

**SOCIOLOGY**

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**Department:** Social Science

The Sociology curriculum is designed to develop students' "sociological imagination," an ability to analyze social situations in sociological terms and thereby to become capable of better understanding themselves and the behavior of others in the context of their society. Such understanding enables students to better cope with the social forces operating to stabilize and change social conditions. Graduates with a Sociology major have entered a variety of careers, including social service, business, labor, government, and criminal justice, and some elect to pursue graduate studies. In addition, students may complete a Sociology minor.

**Bachelor of Arts: Sociology (40 credits)**

SOCI 101	Introduction to Sociology .....	3
	OR .....	3
SOCI 102	Introduction to Sociology: Rural and Regional Perspective .....	3
SOCI 218	Self and Society (Prerequisite: SOCI 101) .....	3
SOCI 220	Social Problems (Prerequisite: SOCI 101) .....	3
SOCI 200	Social Statistics (Prerequisite: MATH 110 or 3 years high school math) .....	4
SOCI 314	Sociological Theory (Prerequisites: SOCI 101 and one other sociology course) .....	3
SOCI 315	Applied Social Research Methods (Prerequisites: SOCI 101, 200, and SOCI 314 or senior standing) .....	3
SOCI 318	Forces for Social Change (Prerequisites: SOCI 101 and one other sociology course) .....	3
SOCI 495	Senior Seminar (Prerequisites: SOCI 315 and consent of instructor) .....	3

*Elective credits* .....15

Electives are selected from Sociology courses in consultation with the major advisor.

At least two electives must be upper-division sociology courses (300 or 400 level).

A maximum of 3 credits may be applied from SOCI 450 Individual Readings,  
and a maximum of 3 credits may be applied from SOCI 485 Field Experience.

Total Credits: 40

**Minor: Sociology (21 credits)**

SOCI 101	Introduction to Sociology .....	3
SOCI 314	Sociology Theory .....	3
Sociology electives	.....	15

Selected in consultation with an advisor in Sociology. A maximum of 3 credits  
may be applied from SOCI 450 Individual Readings, and a maximum of  
three credit hours may be applied from SOCI 485 Field Experience.

Total Credits: 21

**Minor: Criminal Justice (27 credits)**

SOCI 101	Introduction to Sociology (prerequisite for required courses).....	3
JUAD 144	Introduction to Justice and Society .....	3
SOCI 244	Sociology of Deviant Behavior .....	3
JUAD 450	Criminal Law .....	3
SOCI 344	Criminology (Prerequisite: SOCI 144) .....	3
POL 328	Constitutional Law I: Criminal Justice.....	3
	OR .....	3
POL 415	Law and Society .....	3

*Elective credits* .....9

Choose **one** course (3 credits) from **each** of the following three categories:

- JUAD 442 Court/Corrections Management .....3  
JUAD 444 Juvenile Justice .....3
- PHIL 305 Law, Liberty, and Morality .....3  
POL 351 Constitutional Law II: Civil Liberties .....3

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*Note: While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, SMSU reserves the right to correct any clerical errors herein.*

PSYC 335	Abnormal Psychology .....	3
PSYC 341	Child and Adolescent Psychology .....	3
PSYC 465	Behavior Modification .....	3
SPCH 230	Interpersonal and Cross-cultural Communication.....	3
3. HIST 363	A History of Social Welfare in the United States .....	3
INDS 326	Decolonization, Recovery and Indigenous Peoples .....	3
SOCI 331	Racial and Ethnic Relations in America.....	3

Note: An internship is available, but not required.

Students who wish to major in Sociology and minor in Criminal Justice are required to complete the Sociology core courses (25 credits) and five electives (15 credits) for the Sociology major in addition to the above minor. Students may count SOCI 244 Sociology of Deviant Behavior, as one of the five electives for the major. They may also count SOCI 331 Minorities in American Society as one of the five electives for the major. Together, the total number of credits for a Sociology major and a Criminal Justice minor ranges from 61 to 67 credits. Students with other majors complete the minor as shown above.

## SOCIOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COURSES (SOCI)

### **SOCI 101 (LAC, D) Introduction to Sociology (3 credits)**

A survey of basic concepts and research areas in sociology, including sociology origins, major theoretical perspectives, research methods, culture, social structure, socialization, group processes, formal organizations, deviance and social control, stratification, racial/ethnic and gender inequality, social institutions, demography, collective behavior, and social change.

### **SOCI 102 (LAC, R, S) Introduction to Sociology: Rural and Regional Perspective (3 credits)**

A survey of basic concepts and research areas in sociology, including sociology origins, major theoretical perspectives, research methods, culture, social structure, socialization, group processes, formal organizations, deviance and social control, stratification, racial/ethnic and gender inequality, social institutions, demography, collective behavior, and social change. This course differs from SOCI 101 in that it uses examples from southwestern Minnesota as well as other rural societies and peoples. Further emphasis is placed on the social problems, community life and culture, and the social fabric of southwestern Minnesota.

### **SOCI 135 (R) Rural Society (3 credits)**

Within the discipline of sociology, the study of rural society gives students the opportunity to understand and appreciate the richness and variety of rural heritage and contemporary rural life. Through understanding of concepts and developing applied research skills, students approach the phenomena of non-urban societies both in the U.S. and around the globe. The course includes consideration of regional, national, and international linkages which affect the rural United States. Focusing on such formative influences as family, religion, education, government, and economy, students learn about past and present rural problems and opportunities in areas close to the SMSU campus; then students consider similar and different realities in several other regions of the United States.

### **SOCI 161 Relationship Violence: Causes, Consequences, Treatment, and Prevention (1 credit)**

This course introduces facts, concepts and theories that provide a foundation for understanding the kinds of violence that may occur regularly in relationships. Topics include: violence in dating relationships and acquaintance rape, partner abuse and rape, child abuse and incest, and elder abuse. Multidisciplinary perspectives provide a broad introductory overview of these issues.

### **SOCI 200 Social Statistics (4 credits)**

This course surveys basic statistical techniques used in the social sciences, including frequency distributions and graphs, the normal curve, tests of significance, correlation, analysis of variance, and multiple regression. The course also covers applications of descriptive and inferential techniques to social data and interpretations of social research outcomes. Prerequisite: MATH 110 or three years of high school math.

### **SOCI 211 Marriage and Family (3 credits)**

The origin of marriage and family in historical and comparative perspective; family diversity in contemporary society; application of theoretical perspectives to family processes; gender roles, courtship, mate selection, married relationships, parenthood, marriage termination, alternatives to marriage, and the future family. Prerequisite: SOCI 101.

### **SOCI 218 Self and Society (3 credits)**

A sociological introduction to social psychology, including a symbolic interactionist understanding of the individual in society, the impact of social conditions and culture on personal development, freedom and control in human behavior, and the human ability to respond to and cause social change. Prerequisite: SOCI 101.

### **SOCI 220 Social Problems (3 credits)**

This course critically analyzes contemporary social problems from historical, structural, and theoretical perspectives. Problems analyzed vary, but all analyses are premised on the sociological understanding that humans are products of their social environments. Theory and research are used to demonstrate that social problems are interrelated and that society creates and perpetuates problems. Prerequisite: SOCI 101.

### **SOCI 244 Sociology of Deviant Behavior (3 credits)**

Consideration of various approaches to the study of deviant behavior; contemporary theories and methods of study; discussion of the ethical issues raised by the study of deviant behavior; the social processes whereby persons and patterns of behavior come to be identified as deviant. Topics of deviance analyzed vary, but theory and research are applied to all areas. Prerequisite: SOCI 101.

### **SOCI 270 (D,G) Gender Issues (3 credits)**

This course introduces theories, research, and current issues related to the gender roles in society. Course content includes various theoretical approaches to the sociological study of gender, historical and cross-cultural comparisons, research findings, policy issues, structural influences, and current change trends.

**SOCI 286 Special Topics (1-4 credits)**

This course is designed to provide lower-division students with an opportunity to experience a special or experimental curriculum course.

**SOCI 314 Sociological Theory (3 credits)**

Early modern social thought and the development of sociological theory in the 19th and 20th centuries to the present. Prerequisites: SOCI 101 and one other Sociology course.

**SOCI 315 Applied Social Research Methods (3 credits)**

This introduction to social research applies social research methods to sociology, criminal justice, and social work. Includes analysis of published research along with quantitative and qualitative research methods in investigating social issues, program evaluation, practice evaluation, policy analysis, and needs assessment. Prerequisites: SOCI 101, 200, and 314; or senior standing.

**SOCI 318 Forces for Social Change (3 credits)**

Changing technology, collective behavior, reform and revolution; causes and consequences of social change, creative and destructive consequences of changing social patterns; the relevance of history to social process. Prerequisites: SOCI 101 and one other sociology course.

**SOCI 324 Sociology of Sexualities (3 credits)**

This course will provide a sociological perspective on sexual identities, behaviors, and the negative societal response of homophobia. Course content focuses on the social construction of sexual identity, and the complex personal, social and political issues of sexuality. Topics on sexuality may vary, but theory and research is applied to all areas.

**SOCI 331 (D) Racial and Ethnic Relations in America (3 credits)**

Causes and consequences of prejudice, discrimination, and segregation; relationships of ethnic, racial, and religious minorities to dominant categories in the United States; remedial programs to reduce racial, ethnic, and religious tensions. Prerequisite: SOCI 101.

**SOCI 344 Criminology (3 credits)**

Explanation and critical analysis of criminology theory. Also, the course examines major types of crimes, victims, and criminal behavior in the contemporary United States. Topics include definitions; incidence and trends in criminal behavior; roles of police and judicial personnel; and justifications for punishment. Prerequisite: SOCI 144.

**SOCI 354 The Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights (3 credits)**

A survey of sociological, psychological, historical, and other dimensions of the Holocaust and other cases of genocide and genocidal killing during the 20th century. The human rights movement as an attempt to prevent and resist genocide will be examined. Prerequisite: junior or senior standing, or consent of instructor.

**SOCI 415 Formal Organizations, Bureaucracies, Corporations (3 credits)**

Analysis of major types of formal organizations in contemporary complex societies. Theory and research results applicable to the understanding of factories, schools, prisons, hospitals, churches, voluntary associations, etc. Prerequisite: SOCI 101.

**SOCI 420 Sociology of Work (3 credits)**

This course familiarizes students with sociological concepts and research related to work. Issues include such topics as alienation, job satisfaction, control over the workplace, changing work conditions, employment and wage inequalities, and conflict between work and family. Prerequisite: SOCI 101.

**SOCI 435 Rural Development (3 credits)**

A critical analysis of research goals and methods currently applied to rural development; review and analysis of the future of small rural communities, the benefits and costs of rural industrialization and its full social consequences. A major content requirement is a research paper. Prerequisite: one sociology (SOCI), history (HIST), or rural studies (RURL) course.

**SOCI 440 Human Communities: Structure and Change (3 credits)**

Sociological analysis of community structure, community development, and change. Focus on grass roots movements and community organizing. Critiques of community planning will be reviewed. Consideration of applicability of community development in less developed countries to North America. Prerequisites: SOCI 101, ANTH 116, or consent of instructor.

**SOCI 445 Class and Class Conflict (3 credits)**

Class stratification in pre-industrial, industrial, and post industrial societies, institutionalized inequality, sources of strain and conflict, automation and the prospects for industrial man. Prerequisites: SOCI 101 or consent of instructor.

**SOCI 450 Individual Readings (1-3 credits)**

Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

**SOCI 486 Special Topics (1-4 credits)**

This course is designed to provide upper-division students with an opportunity to experience a special or experimental curriculum enrichment course.

**SOCI 495 Senior Seminar in Sociology (3 credits)**

This course is designed to integrate previous sociology study by reviewing basic concepts and theories, reading and discussing selected topics not covered in the regular curriculum, and completing a research project begun in SOCI 315 Applied Social Research Methods. Prerequisites: SOCI 315 and consent of instructor.

**SOCI 499 Field Experience/Internship (3-12 credits)**

Research or internship in an organization or community, defined in individual learning agreements and consisting of combining sociological concepts and theory with one or more of the following: qualitative research, quantitative research, applied sociology. Prerequisites: Sociology major or minor, Justice Administration major, Anthropology minor, or Criminal Justice minor, and SOCI 315; or consent of instructor.