SOCIOLOGY - SOCIAL SCIENCE

SOC 0003 TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL CHANGE 3 cr.

To acquaint the student with major sociological concepts, approaches and theories that is applicable to the analysis of the interaction between technology and society. The discussions are organized around three issues: 1. The effects of technology upon various aspects of the social structure and functioning, 2. The social conditions which lead to innovations and the diffusion of innovations throughout society, and 3. Technology assessment and environmental impact statement processes as they bear on current national decisions bearing on technology/society interfaces.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0007 SOCIAL PROBLEMS 3 cr.

The major aims of this course are to understand the nature of important social problems in American society and analyze their causes and consequences. The two competing perspectives, one, that social problems are created when individuals fail to conform to societal norms, and two, that social problems are caused when institutions fail to meet changing needs and aspirations of individuals will be used in our analysis. Future trends and policy alternatives toward amelioration will be examined.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0009 AMERICAN SOCIETY 3 cr.

Designed around an examination of the country's traditional goals and ideals. We will explore those national purposes through the writings of major American figures and discuss whether or not the country has fulfilled those purposes. Also explores the ways that America's diverse groups and social classes relate to each other.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0010 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY 3 cr.

Introduces the student to the discipline of sociology, its development, theories, major findings, and to the sociological interpretation of modern society. Emphasis will be given to the importance of careful empirical investigation for the understanding of recent social and cultural changes. Students should be prepared to encounter basic issues in sociological method and in theory; an inclination toward systematic and abstract reasoning will help.

Prerequisite: None.
SOC 0020 CRIME, LAW, AND PUBLIC POLICY 3 cr.

Introduction to crime, criminal law, and public policy as it pertains to crime and justice. Subject matter includes an introduction to the study of crime, a description of the source, purpose, and application of the criminal law, and an examination of the interplay of politics, the problem of crime, and the implementation of public policies.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0124 SPECIAL TOPICS 3 cr.

Special Topics in Sociology.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0145 DRUGS AND SOCIETY 3 cr.

Examines the social implications of the use and abuse of psychoactive substances. Drawing on sociological, psychological, historical, and pharmacological research, questions about individual motivations and consequences, social problems, political and economic issues, and public policy will be explored. The primary focus will be on the United States, but the larger global context will also be considered.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0150 SOCIAL THEORY 3 cr.

Provide a survey of major developments in sociological theory in recent times. The classic background for these developments is included as part of the course. Lectures, readings and discussions help the student to acquire a grasp of the significance of theoretical analysis in sociology and of basic sociological problems addressed by a variety of theorists.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0335 SOCIOLOGY OF POLITICS 3 cr.

This course examines the relationship between political institutions and the institutions of the economy, family, education, religion, and stratification. With a major focus on American society and the conditions underlying stable democracy, these relationships are studied in historical and cross-societal comparative perspective as well as in terms of a society's location in the system of international relations.

Prerequisite: None.
SOC 0352  SOCIAL MOVEMENT  3 cr.

This course offers ideological, structural, and functional treatment of dominant American movements for social and cultural change in our contemporary world.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0432  WEALTH AND POWER  3 cr.

Interdependence of these two key sociological concepts is discussed in the context of American society. The role of the multi-national corporation as the most important institution in capitalist societies is examined. The pervasive power of some is contrasted with the generalized powerlessness of the majority.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0433  SOCIAL INEQUALITY  3 cr.

The purpose of this course is to provide the student with an introduction to the sociological study of social inequality in the United States. Course topics will include the causes and consequences of inequality in society, the universal and variable nature of institutionalized inequality, and understanding how social, demographic, economic, political, and historical forces impact the everyday lives of Americans. Further, the student will be provided with the opportunity to analyze and discuss the impact of public policy on issues that pertain to social inequality.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0434  POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY  3 cr.

This course examines the relationship between political institutions and the institutions of the economy, family, education, religion, and stratification. With a major focus on American society and the conditions underlying stable democracy, these relationships are studied in historical and cross-societal comparative perspective as well as in terms of a society's location in the system of international relations.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0455  DIVERSITY IN AMERICA  3 cr.

This course will introduce students to the concept of culture, allowing them to see how one’s culture affects and is affected by living in the United States. The first third of the class will focus on what culture is and allow students to explore their own culture in depth (including assumptions, language use, and world views). The second part of the class will explore the complexities of various cultural groups living in the United States; guest speakers, writings, and videos will be used to study these cultures. The last part of the class will focus on how the cultures and language use affects and are affected by various social institutions, especially schools.

Prerequisite: None.
SOC 0471     DEVIANCE AND SOCIAL CONTROL     3 cr.

Raises questions about what is "deviant" and how certain actions and beliefs come to be considered deviant. It also raises questions concerning the social, structural and cultural determinants of the decision to view something as "deviant" and in need of "control". The course explores changes in the definition of behavior which lead the same behaviors to be considered 'sins', 'crimes', 'illnesses', and 'alternative lifestyles'.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0477     MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY     3 cr.

This is a course on socio-cultural aspects of health, illness, disease and (medical) treatment in American society. The historical transformation of American medicine into a powerful sovereign profession with unparalleled authority, autonomy and control over all aspects of health and illness will be examined. On the basis of this historical survey, recent empirical studies of distribution of health, disease and medical care will be examined as well as specific substantive issues and contemporary debates.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0478     YOUTH AND SOCIETY     3 cr.

Examines the relationship between youth and socio-cultural change that results from the intersection of psychological development and historical circumstances. The course also compares processes of adult socialization and identity transformation with the more familiar processes of childhood socialization.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0490     MASS MEDIA     3 cr.

Deals with the many faceted roles of mass media in our society and explains how and why the media have achieved their present prominence and influence on our lives.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 0785     IMPERIALISM AND THE UNITED STATES     3 cr.

Focuses on the development and sources of imperialist policy with particular attention to the post-World War II period. Among the core topics are the growth of foreign investment and loans, the ways those economic activities influence foreign policy and the use of military power, and their effect on the United States economy. We will examine the issue of whether or not imperialism benefits the nation.

Prerequisite: None.
SOC 1148  DELINQUENCY AND JUVENILE JUSTICE  3 cr.

Understanding the nature of juvenile delinquency and the treatment of juveniles within the juvenile justice system. The course defines the term, juvenile delinquency, provides overview of theories of delinquency, as well as, risk factors for delinquent behavior. It traces the history of the juvenile justice system and provides an overview of the various dispositions for adjudicated youth. Critical Supreme Court cases, involving juvenile offenders are also considered.

Prerequisites: CJ 0002 or SOC 0020.

SOC 1270  MUSIC, CULTURE & TECHNOLOGY  3 cr.

Students will engage with major social, historical, and cultural issues affecting music technology in the west from the phonograph in the 19th century to the IPhone in the 21st.

Prerequisite: Sophomore.

SOC 1396  MUSIC IN SOCIETY  3 cr.

Multi-perspective humanities study of musical activity in the United States. Draws on techniques and perspectives of historical studies, ethnology, music business, and professional concerns to develop a cultural and historical understanding of music in American life. Focuses on the types of organizations and environments in which music occurs, and the function of the music in the lives of the participants.

Prerequisite: Sophomore.

SOC 1516  ORGANIZED CRIME  3 cr.

Analized as an illegal business enterprise and a ladder for social mobility by ethnic groups. Provides a topical approach to major aspects of organized crime: definitions and perspectives, periods of ethnic dominance and succession, sociology of entrepreneurial crime subcultures, law enforcement field strategies, and current trends.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 1518  WHITE COLLAR CRIME  3 cr.

Examines the meaning, varieties, and extent of white collar crime in America. Investigates the developmental history of this concept, theories of white collar crime causation, specific types of white collar crime, empirical and theoretical controversies surrounding white collar crime, and the probable future directions for this type of criminal behavior.

Prerequisite: None.

SOC 1900  INTERNSHIP  1-3 cr.

SOC 1902  INDEPENDENT STUDY  1-3 cr.
SOC 1910  TEACHING OF SOCIOLOGY  1-3 cr.
Teaching assistantship opportunities in Sociology.  Note: Instructor Consent Required.

SOCSCI 0105  INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC POLICY  3 cr.
The course introduces students to the fundamentals of public policy analysis, with a focus on the United States. Students will be exposed to the process of public policy development, analysis, and implementation. They will learn the tools used in public policy analysis, why governments and citizens make certain choices, as well as how to choose among policy alternatives.

Prerequisite: None.

SOCSCI 0200  RESEARCH METHODS IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES  3 cr.
Designed for majors in Criminal Justice, Communication, Political Science, Economics, Sociology and Anthropology. Familiarize students with basic empirical research methods and statistics typically used in the social sciences. Focus will be on learning how to evaluate existing research and reports and how to conduct and write research projects for the capstone courses.

Prerequisite: Sophomore

SOCSCI 0300  VILLAGE SEMINAR  3 cr.
Special topics course designed to give members in one of the Academic Villages an opportunity to take a course that provides an interdisciplinary perspective on a contemporary issue. Team-taught by faculty from different disciplines with expertise on the current topic.

Prerequisite: None.

SOCSCI 0432  WEALTH AND POWER  3 cr.
Interdependence of these two key sociological concepts is discussed in the context of American society. The role of the multi-national corporation as the most important institution in capitalist societies is examined. The pervasive power of some is contrasted with the generalized powerlessness of the majority.

Prerequisite: None.

SOCSCI 1030  RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES  3 cr.
A survey of methods used in contemporary communication research, spanning qualitative, quantitative, and critical approaches. Through the study and practice of the research process, students will learn to evaluate date, hypotheses, and conclusions produced by others in addition to gaining firsthand research experience.

Prerequisite: COMMRC 0300 or COMMRC 0310 or COMMRC 0320.
SOCSCI 1031   DIGITAL STUDIES  

This course emphasizes practical experience with digital resources and methods in the social sciences. Students will develop skills in evaluating and using existing digital sources, become familiar with a variety of software and internet technologies, gain experience in creating digital archives and databases, and learn about methods for exploring and organizing results from digital sources.

*Prerequisite: Sophomore.*

SOCSCI 1040   PROGRAM EVALUATION  

This course will provide students with knowledge and skills necessary to perform program evaluation. Students will be introduced to the logic of scientific inquiry, the features and purpose of experimental design, and the concepts and limitations of measurement. In addition, students will perform data measure development and collection and basic data management, conduct descriptive data analyses, and communicate results orally and in writing. This will occur within the context of participating in an ongoing program evaluation.

*Prerequisite: None.*

SOCSCI 1051   DIGITAL HUMANITIES: CODING & DATA VISUALIZATION  

This course involves preparing electronic texts for public access with systematic markup language, such as xml, with emphasis on data extraction and visual analysis of literary and historical texts; creating bar, line, and network graphs, and geographic and image mapping. (The emphasis in this alternative course is less on creating digital editions of texts and more on data extraction and visualization from digital texts prepared as information databases.)

*Prerequisite: Sophomore.*

SOCSCI 1900   INTERNSHIP  

SOCSCI 1902   DIRECTED STUDY  

SOCSCI 1955   CAPSTONE  

*Prerequisite: Senior or Instructor Consent Required.*