respond to the universal crises—birth, maturation, death, the need for food and shelter, etc. Additionally this course examines how large scale, complex peoples/cultures deal with intra-cultural variation and with the existence of the different cultural groups of each which may have different patterns for resolving the universal crises named above.

SOCI 201 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (3) This course provides an introduction to the fundamentals of sociology including an analysis of culture, society, and personality and their relationship with one another. Attention is given to developing a sociological frame of reference that enables the student to gain a new perspective of modern society. Attention is also given to the multiple career patterns which allow for the use of sociological training.

SOCI 202 SOCIOLOGY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS (3) *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course provides an examination of social problems within present-day society with attention directed to the strains and tensions within society and the resulting modifications.

SOCI 203 INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL STUDIES (3) *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course serves as a foundation course for cultural studies. Students will be introduced to the conceptual framework of cultural studies to include key concepts such as: mass culture, the culture industry, cultural production, the means of cultural consumption, cultural identities, representation, multiculturalism, hegemony, deconstruction, and ideology. The course will also provide a theoretical understanding of cultural studies with an emphasis on critical theory highlighting the work of such theorists as Pierre Bourdieu, Theodor Adorno, Walter Benjamin, Fredric Jameson, bell hooks, Jean Baudrillard, and Stuart Hall. The course will emphasize the critical analysis of the production and consumption of mass culture, interpretive strategies, and the role of mass culture in everyday life. Students should emerge from the course with an elevated level of cultural literacy and be more well informed consumers of culture.

SOCI 209 ADVOCACY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (3) *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course provides students with the opportunity to explore and engage with material relevant to the role of applying sociology in a variety of career fields and industries to advocate for vulnerable populations, challenge inequality and injustice, and promote social justice through the application of sociological concepts, theories, and research methodologies.

SOCI 214 RITUAL, POWER, SALVATION: RELIGION IN SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE (3) *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course introduces the student to classical theoretical approaches to the study of religion, with special attention to the work of Max Weber and Emile Durkheim, and to the contemporary, culturally oriented perspectives of Peter Berger, Robert Wuthnow, and others. The empirical focus will include both the contemporary United States and a comparative look at other societies. Employing a multi-dimensional approach, the course will tackle micro, meso, and macro level religious phenomena. As such, the course will address the following: the manner in which religion functions to provide a sense of orientation and direction to cognitions, desires, and bodily practices; people's capacity for religious commitment and belonging; the types and dynamics of religious collectivities in specific political contexts; and the impact of religion on social cohesion, conflict, and change. In addition, students will engage in a sociologically rich exploration of ritual, secularization and secularism, and the re-emergence of religion in the public sphere.

SOCI 215 INTRODUCTION TO CONTEMPORARY ASIA (3) *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course acquaints participants with the geography, population, and languages of the major regions of Asia. It is a general survey of cultural traditions, social patterns, economic developments, and contemporary political issues that people in the Orient confront in their own countries as well as in relation to other nations of the world.

SOCI 222 MINORITY GROUPS (3) *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* The focus of this course is on the analysis of minority group relations, especially in the United States. Issues include the nature/range of problems and prejudices as viewed in relation to economic and social class organization; political alignments; regional traditions; and psychological tensions. Course work includes a comparative study of world race relations; the geography and ecology of race relations; the idea of race; and racial conflict.

SOCI 224 JAPAN: GODS, WARRIORS, AND BUSINESSMEN (3) *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course offers an ethnographic consideration of Japanese culture. During the first part of the semester, primary consideration is given to major cultural eras (pre-historical, Kyoto, Kanto Plains, Restoration, and Post-WWII). The second part of the course focuses more closely on the kinship system and political, economic, and religious institutions. The approach is meant to develop an understanding of a major Asian culture contrasted against the background of our own society.

SOCI 231 MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY (3) *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* Contemporary American marriage and family patterns are viewed in historical and cross-cultural perspectives and interpreted against the modern urbanized environment in light of current value systems. Analysis is made of the cultural, psychological, and social factors involved in the changing American family.

SOCI 233 MUSIC, CULTURE, AND REPRESENTATION (3) *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course offers a foray into the sociology of music wherein students will explore the multifarious cultural contexts in which music emerges and come to understand the varied functions of music in society. The course will focus on the means of production, creative process, and means of consumption with respect to music. Moreover, the course will deal with concepts central to the sociology of music to include: genres, music subcultures, authenticity, cultural resistance, co-optation, representation, stratification, cultural identities,

professionalism vs. amateurism, and the relationship between music, media, and technology. A survey of genres will include: jazz, blues, rock, electronic, rap, country, soul, funk, punk, and indie. Lastly, the course will provide the student with a means to understand the various ways in which music permeates everyday life, whether as art, entertainment, background noise, or as a prop for a variety of rituals central to social life.

SOCI 240 **SOCIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF AGING (3)** *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course uses a sociological frame of reference to examine the interrelationships between aging and society. The primary objectives are to familiarize the student with (1) the field of aging, (2) the issues and problems of aging, (3) the theories and methods of gerontologists, (4) the approaches, attitudes and social conditions relative to the aging process and experience, and (5) individual aging experiences. The course provides the foundation for the gerontology minor and for future courses in gerontology.

SOCI 245 **THE INDIVIDUAL IN SOCIETY (3)** *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* A sociological study of the impact of society on the individual, this course analyzes the social development of personality including attitudes, values, and individual differences in social behavior and the processes of socialization.

SOCI 247 **SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER (3)** *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course investigates ways in which gender structures human lives and relationships and approaches gender stratification from interpersonal, interactional, institutional, historical, and cross-cultural points of view.

SOCI 251 **SOCIOLOGY OF HUMAN SEXUAL BEHAVIOR (3)** *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* A cross-cultural examination of the social aspects of human sexual behavior, the course analyzes types and patterns of sexual behavior contrasted with social mechanisms which prescribe or proscribe such activity.

SOCI 253 **GLOBALIZATION AND CINEMA (3)** *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course examines how the Cinema form became part of and helped to speed the processes linked with Globalization. The course also explores how the values of any specific national culture leads to the representation of certain human types and how those values are/are not transmitted to other national cultures. The course will additionally investigate how national-culture representations do/do not become global stereotypes and how those stereotypes do/do not influence local behaviors.

SOCI 256 **SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANCE (3)** *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* The course provides a broad overview of theoretical treatments of deviance, deviant careers, and societal reaction to deviance. Attention is given to the role of power relations in the social construction of deviance and social control. The course will entertain such topics as the medicalization of deviance, drug use, sexual deviance, religious deviance, and the simulation of deviance in popular culture and media.

SOCI 263 **URBAN SOCIOLOGY (3)** *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course provides an intensive study of the drastic effects of rapidly expanding urban areas on social organization. Attention is given to the origin, development, and changing patterns of the city. The influence that urbanization and industrialization have on social institutions and personal relationships is considered.

SOCI 264 **SOCIAL INEQUALITY AND OPPRESSION (3)** *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* With a focus on social stratification, structural inequality, and oppression, this course introduces students to the historical and theoretical foundations of understanding social inequality in a global age and provides students with opportunities to engage in critical thinking around the intersectionality of poverty, social mobility, power and politics, oppressed group statuses, and the globalization of race, class, and gender.

SOCI 268 **SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY (3)** *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* The focus of this course is on introducing students to the history of social welfare policy in the United States, and engaging students in critical thinking around the impact of past and current policies on the welfare of individuals in urban and rural communities with whom human service professionals interact.

SOCI 270 **METHODS OF SOCIAL RESEARCH (3)** *Prerequisite: CRIM 241 or SOCI 201.* This course analyzes methods and techniques employed in sociological research. Attention is given to selection and formulation of research problems, sampling, data collection and analysis, and interpretation of research findings. Selected examples of major research areas of sociology are examined.

SOCI 280 **STATISTICS FOR SOCIOLOGISTS (3)** *Prerequisite: CRIM 241 or SOCI 201, and SOCI 270.* This course and the accompanying laboratory provide a survey of quantitative techniques in

sociological research with particular attention given to nonparametric tests, measures of association, and the development of quantitative models.

SOCI 320 CASE MANAGEMENT IN HUMAN SERVICES (3) *Prerequisites: SOCI 201, 209.* In this course, students will be exposed to the processes and procedures involved with the many career fields in which human services professionals work; apply knowledge of these processes and procedures to develop the skills necessary to be effective and ethical case managers, program managers, and supervisors; and assess students' progress toward culturally competent models of professional practice.

SOCI 342 POPULATION STUDIES (3) *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course provides a study of the growth, distribution, and composition of population and the associated social and cultural factors in the United States, with some consideration of world population. The course acquaints the student with U.S. Census materials, immigration trends and policies, age, and sex structure. It also stresses the effects and selective factors of migration and differential fertility and mortality rates.

SOCI 358 SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY (3) *Prerequisite: SOCI 201.* This course is designed to explore the literature of both classical and contemporary sociological theory. Attention is given to the major paradigms that characterize the discipline as well as more recent trends in social thought. The course will provide a survey and critique of major classical theorists such as Marx, Durkheim, and Weber. The exploration of contemporary theory may include forays into symbolic interactionism, structural functionalism, neo-functionalism, conflict theory, critical theory, feminism, and postmodernism. Students will be required to write extensively about an original work in the discipline. In addition special attention will be paid to the application of theory.

SOCI 372 QUANTITATIVE METHODOLOGY (3) *Prerequisites: SOCI 201, 270 and 280.* This course will focus on data collection and analysis techniques that are particularly useful in community settings. Attention will be given to needs and assets assessments, program evaluations, gathering and using secondary data, linking data to geographic information systems software, focus groups, and action research.

SOCI 374 QUALITATIVE METHODOLOGY (3) *Prerequisite: SOCI 201 and 270.* This course introduces and provides basic training in qualitative research, including the identification and framing of research questions, interview instrument construction, measurements of reliability, validity, data collection, and analysis. More specifically, students will learn how to convert a sociological question into a topic appropriate for qualitative study, gain access into a research site, establish rapport, and other methods associated with conducting successful fieldwork. Instruction in methods of analysis may include grounded theory, content analysis, narrative analysis, and discourse analysis.

SOCI 375 EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE AND EVALUATION (3) *Prerequisites: SOCI 270, 280.* Using professional practice and program evaluation as a framework for enhancing students' knowledge and skills in social science research, this course focuses on the art and science of conducting rigorous and ethical qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods studies. Instruction in qualitative research includes sampling, data collection, interviewing and observation, assessment of quality, and methodological approaches from positivist, interpretive, and action-orientated perspectives. Instruction on quantitative research includes sampling, study design, data collection, questionnaire construction, secondary data analysis, regression and correlation analysis, and analysis of variance.

SOCI 377 STUDY ABROAD (3) *Prerequisite: consent of instructor.* This course provides students with the opportunity to study societal institutions and social organizations' patterns in foreign settings.

SOCI 396 HUMAN SERVICES PRACTICUM (3) *Prerequisites: SOCI 201, 209; seniors with a 2.25 minimum QPA; approval of written proposal by practicum coordinator, academic advisor, and school dean prior to registration.* This course provides students in the Human Services Emphasis of the Sociology major with a supervised practicum experience in a setting consistent with the student's professional area of interest. Examples of practicum settings include, but are not limited to, social services departments; primary and secondary schools; higher education student affairs departments; human service agencies and organizations; community organizing coalitions; grass roots organizations; mental health, substance abuse, and crisis intervention service settings; and hospital organizations. Practicum experiences are developed by the student with assistance from the sociology faculty and/or the practicum coordinator.

SOCI 397 **INDEPENDENT STUDY IN SOCIOLOGY (1-3)** *Prerequisites: Approval of faculty sponsor and school dean; junior or senior standing.* This course provides students the opportunity to pursue individual study of topics not covered in other available courses. The area for investigation is developed in consultation with a faculty sponsor and credit is dependent on the nature of the work. May be repeated for no more than six credits.

SOCI 398 **SPECIAL TOPICS IN SOCIOLOGY (1-3) [credit depends on topic]** *Prerequisite: A background of work in the discipline.* This course will focus on an aspect of the discipline not otherwise covered by the regularly offered courses. The topic will vary according to professor and term; consequently, more than one may be taken by a student during his/her matriculation.

SOCI 399 **INTERNSHIP IN SOCIOLOGY (1-6)** *Prerequisite: Juniors or seniors with a 2.25 minimum QPA; approval of written proposal by internship coordinator, supervising faculty, and school dean prior to registration.* This course provides the student with a supervised work experience in a setting in which sociology is applied. Examples of work settings include, but are not limited to, advertising agencies, personnel departments in large businesses, market research firms, municipal planning offices, correctional agencies, and social service departments. Internships are developed by the student with assistance from the sociology staff and/or the internship coordinator. (See "Internships.")

SOCI 430 **SENIOR RESEARCH CAPSTONE (3)** *Prerequisites: SOCI 201, 270, 280, 358, 372 or 374.* Contemporary Issues in Sociology. This course is designed to synthesize the student's Sociology Program experiences. During the semester each student chooses a research topic, carries out the appropriate literature review, and designs the research method to be used to investigate the topic chosen.