Sociology, Anthropology, And Social Work

Department Information

Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work web site
http://www.southalabama.edu/colleges/artsandsci/syansw/

Departmental Mission Statement
The Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work seeks to equip students with conceptual tools to enhance their social and cultural awareness and with methodological tools to obtain empirical knowledge to empower them to engage in improvement of social conditions. Acknowledging the inextricable link between teaching and scholarly research, we strive for excellence in both areas to unite students and faculty in a common experience of learning and discovery through pure and applied research to prepare students for service through careers and civic engagement.

Undergraduate Programs
Sociology is the scientific study of social behavior and social phenomena. Our program seeks to provide students with knowledge and insight about why groups, institutions, organizations, and societies (and the people in them) behave in the ways they do. Popular courses within the program address such diverse social phenomena as Drug Use, Marriage and Family, Culture, Religion, Crime and Deviance, Medicine, Disasters, Race, Gender, and Aging. We also focus on equipping students with the tools of social research methods and statistics - two very highly-sought-after skills in today's labor market.

Anthropology is the study of humans, past and present. To understand the full sweep and complexity of cultures across all of human history, anthropology draws and builds upon knowledge from the social and biological sciences as well as the humanities and physical sciences. A central concern of anthropologists is the application of knowledge to the solution of human problems. Historically, anthropologists in the United States have been trained in one of four areas: archaeology, biological/physical anthropology, sociocultural anthropology, and linguistic anthropology. Anthropologists often integrate the perspectives of several of these areas into their professional lives.

Social work is a social science and a profession devoted to helping people solve problems and issues in their lives. Social workers, help individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities to achieve an effective level of psychosocial functioning and seek social reform to improve societal well being, with an emphasis upon marginalized and oppressed communities. Social work is founded upon the ethical principles of service; social and economic justice; personal dignity and worth; the importance of human relationships; integrity; and competence.

All first-time freshmen must successfully complete CAS 100: First Year Experience as a degree requirement. Students must enroll during their first term at USA, except for summer-entry students who must enroll in the fall semester following entry.

SY 382 will fulfill the technology proficiency requirement for Sociology and Social Work majors.

AN 454 will fulfill the technology proficiency requirement for Anthropology majors.

Areas Of Study

Anthropology (BA)
Minor in Anthropology
Minor in Sociology
Social Work (BSW)
Sociology (BA)
Sociology (MA)

Courses
Anthropology (AN)

AN 121L Biological Anthropology Lab 1 cr
The lab section of this course is designed to provide a more in-depth understanding of biological anthropology through a variety of exercises and hands-on learning opportunities. Topics covered parallel those in lecture (AN 121) and include evolutionary theory, living primates, primate origins, human evolution, and modern human variation.
Co-requisite: AN 121

AN 100 Intro to Cultural Anthropology 3 cr
Introduces culture as a set of integrated behaviors and meanings learned in a social environment. Explores the diversity of human cultural practices in terms of kinship, gender, religion, subsistence, and politics. Language is emphasized as the means by which culture is transmitted from one generation to the next.

AN 101 Intro Archaeology-Bio Anthro 3 cr
The place of people in nature; the origin, development, and differentiation of people as biological organisms; archaeological evidence of early human cultures; basic concepts and principles for understanding human cultures. Introduces students to the topics of evolution, genetics, and primates and integrates cultural aspects associated with early human development. The fundamental orientation and methods of archaeology are introduced and an overview of world prehistory presented.

AN 121 Biological Anthropology 3 cr
This course covers the topics of human evolution and modern human variation, focusing on humanity's biological roots and modern appearance. To understand our present physical and social condition, we must understand our evolutionary past. This course discusses our place within the mammalian evolutionary lineage, evolutionary theory, population genetics, primate behavior, human evolution, and modern human variation.
Co-requisite: AN 121L

AN 190 Special Topics - 3 cr
Different topics of anthropological importance will be studied as announced. This course may be taken twice for credit when content varies, but not for more than six credits.
Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D or AN 101 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 200 Language and Culture 3 cr
Brief introduction to descriptive and structural linguistics, language universals, classification and processes of change in language, language and thought, social cultural factors as expressed in language, origin of language, child language and non-verbal communication.
Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D or AN 101 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 250 Forensic Anthropology 3 cr
This course will introduce students to the field of forensic anthropology. Specifically, it will survey the basic methods employed by forensic anthropologists to recover and analyze human skeletal remains, including the construction of a biological profile and the analysis of skeletal trauma.

AN 290 Special Topics - 1 TO 3 cr
Different topics of anthropological importance will be studied as announced. This course may be taken twice for credit when content varies, but not for more than 6 credits.
Prerequisites: AN 100 or AN 101 or permission of instructor.
Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D or AN 101 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 300 Thinking Anthropologically 1 cr
This one-credit hour course is designed to expose anthropology majors to important applied concepts in our field, with a particular emphasis on scientific literacy and professional development. Through short lectures, guided activities, facilitated discussions, and student presentations, this course will help our majors identify and engage in practical skills to enhance their success as students as well as in their chosen post-graduation career paths.
Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of C and AN 101 Minimum Grade of C and AN 121L Minimum Grade of C.

AN 305 Arch Method and Theory 3 cr
The theoretical basis of archaeology, and the various methods used to discover and interpret the human past from material evidence.
Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D or AN 101 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 313 New World Archaeology 3 cr
The evolution of Native American cultures, from the first arrival of humans across the Bering Straits land bridge to the European settlement of the New World.
Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D or AN 101 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 335 Field Work in Archaeology 4 cr
Archaeological field and laboratory techniques include excavation, site survey, artifact processing and analysis. Fee.
Pre-requisite: AN 101 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 340 Native American Cultures-W 3 cr
An ethnographic and ethnohistorical survey of native cultures of North America, including historical and modern groups, with an emphasis on Indians of the Southeast.
Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D or AN 101 Minimum Grade of D.
AN 342  Applied Anthropology  3 cr
Issues surrounding theory and method of applied anthropology. Presentation and analysis of case studies concerning problems in areas such as development, both domestic and in foreign settings, community health, homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse, and others. Prerequisites: AN 100 or permission of instructor. Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 347  Latin Amer Cultures-Societies  3 cr
A survey of Latin American society and culture from the pre-contract period to the present. Pre-Columbian antecedents, colonial use of land and labor, patterns of race, class and ethnicity, and problems of development are examined. Prerequisite: AN 100 or permission of instructor. Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 355  Gender and Anthropology  3 cr
This course provides an introduction to anthropological themes and debates in gender theory, including an ethnographic survey of women and men in a variety of cultures. Prerequisites: AN 100 or permission of instructor. Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 357  Political Anthropology  3 cr
Authority, power, and conflict are examined cross-culturally and in evolutionary perspective. Particular emphasis is placed on the origins of stratification and the state. Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 358  Economic Anthropology  3 cr
An evolutionary survey of production and exchange in diverse societies. Considers the applicability of western economic theory to nonmarket economies, as well as their transformation by global capitalism. Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 365  Human Osteology  3 cr
This hands-on course focuses on the identification of the bones of the human skeleton and its application to specialties within biological anthropology, including bioarchaeology and forensic anthropology. Topics to be covered include human skeletal and dental anatomy, skeletal growth and development, skeletal pathology and anomalies, and the biological profile. Pre-requisite: AN 210 Minimum Grade of B or AN 250 Minimum Grade of B.

AN 370  Human Origins and Evolution  3 cr
This lecture, discussion, and lab-based seminar will examine the fossil, genetic, and archaeological evidence for human evolution - from the origins of primates to anatomically modern humans - with particular attention given to our hominid ancestors. Students will learn about the nature and timing of these developments, current theoretical models used to explain such changes, and the implications of these evolutionary trends for understanding modern human adaptations. Important fossil sites and associated material culture will also be used to provide insight into hominid biocultural behavior. Students must take AN 210/L (formerly AN 210/L) as a prerequisite for this course, or receive permission of the instructor. Pre-requisite: AN 210 Minimum Grade of C and AN 210L Minimum Grade of C or AN 121 Minimum Grade of C and AN 121L Minimum Grade of C.

AN 394  Directed Studies -  1 TO 3 cr
Supervised readings or projects. No more than a total of six hours may be taken for credit. Requires prior approval of instructor. Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D or AN 101 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 435  Museum Methods in Archaeology  3 cr
Archaeology as practiced in museums, including the registration and curation of archaeological collections; artifact conservation; public interpretation of the past; and exhibit design, composition, construction, and evaluation. Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D or AN 101 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 440  Adv Archaeological Field Meth  4 cr
This course involves participant instruction in archaeological field and laboratory techniques, including advanced excavation and survey methods, soils analysis, site mapping with electronic instruments, sampling strategy, and site interpretation. Requires permission of instructor.

AN 442  Cultural Resource Management  3 cr
This course examines the interaction between archaeologists, architectural historians, historic preservationists, state and federal governments, and the public with regard to cultural resources. The focus of the course is identification, evaluation, and mitigation of cultural resources. Related topics discussed include public perceptions of the past, ethics, and being a professional in historical preservation.

AN 454  Anthropological Theory - W  3 cr
An advanced historical survey of anthropological ideas, with primary emphasis on contemporary theoretical orientations and debates. Examines anthropology's often contested status as a science or humanity. Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D.
AN 470  Bioarchaeology - W  3 cr
This class introduces students to the field of bioarchaeology, the study of human remains in archaeological contexts. Through lectures, readings, activities, and discussions, students will examine how skeletal remains are used to reconstruct life in the past, including patterns of subsistence, diet, disease, demography, biological relatedness, and physical activity.
Pre-requisite: AN 250 Minimum Grade of B or AN 365 Minimum Grade of B.

AN 490  Special Topics -  3 cr
Different topics of anthropological importance will be studied as announced. This 3 hour course may be repeated for credit as long as the content varies up to a maximum of 6 credit hours. Requires junior or senior standing; or permission of instructor.
Pre-requisite: (AN 100 Minimum Grade of D or AN 101 Minimum Grade of D).

AN 492  Senior Seminar -  3 cr
Course specifically designed for majors in their senior year. Some topical aspect of the discipline will be analyzed.
Pre-requisite: AN 100 Minimum Grade of D or AN 101 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 496  Anthropology Internship  3 TO 6 cr
Provides an opportunity to combine academic principles with practical experiences in an agency dealing with human relationships, cultural resources, or primate research. Specifics of the assignment result from mutual agreement among student, course director and agency. Course may be repeated for a maximum of six hours of credit. Requires advanced standing in Anthropology major and permission of course instructor.

AN 498  Senior Thesis  3 cr
With the guidance and advice of a faculty mentor, student will identify and carry out an in-depth, year-long field research project in anthropology. The Senior Thesis will be judged and graded by a committee of three faculty, chaired by the faculty mentor. This course will be repeated to continue the thesis during a second semester. This is a 3 hour course that is expected to be repeated once for a total of six hours. Must be an Anthropology major; senior status; permission of a faculty mentor through an AN 394 Directed Studies course taken during the junior year.
Pre-requisite: AN 394 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 499  Honors Senior Thesis - H  3 cr
With the guidance and advice of a faculty mentor, honors students will identify and carry out an in-depth, year-long field research project in anthropology. The Honors Senior Thesis will be judged and graded by a committee of three faculty, chaired by the faculty mentor. This is a 3 hour course that can be repeated once for a total of six hours. Must be an Anthropology major; senior status; permission of a faculty mentor; grade point average of 3.5; and completion of a thesis prospectus prepared in consultation with the faculty mentor through an AN 394 Directed Studies course taken during the junior year.
Pre-requisite: AN 394 Minimum Grade of D.

AN 535  Museum Methods in Archaeology  3 cr
Archaeology as practiced in museums, including the registration and curation of archaeological collections; artifact conservation; public interpretation of the past; and exhibit design, composition, construction, and evaluation.

AN 542  Adv. Cultural Resource Mgmt.  3 cr
This course examines the interaction between archaeologists, architectural historians, historic preservationists, state and federal governments, and the public with regard to cultural resources. The focus of the course is identification, evaluation, and mitigation of cultural resources. Related topics discussed include public perceptions of the past, ethics, and being a professional in historical preservation.

AN 594  Directed Studies -  1 TO 3 cr
Field or library projects through which special interests of the student may be pursued on a tutorial basis with a graduate faculty member. Arrangements must be made prior to registration. Permission of the Department Chair is required.

Gerontology (GRN)

GRN 272  Gender and Aging  3 cr
This course examines the dynamics of gender and aging within society from an interdisciplinary perspective. Students will be introduced to controversies in gender over the life course. These include, but are not limited to, definitions and cultural boundaries, gender in childhood, gender and relationships, gender in education and the workplace, gender and sexuality, as well as gender in late life.

GRN 290  Special Topics -  3 cr
This designation is used for interdisciplinary courses on aging on a variety of subjects. This course does not replace any course in a single discipline. May be repeated as long as the topic changes, to maximum of six semester hours.
GRN 435  **Health Disparities Life Span**  3 cr
This course examines differences in health status across the life span. The course will focus heavily on racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in health applying a social determinants of health framework. Issues that will be considered include how income, education, neighborhood conditions, access to health care, and other community factors shape opportunities to be healthy. The course is cross-listed as SY 435 and GRN 435 and has been approved as an elective for the Undergraduate Certificate in Gerontology and the interdisciplinary minor in Gerontology. Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

GRN 490  **Special Topics -**  3 cr
This course is designated for upper division students and graduate students, particularly those pursuing studies for the Certificate of Gerontology. The course content focuses on interdisciplinary treatments on various topics on aging. This course does not replace any course in a single discipline. (Examples of special topics: Trends and Issues in Gerontology; Leadership and Advocacy in Gerontology; Housing and Lifestyle Changes over the Life Course). May be repeated as long as the topic changes, to maximum of six semester hours. Pre-requisite: SY 372 Minimum Grade of D.

GRN 494  **Directed Studies -**  1 TO 3 cr
Under the guidance of a faculty member, the student will pursue directed research on readings of an approved topic in Gerontology. May be repeated as long as the topic changes, to a maximum of six semester hours. Requires permission of Director of Gerontology. Pre-requisite: SY 372 Minimum Grade of D.

GRN 496  **Internship - Gerontology**  3 OR 6 cr
This course is to provide a practicum experience in gerontology in a setting selected by the student and approved by the Program Director. The course emphasis is on the experiential learning process and outcomes. The graduate student will apply theoretical concepts to leadership roles, conducting research and influencing social and health care policies related to aging and intergenerational relationships. Interns will meet as a group three times during the semester for orientation, professional development, and evaluation activities. The 3-hour internship requires 100 contact hours; the 6-hour internship requires 200 hours. Permission of Director of Gerontology is required. Fee. Pre-requisite: SY 372 Minimum Grade of C.

GRN 535  **Health Disparities Life Span**  3 cr
The main purpose of this seminar is to provide students with an understanding of how social factors contribute to racial/ethnic, socioeconomic and gender disparities in health and health care. We will examine how dyadic relationships such as interpersonal forms of discrimination, marriage, and social ties may contribute to health disparities. We will also examine the ways in which neighborhood and community context, as well as inequalities in socioeconomic status materially shape health and access to health care services. The course is cross-listed as GRN 435/535 and SY 435/535 and has been approved as an elective for the Undergraduate/Graduate Certificate in Gerontology and the interdisciplinary minor in Gerontology.

GRN 594  **Dir St in Gerontology -**  1 TO 3 cr
Under the guidance of a faculty member, the student will pursue directed research or readings of an approved topic in Gerontology. May be repeated as long as the topic changes, to maximum of six credit hours. Requires permission of the Director of Gerontology.

GRN 596  **Internship - Gerontology**  3 OR 6 cr
This course is to provide a practicum experience in gerontology in a setting selected by the student and approved by the Program Director. The course emphasis is on the experiential learning process and outcomes. The graduate student will apply theoretical concepts to leadership roles, conducting research and influencing social and health care policies related to aging and intergenerational relationships. Interns will meet as a group three times during the semester for orientation, professional development, and evaluation activities. The 3-hour internship requires 100 contact hours; the 6-hour internship requires 200 hours. Permission of Director of Gerontology is required. Fee. Pre-requisite: SY 523 Minimum Grade of B.

GRN 597  **GRN Teaching Apprenticeship**  1 TO 3 cr
Directed Studies/Apprenticeship that focuses on teaching Gerontology. The student will work directly with a member of the Gerontology graduate faculty to learn pedagogy, innovation in teaching, and course content that will equip the student for future teaching assignments. Many PhD programs offer both Teaching Assistantships and Research Assistantships. Gerontology students need to show evidence that they have had some teaching-related experience to compete strongly for the TA position. This course is also appropriate for students who anticipate careers in teaching within the field of Gerontology (aging or intergenerational studies). Arrangements must be made prior to registration. Permission of the Program Director is required. Pre-requisite: SY 372 Minimum Grade of C.

**Museum Studies (MUM)**
MUM 201  Intro to Museum Studies  3 cr
This course is designed to provide a general introduction to museum history, practice, and the role of museums in contemporary society. The class will explore a range of museum positions, curatorial practices, collection management, museum administration, and the academic and public roles museums play in society.
Pre-requisite: EH 102 Minimum Grade of C.

MUM 290  Special Topics -  3 cr
Different subjects or themes in museum studies as announced. This course may be repeated twice when content varies, for a maximum of nine credit hours.
Prerequisite: To be announced.

MUM 390  Special Topics -  3 cr
Different subjects or themes in museum studies as announced. This course may be repeated twice when content varies, for a maximum of nine credit hours.
Prerequisite: To be announced.

Social Work (SW)

SW 200  Intro to SocWork-SocWelfare  3 cr
Introduction to the profession of social work. Topics include historical development, nature of profession, professional associations, practice theory, values and ethics.

SW 201  Human Behav/Social Environ I  3 cr
The Person-In-Environment model of human behavior. Course examines individual, family and group behavior in the social context.
Pre-requisite: (BLY 101 Minimum Grade of C and BLY 101L Minimum Grade of C) or (BLY 121 Minimum Grade of C and BLY 121L Minimum Grade of C).

SW 214  SW Skills and Field Experience  3 cr
Service learning experience in social work. Forty hours of agency-based experience is required. Students must attend two hour weekly skills development lecture.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of C or SY 112 Minimum Grade of C.

SW 220  Power, Privilege & Oppression  3 cr
This course is designed as an introduction to the field of social work with diverse populations. The purpose is to prepare students to work with diverse groups of people locally and globally. This course examines issues related to the creation of race in America, the oppression of people on the basis of their gender, ethnicity, race, culture, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, age, religion and national origin.

SW 300  Ethical Decision-Making-W  3 cr
This course provides a more in-depth analysis of the Social Worl Code of Ethics and overviews frameworks for ethical decision-making. The emphasis is on improving students' ability to more readily identify ethical problems and thoughtfully work through these issues through the use of case studies.
Pre-requisite: EH 101 Minimum Grade of C or EH 102 Minimum Grade of C.

SW 301  Social Welfare Policy  3 cr
Social Policy in relation to Social Work Practice. Course addresses social policy analysis, social advocacy, diversity and social and economic justice.

SW 302  Human Behav/Social Environ II  3 cr
The Person-In-Environment Model of human behavior. Course examines task groups, organizations, and community systems in the social context.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of C.

SW 310  Community Context  3 cr
The rural and urban contexts of social work practice. Emphasis of the course is placed on how these contexts affect human behavior and the practice of social work.

SW 340  Family Violence  3 cr
Study of the social problems of family violence including domestic violence, intimate partner violence, child abuse, and elder abuse. The role of the social worker, social services, and social policy will be examined.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of C.

SW 350  Child Welfare Services  3 cr
General survey of the Social Work field of child welfare services with a focus on child protective services.

SW 360  SW Practice in Mental Health  3 cr
This course is designed to provide the student with an overview of the mental health system and focuses specifically on issues related to the role of a social worker in a mental health setting.
Pre-requisite: SW 200 Minimum Grade of C.

SW 401  Generalist Practice I  3 cr
The Generalist Model of social work applied to individuals, families, and groups. Emphasis is placed on diversity, social work values and ethics, and evidence based practice.
Pre-requisite: (SW 302 Minimum Grade of C or SW 202 Minimum Grade of C). SW 302 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SW 402  Generalist Practice II  3 cr
The Generalist Model of social work applied to organizations, communities and task groups. Emphasis is placed on diversity, social work values and ethics and social justice.
SW 412  Field Instruction  3 TO 12 cr
Field Instruction in social work. Four hundred thirty-six hours of supervised experience in social work setting. SW 412 can be taken during a single semester or over multiple semesters.
Co-requisite: SW 414
Pre-requisite: SW 401 Minimum Grade of C and SW 402 Minimum Grade of C and SY 382 Minimum Grade of C.

SW 414  Senior Seminar - W  3 cr
This is the capstone senior level course in social work. Class discussion and assignments are designed to facilitate integration between field instruction experience and curriculum content. SW 412 must be taken concurrently.
Fee.
Co-requisite: SW 412
Pre-requisite: SW 401 Minimum Grade of C and SW 402 Minimum Grade of C and SY 382 Minimum Grade of C.

SW 420  Social Work in Health Care  3 cr
Study of the practice of social work in the health care field. Major social policy issues, service delivery systems, relationships with other health care professionals, and practice issues related to social work will be covered.

SW 460  Rural Social Services  3 cr
This elective course in rural social services provides a survey of professional services with rural and small communities. It is open to all majors. Included are topics related to services, social policy, rural culture and behavior, professional values and ethics, diversity, and services.
Pre-requisite: EH 102 Minimum Grade of C.

SY 200  Soc Factors in Sexual Behavior  3 cr
An analysis of social patterns in sexual behavior including theories of sexuality and gender, gender similarities and differences in sexual behavior, sexual orientation, sexual violence, teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 220  Marriage and the Family  3 cr
The organization, function, and present status of the family, primarily in the United States. Problems of mate selection, marital adjustment, and parent-child relations treated on the basis of recent and current social change.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 241  Criminology  3 cr
The nature and causation of criminal behavior. Evaluation of theories and research.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 242  Corrections  3 cr
Administration of criminal justice in American society. Federal state and local prison systems; management and treatment of criminals; history of punishment; jail detention; probation and parole; prison activities; rehabilitation.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 290  Special Topics -  3 cr
Selected topics in sociology. May be taken for a maximum of nine hours credit when the subject matter varies.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 315  African American Families  3 cr
The study of family structure, mate selection, marital and other romantic interaction, parenting and kinship among African Americans.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 319  Sociology of Drugs  3 cr
This course examines social, historical, cultural, and political factors that shape ideas about drugs and views on drug use, drug treatment, and drug policy.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 340  Juvenile Delinquency  3 cr
A study of the nature, extent, treatment, and prevention of delinquent behavior among youth in the United States and other urban industrial societies.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

Sociology (SY)

SY 109  Introductory Sociology  3 cr
Sociology is the scientific study of social behavior and social phenomena. This course is a survey intended to introduce students to the major concepts, issues, theory, methods and substantive findings of the discipline. Topics may include the impact of social structures on behavior and opportunity, inequalities, socialization, culture, religion, crime and deviance, the family, modernity, and globalization.
Core Course.

SY 112  Social Problems  3 cr
A study of persistent and recurring social conditions and individual and group behaviors that are contrary to the expressed norms of community members and that community members strive to control through collective action. Core Course.
SY 350  Evolutionary Sociology  3 cr
This course considers social behavior and social phenomena as manifestations of the observable properties of the organisms that make up societies (i.e. 'human nature'). The core of the course will involve constructing a brief but sound model of human behavior and then seeing how well that model can help explain a spectrum of behavior and phenomena. In addition, we will consider different religious, cultural, and scientific views on human nature, as well as some of the classic philosophical debates (e.g. nature/nurture) that revolve around questions of human nature.

SY 352  World Religions  3 cr
This course is an introduction to the religions of the world. It is divided into three basic units: Indigenous Religions (of Africa, North America, and Oceania); Eastern Religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, Confucianism, Jainism) and Western Religions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam). The emphasis is on grasping the core principles of each tradition, seeing the ways in which religion meets basic human needs, and religion as a cultural artifact that borrows, adapts, and changes over time. Course is identical with PHL 352 and REL 352. Credit cannot be received for both SY 352 and PHL 352 or REL 352.

SY 360  Soc of Work and Occupations  3 cr
Examines work, occupations and careers in modern societies. Course topics include: the evolution of work, the meaning of work, the demography of work, unions, jobs, occupations, professions, industries, classes, unions, technology and alienation, labor market segmentation, nonstandard and contingent work, work and the family, work and economic inequality, job satisfaction and organizational commitment.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 372  Social Gerontology - W  3 cr
Sociological aspects of aging in contemporary American society. Within its parameters are related problems of economics, health, and social contacts.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 376  Modern Sociological Theory  3 cr
The major schools of sociological theory after 1920's as well as recent challenges to these schools.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 380  Social Research Design (C)  3 cr
The goal of this course is to provide you with a foundation in social science research methods. The course will cover basic concepts used in social science research, sampling, survey instrument construction, observational and experimental research designs, and qualitative research. In addition to providing you with a foundation in research methods, SY 381 and SY 382 will give you the computing skills needed to create and analyze quantitative data using SPSS and EXCEL.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 381  Social Research Analysis (C)  3 cr
This course, along with SY 381, provides a foundation in social research methods and statistics. In this course you will develop a mastery of descriptive and inferential statistics, basic probability theory, and significance testing. The computer lab portion of this course will continue to build upon the research and skills you acquired in SY 381.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 394  Directed Studies  1 TO 3 cr
Field or library pursuits through which special interests or needs of the student may be pursued on an individual, supervised, or tutorial basis. No more than six hours may be used in the degree. Arrangements must be made with the instructor prior to registration. Requires permission of Department Chair.

SY 401  Disasters and Society  3 cr
The Sociological examination of natural, technological, and human-initiated disasters. The social impacts of disasters will be reviewed through case-studies of major twenty-first century catastrophes and issues of community vulnerability, resiliency and recovery will be addressed.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of C.

SY 411  Population - W  3 cr
An introduction to the study of human populations: population growth and decline; fertility, mortality, and migration; characteristics of populations; population, food and economic development; demographic analysis; population policies.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 412  Applied Sociology - W  3 cr
A survey of the specialties and techniques of professional sociologists, including the kinds of social problems and how these problems are addressed.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of C and SY 381 Minimum Grade of D and SY 382 Minimum Grade of D and SY 376 Minimum Grade of D. SY 382 and SY 376 can be taken concurrently with this course.
SY 415  Soc of Mental Health-Illness  3 cr  A sociological analysis of mental health and illness including social epidemiology, effects of social integration and support, labeling mechanisms, social evolution of treatment systems, and cultural factors in the recognition and diagnosis of disorders.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 418  Adv Family Studies  3 cr  This course examines interaction patterns in different types of family structure, with emphasis on marital adjustment, parent-child interaction, and sibling interactions.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D and SY 220 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 420  Sociology of Religion  3 cr  The study of religion is at or near the core of sociology. This course is an exploration of the sociological dimensions of religion within the classical theoretical traditions of Durkheim, Weber and Marx, augmented with more recent theory and research. We consider the definition, functions and origins of religion, the role of beliefs and rituals in it, the interaction of religion with other aspects of society, and secularization of the future of religion, among other topics.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 421  Social Stratification - W  3 cr  This course introduces students to the patterns and processes of inequality in its major forms. It includes discussions of social class, sex, race, ethnicity, and policy. Additionally, this course satisfies the University's writing requirement. As such, students will acquire knowledge through writing assignments and will demonstrate mastery of new information in written form.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 426  Social and Cultural Change  3 cr  This course is designed to familiarize students with major theories and processes of social and cultural change, the factors influencing social and cultural change, diffusion of innovations, and adoption of new ideas and practices.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 428  Gender and Society  3 cr  Description and analysis of gender roles and inequality in contemporary Western societies in cross-cultural and historical context.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 430  Sociology of Culture  3 cr  Examines the major perspectives in the sociology of culture, with emphasis on the problems of culture in modern and post-modern societies.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of B.

SY 435  Health Disparities Life Span  3 cr  This course examines differences in health status across the life span. The course will focus heavily on racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in health applying a social determinants' of health framework. Issues that will be considered include how income, education, neighborhood conditions, access to health care, and other community factors shape opportunities to be healthy. The course is cross-listed as SY 435 and GRN 435 and has been approved as an elective for the Undergraduate Certificate in Gerontology and the interdisciplinary minor in Gerontology.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 440  Deviance and Social Control  3 cr  The study of societal norms and their violation. Focus on social construction, control, condemnation and accommodation of deviant behavior.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 445  Majority-Minority Relations-W  3 cr  The study of relationships between 'majorities' and 'minorities' in society. This course will explore the macro-social forces that bring these relationships about and the institutional setting where different group members come into contact with each other. A variety of key concepts and theories surrounding majority and minority relations will be defined and analyzed. Historical and current case studies will be examined to illustrate the development of these relations.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 455  Self and Certainty  3 cr  This course explores the complex relationship between the individual and the groups they are a part of, with a special emphasis on the challenges of identity and knowledge in modern society. Draws primarily upon the work of classical social psychologists like Mead, Berger & Luckman, Foggman and Simmel, as well as modern extensions of their work.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 458  Crowds Riots Soc Movements - W  3 cr  A survey of the theoretical and historical foundations of collective behavior, riots, and social movements. A variety of situations and behaviors will be analyzed including social movement participation; growth and organization; strategies, tactics, and consequences for participants and society.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 459  Medicine and Society  3 cr  The sociological study of medical care, with topics ranging from the micropolitics of doctor-patient communication through macro-level investigation of comparative health care systems.  
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be taken concurrently with this course.
SY 460  Social Organization - W       3 cr
This course provides the student with a comprehensive
behavioral science approach to understanding modern
social organizational trends.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be
taken concurrently with this course.

SY 467  Environmental Sociology      3 cr
This course will cover topics such as public awareness and
the social construction of environmental issues, especially
acid rain, biodiversity, biotechnology and technological
disasters.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be
taken concurrently with this course.

SY 472  Sociology of Aging and Family  3 cr
The class focuses on sociological theories of family
and aging and the linkages of families and their aging
members with organizations that deliver services,
including: government agencies, healthcare organizations,
legal services, corporations/businesses, and religious
organizations.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D. SY 109 can be
taken concurrently with this course.

SY 475  Dev of Sociological Theory    3 cr
The development of theories in sociology, as related to
social thought, institutions, and theories of social progress.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 490  Sp Top -                     1 TO 3 cr
A sociological examination of advanced topics. This course
may be taken for a maximum of 9 hours credit when the
subject matter varies. Prerequisite: Upper division status.
Pre-requisite: SY 109 Minimum Grade of D.

SY 492  Seminar - W -               3 cr
Selected topics in sociology for students with junior or
senior standing. Note: SY 492 is not intended for graduate
students.

SY 494  Directed Studies -          1 TO 3 cr
Designing a study, carrying out the research, and writing
the result of a thesis. No more than six hours credit may
be applied to major. Prerequisites: Requires upper division
status and permission of department chair.

SY 496  Sociology Internship         3 TO 6 cr
Provides an opportunity to combine academic principles
with practical experience in an agency dealing with human
relationships. Specifics of the assignment result from a
mutual agreement among student, faculty supervisor and
agency. Course may be repeated for a maximum of six
hours of credit. The 3-hour internship requires 100 contact
hours: the 6-hour internship requires 200 contact hours.
Requires permission of Faculty Supervisor and Department
Chair. Fee.

SY 500  Orientation                  1 TO 3 cr
Introduces students to graduate study in sociology by
providing information about applicable academic degrees,
career opportunities, and professional activities in the
discipline.

SY 501  Disasters and Society        3 cr
The sociological examination of natural, technological,
and human-initiated disasters. The social impacts of
disasters will be reviewed through the case-studies of major
twenty-first century catastrophes and issues of community
vulnerability, resiliency, and recovery will be addressed.

SY 505  Adv Principles of Sociology  3 cr
Systematic review and integration of major propositions,
concepts, and research data from various fields of
sociology. Development of a comprehensive orientation for
the description and explanation of social phenomena.

SY 506  Contemp Sociological Theory  3 cr
Critical examination of major theoretical schools after 1920
and their classical predecessors; also examination of recent
challenges to and syntheses of these schools.

SY 508  Research Design             3 cr
Advanced treatment of topics in sociological methodology,
including: logic of scientific explanation; experimental, quasi-
experimental, survey and qualitative research designs; and
research ethics.

SY 509  Research Analysis           4 cr
This is an applied course in the application of data analysis
and statistical methods in social research. The course
covers basic regression models with limited and categorical
independent variables. It assumes knowledge of basic and
inferential statistics. The course includes weekly instruction
in data analysis and statistical computer use. This course is
usually taught in the Spring semester.

SY 510  Qualitative Inquiry         3 cr
This course introduces students to methods of qualitative
inquiry in sociology, focusing on ethnography and participant
observation.

SY 511  Introduction to Population   3 cr
An introduction to the study of human populations:
population growth and decline, fertility, mortality and
migration: characteristics of populations: population,
food and economic development: demographic analysis:
population policies. Students will be able to substantively
analyze in any discussion of past and future population
problems and its related factors that affect different
societies.
SY 512  Applied Sociology  3 cr
A survey of the specialties and techniques of professional sociologists and the conditions under which sociological knowledge is applied to social problems, the kinds of problems addressed, and the degree of effectiveness of applications. A variety of methods will be discussed including social impact analysis, program evaluation, needs assessment, and social indicators. Requires SY 508 and SY 509 or instructor's permission.
Pre-requisite: SY 508 Minimum Grade of B and SY 509 Minimum Grade of B.

SY 515  Soc of Ment Health and Illness  3 cr
A sociological analysis of mental health and illness including social epidemiology, effects of social integration and support, labeling mechanisms, social evolution of treatment systems, and cultural factors in the recognition and diagnosis of disorders.

SY 518  Advanced Family Studies  3 cr
This course examines interaction patterns in different types of family structure, with emphasis on marital adjustment, parent-child interaction, and sibling interactions.

SY 520  Sociology of Religion  3 cr
An analysis of religion as a social institution with emphasis on modern western societies. Topics include the function of religion for societies and individuals, changing patterns of religious belief and practice, and the relationship between religion and other social institutions.

SY 521  Poverty, Inequal/Social Stat  3 cr
A sociological approach to the study of class, status, power and poverty with a particular emphasis on American society. Students will present material in the classroom and conduct an advanced research project in the area of social inequality.

SY 523  Aging in American Society  3 cr
The role of the elderly in today's society, problems, adaptability, crises, functions. Comparisons with youth and working adults. Survey of social programs and resources in formal and informal support networks.

SY 528  Gender and Society  3 cr
Description and analysis of gender roles and inequality in contemporary Western societies in cross-cultural and historical context.

SY 530  Sociology of Culture  3 cr
This course will introduce students to the major perspectives in the field of the sociology of culture. Particular attention will be given to each perspective's diagnosis of the problems of culture in modern and postmodern capitalist societies.

SY 535  Health Disparities Life Span  3 cr
The main purpose of this seminar is to provide students with an understanding of how social factors contribute to racial/ethnic, socioeconomic and gender disparities in health and health care. We will examine how dyadic relationships such as interpersonal forms of discrimination, marriage, and social ties may contribute to health disparities. We will also examine the ways in which neighborhood and community context, as well as inequalities in socioeconomic status materially shape health and access to health care services. The course is cross-listed as SY 535 and GRN 435/535 and has been approved as an elective for the Undergraduate/Graduate Certificate in Gerontology and the interdisciplinary minor in Gerontology.

SY 540  Deviance and Social Control-  3 cr
Deviance includes acts that violate norms. Social control is the groups' efforts to induce people to conform to these norms. This course includes discussions of what actually is deviance, how things become deviant, and how sociologists explain deviance. Several weeks are devoted to talking about specific forms of deviance, ranging from alcohol and drugs to mental illness. The last part of the course is spent discussing elite deviance.

SY 547  Sociology of Law  3 cr
Overview of predominant theoretical approaches, classical and contemporary in legal sociology, and their application in empirical studies engaging legal phenomena.

SY 550  The Community  3 cr
An advanced consideration of the concept of community.

SY 555  Self and Certainty  3 cr
This course explores the complicated relationship between individuals and the groups they are part of, with a special emphasis on the challenges of identity and knowledge in modern society. Draws primarily upon the work of classical social psychologists like Mead, Berger, Luckmann, Foggman and Simmel as well as modern extensions of their work.

SY 559  Medicine and Society  3 cr
The sociological study of medical care, with topics ranging from the micropolitics of doctor-patient communication through macro-level investigation of comparative health care systems. Explores extant research methods and theories of medical sociology to prepare graduate students to do sociological research in health care settings.

SY 567  Environmental Sociology  3 cr
This course will cover topics such as public awareness and the social construction of environmental issues, especially acid rain, biodiversity, biotechnology, and technological disasters.
SY 572 Sociology of Aging-Family 3 cr
The class focuses on sociological theories of family and aging, and the linkages of families and their aging members with organizations that deliver medical and social services, with government bureaucracies, the legal system, corporations and businesses, and religious organizations.

SY 590 Sp Top - 3 cr
Selected topics in graduate sociology. Course may be repeated for different topics.

SY 591 Papers & Presentations Seminar 1 TO 2 cr
A self-directed studies course, guided by graduate faculty mentors, to develop and enhance the career and scholarly interests, and professional socialization, of advanced master's students through written work and presentation opportunities.
Pre-requisite: MASY Comprehensive Exam Score P

SY 592 MA Practicum Report Proposal 3 cr
Based on student work in a local agency (in conjunction with course co-requisite SY 596, Sociology Internship) to generate a practicum report proposal (directed by a member of the sociology graduate faculty) that the student must formally defend.
Pre-requisite: SY 596 . SY 596 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 593 Master's Practicum Report 3 cr
Course in which students prepare and defend a formal report based on work in course pre-requisite SY 596 and SY 592.
Pre-requisite: SY 596 Minimum Grade of B and SY 592 Minimum Grade of B. SY 596 can be taken concurrently with this course.

SY 594 Directed Studies - 1 TO 3 cr
Field or library projects through which special interests of the student may be pursued on a tutorial basis with a graduate faculty member. Arrangements must be made with the professor prior to registration. Permission of the Department Chair is required.

SY 595 SY Research Apprenticeship 1 TO 3 cr
Students pursue research-related interests as directed by, and with prior approval from, a member of the graduate faculty.

SY 596 Sociology Internship 3 TO 6 cr
Relates the student’s classroom studies to occupational and professional experiences in an approved community agency that culminates with a written report. Requires permission of the Graduate Coordinator and Department Chair as well as proof of insurance. The 3 hour internship requires 100 contact hours; the 6 hour internship requires 200 contact hours.

SY 597 Sociology Teaching Apprentice 1 TO 3 cr
The student will work directly with a member of the Sociology faculty to learn pedagogy, innovation in teaching, and course content that will equip the student for future teaching assignments.

SY 598 Master’s Thesis Proposal 3 cr
Focused on a specialized subject area of research interest in sociology (directed by a member of the sociology graduate faculty) to generate a thesis proposal that the student must formally defend.

SY 599 Master’s Thesis 1 TO 6 cr
Focused on a specialized subject area of research interest in sociology to generate a master’s-level thesis that the student must formally defend. (Pre-requisite: SY 598, Master’s Thesis Proposal).
Pre-requisite: SY 598 Minimum Grade of B.

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