

SOCIOLOGY (SOC)

SOC 200

Introduction to Sociology

Introduces students to the structure and operation of society. The course analyzes individual behavior and emphasizes social problems.

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 208

Social Psychology and Society

Explores different aspects of everyday judgments and their sometimes undesirable social consequences, especially the Fundamental Attribution Error. Other topics include various types of group influences on individual judgment and behavior, as well as persuasion, "brainwashing," helping behavior, and prejudice. Formerly called SOC 308.

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 211

Introduction to the Sociology of Space

This introductory sociology course deals with people's general experience of space and how space and spatial arrangements affect people, social interaction, and the sense of community. It is designed to develop knowledge and understanding as well as analytical and perceptive skills. Our experiences of the spatial dimension of reality will be examined from various perspectives: emotional; cognitive; functional; symbolic; and cross-cultural. Our study objects range from everyday experiences to questions of community and city planning. Basic sociological concepts and research methods will be introduced and related to the topics covered. This course is required for SOC 311 (Social Use of Space).

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 250

Introduction to Science, Technology, and Society

The growth of scientific knowledge and technology and the ways in which it has been produced have historically been intertwined with the development of culture and society. The effects are felt in all aspects of human identity and interests: from the ways we live our everyday lives, to our understanding of who and what we are, to the making of political decisions of global proportions. This course prepares students to think critically about the cultures, beliefs, human relationships, and institutions that make and are remade by scientific and technological change.

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

SOC 285

Introductory Special Topics in Sociology

Investigates a topic of current interest at an introductory level. Topic will be announced by instructor at scheduling time. There are no prerequisites for this course. Course may be taken multiple times, provided the topic is different each time.

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 301

The Social Dimension of Science

Examines how social and psychological factors influence the reasoning and behavior of scientists. By contrasting traditional views of science with actual scientific practice, the course aims to understand such phenomena as "hype," resistance to scientific discovery, controversy, vicious competition, error, self-deception, and fraud.

Prerequisite(s): HUM 200-299

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 302

Science and Belief

Explores the relationship between science and belief by comparing Western science with other belief systems, science with religion, and science with pseudo-science. The course also examines cultural and ideological influences on scientific knowledge and public faith in science.

Prerequisite(s): HUM 200-299

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 303

Science in Society

Examines the role of the institution of science, scientific knowledge, and scientists in society. The course focuses on areas where science significantly influences and is influenced by political, economic, and cultural institutions and contexts.

Prerequisite(s): HUM 200-299

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 305

Social Communication

Studies the variety of subtle ways, verbal and nonverbal, in which humans communicate in personal, professional, and public life, and how to identify and solve problems and misunderstandings that typically arise. Topics include the social nature of humans, interpersonal communication, interaction within and between groups, teamwork, leadership, and intercultural communication.

Prerequisite(s): HUM 200-299

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 311

Social Use of Space

Gives students basic insights into people's experience of space and the effect of spatial arrangements on people's behavior. The course explores the differences in conceptions between planners and users and the need to take the user into account in spatial design.

Prerequisite(s): SOC 211

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Social Sciences (S)

SOC 322

Sociology of Objects and Technology

Surely technology shapes society. But can society shape technology as well? This course focuses on technologies and technical objects and their intersection with basic sociological themes like social stratification, stability and change, social control, identity, and community. It emphasizes the relationship between the specific properties of technical systems and their social consequences, and examines the complex entwining of social structure and technologies among politics and technologies across many scales.

Prerequisite(s): HUM 200-299

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 348

Deviant Behavior and Conformity

Analyzes the definition, development, and control of deviant behavior in relation to social processes. Societal reaction to and the amount, distribution, and behavioral systems of various forms of deviance (drug addiction, suicide, crime, alcoholism, illegitimacy, etc.) are examined.

Prerequisite(s): HUM 200-299

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 362

Technology and Social Change

Examines the social implications of selected emerging and cutting-edge technologies with an emphasis on recent developments and events. The course investigates the consequences of those technologies for society using both short-term and long-term perspectives and including moral, ethical, socioeconomic, and educational considerations. Same as PS 362.

Prerequisite(s): HUM 200-299

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 385

Topics in Sociology

Investigates a topic of current interest in Sociology which will be announced by the instructor when the course is scheduled.

Prerequisite(s): HUM 200-299

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 491

Undergraduate Research in Sociology

Working with a member of the sociology faculty, students will choose a topic, conduct research, and complete an original, independent research project.

Prerequisite(s): SOC 300-399 and SOC 190-299

Credit: Variable

Satisfies: Communications (C)

SOC 497

Directed Readings

Consists of independent reading or analysis, centered on particular problems and supervised by a member of the Sociology faculty.

Credit: Variable; maximum 3 credit hours.

Prerequisite(s): SOC 300-399 and SOC 190-299

Credit: Variable

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)

SOC 498

Exercises in Behavioral Observation

Provides students with an opportunity to acquire better field-work skills by providing a forum for discussing and practicing the craft. This is a seminar in advanced ethnographic methods. Permission of instructor is required.

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Credits: 3

Satisfies: Communications (C), Social Sciences (S)