

SOCIOLOGY (BA IN SOCIOLOGY)

The Sociology Program

Sociology majors graduate with a wide range of knowledge and skills that serve them well in a variety of possible careers. All sociology majors gain valuable skills in our rigorous theory and research methods course sequence, which emphasizes both quantitative and qualitative approaches. This depth of training makes sociology majors outstanding candidates for careers in teaching, business, advocacy, public service and administration, law, medicine, journalism, international development and many other professions. In addition, sociology majors regularly pursue graduate study in social work, journalism, education, public health, public policy, law, business and urban/regional planning. Optional course concentrations within the major provide the opportunity for students to target careers related to global issues; medicine and public health; law and criminal justice; and social/policy change. Sociology minors and those who take sociology courses as part of their exploration of the liberal arts benefit from the wide range of topics covered in our courses. For additional information see our web site (<http://www.wm.edu/as/sociology/>).

Course Requirements

Major Computing Requirement

Code	Title	Hours
SOCI 303	Quant Research Methods	3

Major Writing Requirement

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		3-6
SOCI 494W	Senior Capstone Seminar	
SOCI 495 & SOCI 496	Honors and Honors	

Concentrations

Within the Sociology major, students may choose to specialize their studies by declaring one of four possible 'concentrations': Globalization; Health, Medicine, and Well-Being; Crime, Law and Power; or Social Justice and Policy.

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Core Requirements		
SOCI 301	Sociological Theory	
SOCI 302	Research Design	
SOCI 303	Quant Research Methods	
SOCI 304	Qualitative Sociology	
Select one of the following:		3-6
SOCI 494W	Senior Capstone Seminar	
Additional Requirements		
SOCI 495 & SOCI 496	Honors and Honors	
Select six additional courses, four must be numbered 300 and above (including one 400 other than the Capstone or Honors): ¹		18
SOCI 480	Readings in Sociology	

SOCI 490	Independent Research	
SOCI 498	Internship	
Total Hours		21-24

¹ A maximum of three credits of independent study from the courses listed below (exclusive of SOCI 495-SOCI 496) may count towards the Sociology major. If a student wishes to count additional independent study credits toward the Sociology major, he/she must obtain approval from the Chair of the Sociology Department. If pursuing one of the Concentrations listed below, please refer to those lists of electives.

Crime, Law and Power Concentration Requirements

For a Concentration in Crime, Law and PowerCriminology, Law and Society, take at least three of your six electives from the following (or other special topics or COLL courses in the concentration approved by the Department Chair, including special topics courses):

Code	Title	Hours
Select three of your six electives from the following (or other special topics or COLL courses in the concentration approved by the Department Chair, including special topics courses):		9
SOCI 220	Criminology	
SOCI 321	Crime and the Life Course	
SOCI 322	Asian American Demography and Law	
SOCI 323	Gender, Sexuality and the State	
SOCI 421	Crime and Justice in America	
SOCI 422	Race and Crime	
SOCI 423	Deviance and Social Control	
Total Hours		9

Globalization Concentration Requirements

For a Globalization Concentration, take at least three of your six electives from the following (or other special topics or COLL courses in the concentration approved by the Department Chair, including special topics courses):

Code	Title	Hours
Select three of your six electives from the following (or other special topics or COLL courses in the concentration approved by the Department Chair, including special topics courses):		9
SOCI 230	Global Social Problems	
SOCI 331	Gender and Human Rights	
SOCI 332	Comparative Sociology	
SOCI 333	Globalization and International Development	
SOCI 341	The Politics of Global Health	
SOCI 414	Comparative Race Relations	
SOCI 431	Migration in a Global Context	
SOCI 433	Energy, Environment, and Development	
Total Hours		9

Health, Medicine, and Well-being Concentration Requirements

For a Concentration in Health, Medicine, and Well-being, take at least three of your six electives from the following (or other special topics or COLL courses in the concentration approved by the Department Chair, including special topics courses):

Code	Title	Hours
Select three of your six electives from the following (or other special topics or COLL courses in the concentration approved by the Department Chair, including special topics courses):		
SOCI 240	Medical Sociology	9
SOCI 311	Birth, Sex, Death: Population and Society	
SOCI 341	The Politics of Global Health	
SOCI 342	Families and Kinship	
SOCI 412	Sociology of Aging	
SOCI 441	Social Inequality and Health	
SOCI 442	Political Ecology of Health & Disease	
SOCI 443	Sociology of Mental Illness	
SOCI 452	Food and Society	
Total Hours		9

Social Justice & Policy Concentration Requirements

For a Concentration in Social Justice and Policy Problems, Policy and Justice, take at least three of your six electives from the following (or other special topics or COLL courses in the concentration approved by the Department Chair, including special topics courses):

Code	Title	Hours
Select three of your six electives from the following (or other special topics or COLL courses in the concentration approved by the Department Chair, including special topics courses):		
SOCI 210	Gender in Society	9
SOCI 212	Wealth, Power, and Inequality	
SOCI 250	Contemporary Social Problems In the US	
SOCI 251	Institutions and Inequality	
SOCI 352	Sociology of Education	
SOCI 353	Environmental Sociology	
SOCI 354	Economic Justice: VA Eviction Crisis	
SOCI 357	Urban Sociology	
SOCI 351	Immigration, Assimilation and Ethnicity	
SOCI 355	Social Movements and Social Change	
SOCI 356	Sociology of Work	
SOCI 432	Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Studies	
SOCI 451	Citizenship & Belonging	
Total Hours		9

Recommended Course Sequence

Below are two suggested tracks for students to take to fulfill this curriculum. The first is for a student who begins Sociology courses in the freshman year. The second is for a student who does not begin Sociology courses until the sophomore year.

100-level courses fulfill the COLL 100 or 150 requirement

200-level courses are designed for students with no prior exposure to sociology or to the general subject area of the course.

300-level courses are designed for students who have had at least one course in sociology or prior academic exposure to the subject area of the course.

400-level courses are designed as advanced-level seminars suited for juniors or seniors who have had 2 or more courses in sociology or significant prior exposure to the subject area

Sample 1

Course	Title	Hours
Freshman		
One 200 or 100 or 150 level Sociology course		3-4
SOCI elective		3
Hours		6-7
Sophomore		
SOCI 301	Sociological Theory	3
SOCI 302	Research Design	3
SOCI elective		3
SOCI elective		3
Hours		12
Junior		
SOCI 303	Quant Research Methods	3
SOCI 304	Qualitative Sociology	3
SOCI elective		3
Hours		9
Senior		
SOCI 494W	Senior Capstone Seminar	3
SOCI elective		3
Hours		6
Total Hours		33-34

Sample 1 - Senior Year:

The department offers multiple sections of SOCI 494W (Senior Capstone Seminar) every academic year, each with its own topic and instructor. To enroll in SOCI 494W, rising seniors will receive a short survey from the department chair or other department representative for designation of their preferences for a section of the course. Students will be informed of their capstone assignment prior to Fall Registration of their senior year and will receive an override from the instructor. Prerequisites for SOCI 494W are SOCI 301, SOCI 302, SOCI 303, and SOCI 304. Exceptions to these prerequisites may be made on a case-by-case basis by the department chair. A student completing SOCI 495-6 (Honors) is not required to take SOCI 494W (Senior Capstone Seminar).

Sample 2

Course	Title	Hours
Sophomore		
One 200 level Sociology course		3
SOCI elective		3
Hours		6
Junior		
SOCI 301	Sociological Theory	3
SOCI 302	Research Design	3
SOCI 303	Quant Research Methods	3
SOCI 304	Qualitative Sociology	3
SOCI elective		3
Hours		15

Senior		
(See Sample 1 - Senior Year above for information on the Senior Year Capstone course.)		
SOCI 494W	Senior Capstone Seminar	3
SOCI elective		3
SOCI elective		3
SOCI elective		3
Hours		12
Total Hours		33