

Department of Sociology

Chair: Dr. Verna Keith

Sociology is the scientific study of human social behavior, from the smallest group interactions to the broadest and most complex social processes. As a social science, the discipline analyzes the patterns of behavior in all types of social relationships. This field has broad scope and relevance and can be crafted to best serve a student's career or post-degree education.

The Department of Sociology offers three majors in sociology: Bachelor of Arts degrees in 1) General Sociology, 2) Social Psychology Concentration in Sociology, and a Bachelor of Science degree in 3) Medical Sociology. Minors are offered in General Sociology, Medical Sociology, and Social Psychology.

The undergraduate program in general sociology is designed to complement UAB's location in a large metropolitan area. Such a location provides an excellent laboratory for study in several areas, including social inequality and urban sociology, as well as, medical sociology and social psychology. Students may choose from several courses in each of these areas to best compliment their career goals. The general sociology major provides a broad background for students who are not planning a career in sociology but who want an understanding of the nature and development of social structures and social issues-knowledge that can be applied to a variety of occupations and careers. Additionally, the general sociology degree serves as useful pre-professional training for careers such as law, business, education, and government. Finally, the program helps prepare students for graduate study in sociology and other social sciences.

The social psychology concentration provides a perspective on interpersonal relationships that draws on research conducted in sociology and psychology. In the broadest sense, social psychology is the study of how people's behaviors and thoughts influence, and are influenced by, the actions of others. As a field of study, social psychology has typically focused on the study of persons in face-to-face situations and small group settings. The social psychology concentration prepares students for careers in service-oriented fields such as health professions, education, business, and government, and graduate work in social psychology.

Medical sociology provides an analytic framework for understanding the social contexts of health, illness, and health care. The Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Sociology is a research-focused degree that prepares students for graduate studies in medical sociology or a career in health-related services, medical (social) research, or government data analysis. In addition, when the Bachelor of Science in Medical Sociology is paired with pre-professional medical programs, students are provided with additional rigor in the social dynamics of the careers of their choice (nursing, medical school, and the health professions).

Graduate Program

For information on the graduate program in sociology, please consult the Department of Sociology or the UAB Graduate School Catalog.

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Sociology

Grade and Level Requirement

- A grade of "C" or better is required in all Sociology courses.
- SOC 489 must be completed at UAB. A total of 9 hours at 400+ must be taken in residence at UAB. Transfer students must earn at least 12 semester hours in residence.

Requirements	Hours
<u>SOC 100</u> Introduction to Sociology	3
<u>SOC 310</u> Sociological Literacy	3
<u>SOC 407</u> Development of Sociological Theory	3
<u>SOC 489</u> The Research Experience	4
Sociology Electives	
Select 24 hours in Sociology (SOC) courses. Three (3) credit hours at any level (100-level or higher). Nine (9) credit hours at the 200-level or higher. Nine (9) credit hours at the 300-level or higher and three (3) credit hours at the 400-level.	24
Total Hours	37

Additional Requirement

General Electives

Students must take general electives to reach the 120 semester hour requirement.

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Sociology and a Concentration in Social Psychology

Grade and Level Requirement

- A grade of "C" or better is required in all Sociology courses.
- SOC 489 must be completed at UAB. A total of 9 hours at 400+ must be taken in residence at UAB. Transfer students must earn at least 12 semester hours in residence.

Requirements	Hours
<u>SOC 100</u> Introduction to Sociology	3
<u>PY 101</u> Introduction to Psychology	3
<u>SOC 120</u> Introduction to Social Psychology	3
<u>SOC 310</u> Sociological Literacy	3
<u>PY 372</u> Social Psychology	3
<u>SOC 405</u> Mind, Self and Society	3
<u>SOC 489</u> The Research Experience	4
Psychology Requirements	
Select one of the following:	3
<u>PY 212</u> Developmental Psychology	
<u>PY 218</u> Abnormal Psychology	
<u>PY 319</u> Psychopathology and Culture	
Sociology Electives	
Select nine (9) credit hours at the 300-level or higher, and three (3) hours at 400-level.	12
Total Hours	37

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Medical Sociology

Grade and Level Requirement

- A grade of "C" or better is required in all Sociology courses.
- SOC 489 must be completed at UAB. A total of 9 hours at 400+ must be taken in residence at UAB. In addition to UAB policies, transfer

students must earn at least 12 semester hours in residence in the major.

Requirements		Hours
SOC 100	Introduction to Sociology	3
SOC 280	Introduction to Medical Sociology	3
SOC 310	Sociological Literacy	3
SOC 408	Medical Sociological Theory	3
SOC 489	The Research Experience	4
Research Methods Requirements		
SOC 410	Social Statistics	4
SOC 484	Quantitative Research Methods	3
SOC 486	Qualitative Research Methods	3
Medical Sociology Electives. Three credit hours at the 100-level or higher (at least ONE of the following):		
SOC 135	Human Sexuality	
SOC 282	Minority Health	
SOC 283	The Sociology of Mental Health	
SOC 285	Introduction to Aging	
Nine (9) credit hours at the 300-level of higher from the following: ²		
SOC 335	Human Sexuality: A Comparative Approach	
SOC 383	Drugs and Society	
SOC 395	HIV/AIDS and Society	
SOC 445	Biology and Society	
SOC 456	Death and Dying	
SOC 470	Population Dynamics	
SOC 480	Sociology of Health and Illness	
SOC 482	Gender and Health	
Total Hours		38

¹ Students must take general electives to reach 120 semester hour requirement.

² Students can substitute one 3-credit hour SOC class at the 300+ level, for a Medical Sociology Elective

Proposed Program of Study for a Major in Sociology

Freshman			
First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours
EH 101		3 EH 102	3
MA 110		3 Core Curriculum Area IV: History ¹	3
SOC 100		3 Core Curriculum Area II: Humanities	3
Core Curriculum Area IV: History ¹		3 Core Curriculum Area IV: Social and Behavioral Science	3
Core Curriculum Area II: Fine Art ²		3 General Elective	3
		15	15
Sophomore			
First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours
Sociology (SOC) 100-level and above		3 Sociology (SOC) 200-level and above	3
SOC 310		3 Core Curriculum Area III: Natural Science with Lab	4
Core Curriculum Area II: Literature ³		3 Core Curriculum Area II: Humanities	3

Core Curriculum Area III: Natural Science with Lab	4 General Elective/Minor	3
General Elective/Minor	3 General Elective/Minor	3
		16
		16

Junior

First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours
Sociology (SOC) 200-level and above		3 Sociology (SOC) 300-level and above	3
Sociology (SOC) 200-level and above		3 Sociology (SOC) 300-level and above	3
General Elective/Minor		3 General Elective/Minor	3
General Elective/Minor		3 General Elective/Minor	3
General Elective/Minor		3 General Elective/Minor	3
		15	15

Senior

First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours
SOC 407		3 SOC 489	4
Sociology (SOC) 300-level and above		3 Sociology (SOC) 400-level and above	3
General Elective/Minor		3 General Elective/Minor	3
General Elective/Minor		3 General Elective/Minor	3
General Elective/Minor		3	
		15	13

Total credit hours: 120

¹ Select One: HY 101, HY 102, HY 104, HY 105, HY 120 or HY 121.

² Select One: ARH 101, ARH 203, ARH 204, ARH 206, MU 120, THR 100, THR 105 or THR 200.

³ Select One: EH 216, EH 217, EH 218, EH 221, EH 222, EH 223 or EH 224.

Proposed Program of Study for a Major in Social Psychology

Freshman

First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours
EH 101		3 EH 102	3
MA 110		3 PY 101	3
SOC 100		3 Core Curriculum Area II: Humanities	3
Core Curriculum Area IV: History ¹		3 Core Curriculum Area IV: History ¹	3
Core Curriculum Area II: Fine Art ²		3 General Elective	3
		15	15

Sophomore

First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours
SOC 120		3 PY 372	3
Core Curriculum Area II: Literature ³		3 Core Curriculum Area II: Humanities	3
Core Curriculum Area III: Natural Science with Laboratory		4 Core Curriculum Area III: Natural Sciences with Laboratory	4
General Elective/Minor		3 General Elective/Minor	3
General Elective/Minor		3 General Elective/Minor	3
		16	16

Junior			
First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours
SOC 310		3 Sociology (SOC) 300-level	3
Sociology (SOC) 300-level and above		3 Psychology Requirement ⁴	3
General Elective/Minor		3 General Elective/Minor	3
General Elective/Minor		3 General Elective/Minor	3
General Elective/Minor		3 General Elective/Minor	3
		15	15

Senior			
First Term	Hours	Second Term	Hours
SOC 405		3 SOC 489	4
Sociology (SOC) 300-level and above		3 Sociology (SOC) 400-level and above	3
General Elective/Minor		3 General Elective/Minor	3
General Elective/Minor		3 General Elective/Minor	3
General Elective/Minor		3	3
		15	13

Total credit hours: 120

- ¹ Select One Sequence: HY 101 and HY 102; HY 104 and HY 105; HY 120 and HY 121.
- ² Select One: ARH 101, ARH 204, ARH 206, MU 120, THR 100, THR 105 or THR 200.
- ³ Select One: EH 216, EH 217, EH 218, EH 221, EH 222, EH 223 or EH 224.
- ⁴ Select One: PY 212, PY 218, PY 319

Undergraduate Certificate in Social Science Research Methods

The student must obtain a grade of at least C in any course used to satisfy the certificate requirements, and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 over all courses used for the certificate. 12 of the 15 required credit hours must be earned at UAB, and 12 of the credits must be at the 300-level or above.

Requirements		Hours
Foundations in Research Methods		3
AAS 350	Research Methods in African American Studies	
CMST 494	Communication Research Methods	
CJ 300	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	
HY 300	The Historian's Craft	
PSC 400	Data, Politics, and Policy	
PY 215	Research Literacy in Psychology	
SW 320	Introduction to Research Methods	
SOC 310	Sociological Literacy	
Advanced Data Collection		6
ANTH 409	Peace through Global Governance	
ANTH 421	Technological Monitoring of Cultural Resources, Human Rights and Conflict	
ANTH 437	Real World Remote Sensing Applications	
PY 316	Research Methods in Psychology	
SOC 484	Quantitative Research Methods	
SOC 486	Qualitative Research Methods	
CJ 502	Computer Forensics	
MPA 684	Grants Management	
SOC 613	Intro to Applied Sociology Research Methods	

Advanced Data Analysis		Hours
Select one class from the following:		3-4
CJ 302	Introduction to Statistics	
PY 216 & 216L	Elementary Statistical Methods and Elementary Statistical Methods Laboratory	
PY 226	Honors Elementary Statistical Methods	
SW 321	Statistics for Social Work Research	
SOC 410 & 410L	Social Statistics and Social Statistics Laboratory	
Select one class from the following:		3-4
CJ 466	Spatial Analysis	
PY 716 & 716L	Introduction to Statistics and Measurement and Lab for Introduction to Statistics and Measurement	
SOC 503	Regression Analysis	
SOC 707	Statistical Programming for Social Sciences	
Total Hours		15-17

General Sociology Minor

Requirements		Hours
Introductory Sociology Courses		
SOC 100	Introduction to Sociology ¹	3
Sociology Electives		15
Select 15 hours from Sociology (SOC) courses, with at least nine hours at the 300-level or above. ²		
Total Hours		18

- ¹ SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology may also be eligible to count toward Core Curriculum Area IV.
- ² SOC 245 will count toward this requirement, and may also be eligible to count toward Core Curriculum Area IV.

Grade & Residency Requirement

A "C" or better is required in all courses applied to the minor. At least six hours of the minor must be completed at UAB, including three hours at the 300-level or above.

Minor in Medical Sociology

Medical sociology focuses on study of the social causes and consequences of health and illness. In addition, it analyzes health organizations and institutions, the social behavior of health personnel and consumers of health care, as well as international patterns of health services. It is a particularly relevant minor for students preparing for a career in a health profession such as medicine, nursing, dentistry, or optometry.

A grade of "C" or Better is required for all courses within the Medical Sociology Minor.

Requirements		Hours
Required Courses		6
SOC 100	Introduction to Sociology	
SOC 280	Introduction to Medical Sociology	
Medical Sociology Electives. Three credit hours at the 100-level or higher (at least ONE of the following):		3
SOC 135	Human Sexuality	
SOC 282	Minority Health	
SOC 283	The Sociology of Mental Health	
SOC 285	Introduction to Aging	

Nine (9) credit hours at the 300-level or higher from the following**:	9
SOC 335 Human Sexuality: A Comparative Approach	
SOC 383 Drugs and Society	
SOC 395 HIV/AIDS and Society	
SOC 408 Medical Sociological Theory	
SOC 445 Biology and Society	
SOC 456 Death and Dying	
SOC 470 Population Dynamics	
SOC 480 Sociology of Health and Illness	
SOC 482 Gender and Health	
PY 305 Medical Psychology	
Total Hours	18

** Students can substitute one 3 credit hour SOC class at the 300+level, for a Medical Sociology Elective.

Grade and Residency Requirement

Transfer students must take at least 6 semester hours in sociology at UAB including at least 3 semester hours in courses numbered above 300. A grade of C or better is required in all courses applied toward the minor, including transfer courses.

Minor in Social Psychology

Requirements	Hours
Introductory Sociology Courses	
SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology ¹	3
PY 101 Introduction to Psychology ²	3
SOC 120 Introduction to Social Psychology	3
Psychology Electives	
Select one (1) of the following courses:	3
PY 212 Developmental Psychology ³	
PY 218 Abnormal Psychology	
PY 319 Psychopathology and Culture	
PY 372 Social Psychology	
Sociology Electives	
Select six (6) credit hours at the 300-level or higher.	6
Total Hours	18

¹ SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology may also be eligible to count toward Core Curriculum Area IV.

² PY 101 Introduction to Psychology may also be eligible to count toward Core Curriculum Area IV.

³ PY 212 Developmental Psychology may also be eligible to count toward Core Curriculum Area IV.

Grade & Residency Requirement

A "C" or better is required in all courses applied to the minor. At least six hours of the minor must be completed at UAB, including three hours at the 300-level or above.

Honors Program in Sociology

Purpose

The Sociology Honors Program is designed to help prepare outstanding undergraduate majors for graduate study in sociology or a career in medical sociology. The program offers a mentored research experience,

and under faculty supervision, students will be exposed to a wide range of sociological perspectives and research areas.

Eligibility

Acceptance into the Sociology Honors Program requires the following:

- Completion of the required sociology courses including Introduction to Sociology, Theory, Research Methods and Statistics (by the end of the fall term of the year the student enters the honor's program).
- An undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.00 or above.
- A junior or senior level standing (admittance to Honors Program must take place before August 1).
- A cumulative GPA in Sociology courses of 3.3 or above.

Requirements

The following is required to graduate with honors in the Sociology Honors Program:

- Completion of the required sociology courses.
- Completion of two-semester Honors seminar 498/499.
- Completion of a senior-level thesis or Service Learning Project or Research Project under faculty supervision.

Benefits

Participation in the Sociology Honors Program provides a unique opportunity for highly motivated, academically talented undergraduate students to have access to and interact with faculty in an environment that encourages creativity and independent scholarship. Seminar participation and research experience will be important to nurturing the student's sociological imagination. Completion of the Honors Program is an advantage when applying to graduate school or looking for employment in an appropriate discipline-oriented field. Finally, students who complete the program will graduate "With Honors in Sociology."

Contact

For additional information and/or admission to the Sociology Honors Program, contact:

The Director of Undergraduate Programs
Department of Sociology
460H Heritage Hall Bldg
Birmingham, AL 35294-1152
Telephone: (205) 934-3307

Honors Program in Social Psychology

Purpose

The Social Psychology Honors Program is designed to help prepare outstanding undergraduate majors for graduate study in Social Psychology or a career in medical Social Psychology. The program offers a mentored research experience, and under faculty supervision, students will be exposed to a wide range of sociological perspectives and research areas.

Eligibility

Acceptance into the Social Psychology Honors Program requires the following:

- Completion of the required Social Psychology courses; including Introduction to Sociology, Theory, Research Methods and Statistics

(by the end of the fall term of the year the student enters the honor's program).

- An undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.00 or above.
- Junior or senior level standing (admittance to Honors Program must take place before August 1).
- Cumulative GPA in Social Psychology courses of 3.3 or above.

Requirements

The following is required to graduate with honors in the Social Psychology Honors Program:

- Completion of the required Social Psychology courses.
- Completion of two-semester Honors seminar 498/499.
- Completion of a senior-level Thesis or Service Learning Project or Research Project under faculty supervision.

Benefits

Participation in the Social Psychology Honors Program provides a unique opportunity for highly motivated, academically talented undergraduate students to have access to and interact with faculty in an environment that encourages creativity and independent scholarship. Seminar participation and research experience will be important to nurturing the student's sociological imagination. Completion of the Honors Program is an advantage when applying to graduate school or looking for employment in an appropriate discipline-oriented field. Finally, students who complete the program will graduate "With Honors in Social Psychology."

Contact

For additional information and/or admission to the Social Psychology Honors Program, contact:

The Director of Undergraduate Programs
Department of Sociology
460H Heritage Hall Bldg
Birmingham, AL 35294-1152

Telephone (205) 934-3307

Honors Program in Medical Sociology

Effective Fall 2019

Purpose

The Medical Sociology Honors Program is designed to help prepare outstanding undergraduate majors for graduate study in sociology or a career in medical sociology. The program offers a mentored research experience, and under faculty supervision, students will be exposed to a wide range of sociological perspectives and research areas.

Eligibility

Acceptance into the Medical Sociology Honors Program requires the following:

- Completion of the required sociology courses including Introduction to Sociology ([SOC 100](#)), Introduction to Medical Sociology ([SOC 280](#)) and Sociological Literacy ([SOC 310](#)).
- An undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.00 or above.

- A junior or senior level standing (admittance to Honors Program must take place before August 1).

- A cumulative GPA in Sociology courses of 3.3 or above.

Requirements

The following is required to graduate with honors in the Medical Sociology Honors Program:

- Completion of the required medical sociology courses.
- Completion of two-semester Honors seminar SOC 498/499.
- Completion of a senior-level thesis or Service Learning Project or Research Project under faculty supervision.

Benefits

Participation in the Medical Sociology Honors Program provides a unique opportunity for highly motivated, academically talented undergraduate students to have access to and interact with faculty in an environment that encourages creativity and independent scholarship. Seminar participation and research experience will be important to nurturing the student's sociological imagination. Completion of the Honors Program is an advantage when applying to graduate school or looking for employment in an appropriate discipline-oriented field. Finally, students who complete the program will graduate "With Honors in Medical Sociology."

Contact

For additional information and/or admission to the Medical Sociology Honors Program, contact:

The Director of Undergraduate Programs
Department of Sociology
460 Heritage Hall Bldg.
Birmingham, AL 35294-1152
Telephone: (205) 934-3307

Courses

SOC 100. Introduction to Sociology. 3 Hours.

Human social life, its forms and consequences for everyday life. Social inequality and differentiation by race, ethnicity, class and gender. Assessment of the competency is through performance on course examinations, quizzes, and written assignments. This course meets the Core Curriculum requirements for Area IV: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

SOC 120. Introduction to Social Psychology. 3 Hours.

How societies and groups affect perception of self and others; emotional climate and structure of group interaction; processes and dynamics of group leadership, interaction, and dissolution.

SOC 130. Intimate Relationships and the Family. 3 Hours.

Contemporary trends of marriage, cohabiting and partnerships; dating and courtship; social and psychological factors in mate selection; marital adjustment; role of sex, money, and children in marriage; divorce, other crisis situations, and changing patterns of family relationships in U.S. including the increase in LGBT families.

SOC 135. Human Sexuality. 3 Hours.

Social basis of sexual interaction; varieties of sexual interaction; sexuality related to daily life; attitudes, contraceptive use, and fertility and fecundity; sex role controversies; relation to institutions such as family, religion, medicine, and education; social definitions as determinants of behavior.

SOC 200. Social Change. 3 Hours.

Understanding social change helps us to better anticipate, prepare for, and shape the future. Examination of how and why human societies have changed so profoundly since prehistoric times; focus on information and technology as catalysts for change; patterns of change in contemporary societies from world system and comparative perspectives.

SOC 220. Sociology of Sex and Gender. 3 Hours.

This course discusses the presumed biological differences; socialization differences of females and males; positions in and treatment by major institutions such as education, religion and economy; influence of gender labeling on development and lives of individuals.

SOC 235. Sociology of Religion. 3 Hours.

Social aspects of individual religious experience; organization of churches and sects; relationships among religion, science, and other institutions; Major faith groups: religion and global conflict.

SOC 245. Contemporary Social Problems. 3 Hours.

How certain social conditions or behaviors come to be seen as social problems, why they persist and how they can be changed. Emphasis on understanding contemporary issues, and how diverse social groups are impacted by them. This course meets the Core Curriculum requirements for Area IV: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

SOC 250. Sociology of Race and Ethnicity. 3 Hours.

Various ethnic and racial groups, with emphasis on theory and research on intergroup relations; internal structure, culture, and experiences of ethnic groups, with emphasis on contemporary American society.

SOC 275. Urban Sociology. 3 Hours.

Lifestyle changes in urban society; social and demographic characteristics of cities; benefits and problems resulting from these characteristics; urban problems compared with rural and suburban problems.

SOC 278. Our Interconnected World. 3 Hours.

Globalization is a pervasive feature of contemporary social life. A world economy, a world polity, and a world culture are rapidly expanding. This course examines globalization's aspects and impacts to begin understanding its causes, effects, and implications for our own lives.

SOC 280. Introduction to Medical Sociology. 3 Hours.

Social and cultural factors in defining health and illness; social determinants of health; health and illness behavior; health professionals; organization and delivery of health care in the U.S. (This course was formerly titled Health and Society).

SOC 282. Minority Health. 3 Hours.

The relationship between race, ethnicity, health, social and behavioral factors, and health policy. Health related issues specific to various racial and ethnic groups will be discussed.

SOC 283. The Sociology of Mental Health. 3 Hours.

Examination of mental and illness in its social context the social construction of mental health and illness the interrelationships between social structure, social factors, stress, coping resources and mental health experiences of mental health and illness.

SOC 285. Introduction to Aging. 3 Hours.

Aging experience in modern world. Theories of aging, dimensions of aging, everyday concerns associated with aging, and future prospects of aging.

SOC 290. Special Topics in Sociology. 1-3 Hour.

Irregularly offered courses on special topics in sociology. Varies in content. May be repeated for credit but topic may not be repeated.

Prerequisites: [SOC 100](#) [Min Grade: C]

SOC 291. Special Topics in Sociology. 1-3 Hour.

Irregularly offered courses on special topics in sociology. Varies in content. May be repeated for credit but topic may not be repeated.

Prerequisites: [SOC 100](#) [Min Grade: D]

SOC 292. Special Topics in Sociology. 1-3 Hour.

Irregularly offered courses on special topics in sociology. Varies in content. May be repeated for credit but topic may not be repeated.

Prerequisites: [SOC 100](#) [Min Grade: D]

SOC 293. Special Topics in Sociology. 1-3 Hour.

Irregularly offered courses on special topics in sociology. Varies in content. May be repeated for credit but topic may not be repeated.

Prerequisites: [SOC 100](#) [Min Grade: D]

SOC 294. Special Topics in Sociology. 1-3 Hour.

Irregularly offered courses on special topics in sociology. Varies in content. May be repeated for credit but topic may not be repeated.

Prerequisites: [SOC 100](#) [Min Grade: D]

SOC 295. Special Topics in Sociology. 1-3 Hour.

Irregularly offered courses on special topics in sociology. Varies in content. May be repeated for credit but topic may not be repeated.

Prerequisites: [SOC 100](#) [Min Grade: D]

SOC 310. Sociological Literacy. 3 Hours.

Focus on the critical understanding the sociological imagination through social research. This class will advance an understanding of the development, production, and interpretation of social research, including statistical analysis. The goal of the course is to provide students with the tools they need to become better consumers of social science research.

SOC 315. The Sociology of Terrorism. 3 Hours.

Examination of the social and social psychological explanations of the phenomenon, with particular emphasis given to theories of social construction of terrorism.

SOC 316. Popular Culture. 3 Hours.

Relationship between popular culture, our cultural heritage, and present cultural identity. Connections with big business, music, sports, politics, film and mass media. Analyze cultural objects (movies), compare past mindsets with the present.

SOC 317. Sociology of Social Media. 3 Hours.

Communication and information technology as a product of social, economic, political, cultural forces. Its impact on everyday life. Focus on the Internet and how individuals use it to gather, distribute and convey information.

SOC 318. Passion in Action: Social Movements in America. 3 Hours.

Theoretical and substantive examination of social movements, including reform, status, equality, and new social movements.

SOC 319. Sociology of The South. 3 Hours.

Focus on the South as a unique region. Examining areas such as history, politics, race relations, religion, music, personality, social types and collective behavior.

Prerequisites: [SOC 100](#) [Min Grade: C]

SOC 320. Sociology Through Fiction. 3 Hours.

Sociological theories and concepts as illustrated in contemporary fiction. Classes will vary in terms of the fictional genre explored.

SOC 323. Social Structure and Personality. 3 Hours.

Interaction of social structure and personality; motivation, cognition, and impact of family, social class, and other institutions on personality development and mental illness.

SOC 335. Human Sexuality: A Comparative Approach. 3 Hours.

Sexual identity from a sociological perspective. Topics include: theories of sexual orientation, social movements related to sexual identity, development of sexual identity over the life course, and relationship to social institutions such as the family, medical community, and legal system.

SOC 336. Sport and Society. 3 Hours.

Sociological analysis of sport in contemporary societies. Sport as microcosm of society and modern institution; socialization process, problems of racial and sexual inequality, aggression and violence, mass media, and societal change.

SOC 340. Deviant Behavior. 3 Hours.

How and why certain behaviors, thoughts, and characteristics are labeled deviant; how and why certain individuals are labeled; consequences of being labeled; individual and group conflict; socialization to deviance; education; law enforcement; institutions; influence on family and friends.

SOC 350. Sociology of Hip Hop. 3 Hours.

Examines the emergence and impact of Hip Hop music and culture from historical, aesthetic, and sociopolitical perspectives.

SOC 370. Population Problems. 3 Hours.

Scope and method of population analysis; analysis of growth, distribution of characteristics, and changes of population of U.S.; impact of changes in population structure on American and world society.

SOC 383. Drugs and Society. 3 Hours.

Variety of legal and illegal drugs in use in our society, their history, their social effects, and strategies for control and prevention of their abuse.

SOC 395. HIV/AIDS and Society. 3 Hours.

This course explores the social impact of HIV/AIDS in local, national, and international contexts, focusing on how society has responded to and changed as a result of HIV/AIDS, including public health surveillance and interventions, policies and funding for prevention/research, and broader cultural changes.

SOC 405. Mind, Self and Society. 3 Hours.

Symbolic interaction as major theoretical perspective of sociological social psychology; origins of approach in Mead, Blumer, and Goffman. Significance of concepts such as role-taking, impression management, self, identity and symbolic interaction.

SOC 407. Social Theory and Modern Life. 3 Hours.

In this class, we examine multiple theoretical frameworks that scholars use in sociology, ranging from the earliest social theories to postmodernism. The readings are challenging, but they contain a treasure trove of useful tools that we will use to better understand age-old questions about human nature and social life, as well as contemporary social problems in the U.S.

SOC 408. Medical Sociological Theory. 3 Hours.

This course provides a basic introduction to the use of sociological theory in medical sociology. The course begins with an examination of the relevant work of classical theorists, such as Marx, Durkheim, and Weber, and extends to contemporary theory. Each body of theory is applied to pressing questions in medical sociology.

Prerequisites: [SOC 310](#) [Min Grade: C]

SOC 410. Social Statistics. 4 Hours.

Elementary techniques and analysis; preparation and use of graphs and tables; measures of central tendency and dispersion; probability and sampling; tests of significance and measurements of association. Quantitative Literacy is a significant component of this course.

Prerequisites: [MA 102](#) [Min Grade: D] or [MA 110](#) [Min Grade: D]

SOC 410L. Social Statistics Laboratory. 0 Hours.

Laboratory component of [SOC 410](#). Required for all sociology majors. Cross listed as SW 321L. Quantitative Literacy is a significant component of this course.

SOC 415. Social Stratification. 3 Hours.

Inequality of wealth, prestige, and power distribution examined as caste-class differences; effect of stratification on individuals and their behavior, lifestyle, and life chances.

SOC 417. Political Sociology. 3 Hours.

Political sociology traces the relationships between political ideas, government structures, social life, and the never-ending efforts of individuals and groups to modify these relationships to achieve their best notions of the good life.

SOC 431. Environmental Sociology. 3 Hours.

Examines the interaction between the biophysical environment and human society, how social processes, define, construct, and alter the environment, and human causes and consequences of environmental problems.

SOC 445. Biology and Society. 3 Hours.

This course introduces students to the basic techniques and theoretical models through which modern sociologists and other social scientists incorporate genetic and biological information and processes into their understanding of society.

SOC 456. Death and Dying. 3 Hours.

Death, dying and bereavement from sociological and social psychological perspectives.

SOC 457. Family Relations over the Life Course. 3 Hours.

This course examines family relationships from middle to late adulthood from a sociological perspective. We examine issues such as caregiving, preparing for retirement, family relationships and how they vary depending on family structure, effects of divorce and remarriage, parenting at older ages and assisted reproductive technologies, transfers and saving, family ties etc. Much of the class is oriented towards how later life experiences are guided by earlier life situations.

SOC 460. Sociology of Work. 3 Hours.

Social organization of occupations; role and function in modern industrial society; gender and race; professionalism, job choices, and careers and stress; labor force composition, unemployment, and retirement. This class often does a field trip to a local business.

SOC 470. Population Dynamics. 3 Hours.

Scope and method of population analysis; analysis of growth, distribution of characteristics, and changes of population of U.S.; impact of changes in population structure on American and world society.

SOC 480. Sociology of Health and Illness. 3 Hours.

Critical evaluation of medical care system and health policy; social consequences of current health issues; social causes of health and illness; alternative practitioners and self-help groups. (This course was formerly titled Medical Sociology).

SOC 482. Gender and Health. 3 Hours.

Sociological, psychological and biological explanations of gender differences in mental and physical health across the life course.

SOC 484. Quantitative Research Methods. 3 Hours.

Comprehensive introduction to quantitative research in the social sciences, with an overview of the scientific method and the philosophy of science. Detailed study of quantitative research designs, sampling techniques, and measurement.

Prerequisites: [SOC 310](#) [Min Grade: C]

SOC 486. Qualitative Research Methods. 3 Hours.

Learn methods for conducting qualitative sociological research including participant observation, interviews, and content analysis; ethics of qualitative research; ethnographic field strategies; preparing for and conducting in-depth interviewing and focus groups; analyzing the interrelationships between research and thinking theoretically; reading and evaluating qualitative research; proposing own research projects using appropriate qualitative methods.

Prerequisites: [SOC 310](#) [Min Grade: C]

SOC 488. Sociological Practice/SL. 3 Hours.

Students will be involved in community research and/or service-learning projects related to a substantive area of sociology or gerontology. Placement in community organizations to focus on research or practice related to social policy.

SOC 489. The Research Experience. 4 Hours.

Capstone includes application of the basic tools of inquiry in sociological research; basic ethical issues in research; forming the research question; hypothesis testing; measurement, sampling, validity and reliability; data gathering techniques; research design; data management; disciplinary standards for writing the research proposal and reporting findings. For students in their last 30 hours.

SOC 489L. The Research Experience Laboratory. 0 Hours.

Laboratory component of the Capstone course, required of all Sociology majors.

SOC 490. Independent Study: Sociology. 1-3 Hour.

Individually designed programs for semi-independent research or guided readings in areas and subjects otherwise unavailable. Irregularly offered courses on special topics in sociology. Varies in content. May be repeated for credit but topic may not be repeated. This is a designated service-learning course integrating academic learning, civic learning and meaningful service to the community.

SOC 491. Independent Study and Special Courses in Sociology. 1-3 Hour.

Peer-facilitated, structured dialogues on topics related to social identity in a diverse society. Separate topics on gender, race, religion, sexualities. May be repeated for credit but topic may not be repeated.

SOC 492. Independent Study and Special Courses in Sociology. 1-3 Hour.

Individually designed programs for semi-independent research or guided readings in areas and subjects otherwise unavailable. Irregularly offered courses on special topics in sociology. Varies in content. May be repeated for credit but topic may not be repeated.

SOC 493. Independent Study and Special Courses in Sociology. 1-3 Hour.

Individually designed programs for semi-independent research or guided readings in areas and subjects otherwise unavailable. Irregularly offered courses on special topics in sociology. Varies in content. May be repeated for credit but topic may not be repeated.

SOC 494. Independent Research in Sociology. 1-3 Hour.

Individually designed programs for semi-independent research. Irregularly offered course on research topics in sociology. Varies in content. May be repeated for credit and continued topic with advancement.

SOC 495. Independent Research in Sociology. 1-3 Hour.

Individually designed programs for semi-independent research. Irregularly offered course on research topics in sociology. Varies in content. May be repeated for credit and continued topic with advancement.

SOC 498. Sociology Honors Seminar. 3 Hours.

Special seminar for sociology honors students. Prerequisite: admission to the Sociology Honors Program and permission of the Undergraduate Director in Sociology.

SOC 499. Sociology Honors Thesis. 3 Hours.

Sociology Honors Thesis.