

Sociology BA

Sociology will enable you to see the world in a new light; it is the scientific study of human social relationships, interactions, and institutions.

Whether they be friendships, families, church groups, socioeconomic classes, complex organizations, or nations, much of our lives are socially constructed. And in a society where individualism is celebrated, it is easy to forget that the way we behave and feel is socially produced. This is the basic premise of sociology. After your core courses, a BA in Sociology will focus on qualitative tools like interviews, stories, and community engagement to answer that critical question "What is this all about?"

General Education Requirements

Majors must satisfy the university and college general education requirements. Any foreign language may be used to meet the language requirement for the B.A. degree.

All required courses for the major must be completed with a grade of C- or better. Courses counting toward the major requirements may not be taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.

The minimum number of Sociology hours required for the B.A. degree is 33.

Core Courses: 18 hours

Elective Courses: 15 hours

Core Courses

SOC 1010	Introduction to Sociology (MOTR SOC1 101)	3
SOC 2160	Sociological Social Psychology	3
SOC 3210	Sociological Theory	3
SOC 3221	Qualitative Methods in Social Research	3
SOC 3230	Research Methods	3
SOC 4307	Community-Based Research in Sociology	3
Total Hours		18

Electives (15 hours)

Students must complete at least 15 elective hours of Sociology Courses including 9 hours of SOC at the 3000-level or above. GERON, GS, MVS or courses relevant to sociology that are offered by other departments may be included as electives when approved in advance by the faculty.

Optional Tracks

Urban Sociology Track (aligned with the Urban Studies Minor)

SOC 2203	The City	3
SOC 2202	Urban Sociology	3
SOC 3344	Problems of Urban Community	3
Total Hours		9

Health and Aging Track (aligned with the Gerontology Minor)

SOC/GERON 2170	Aging in America: Concepts & Controversies	3
SOC/GERON 3400		
SOC/GERON 4400	Social and Community Services for an Aging Population	3
Total Hours		6

Gender and Families Track (aligned with the Gender Studies Minor)

SOC/GS 2102	Introduction to Gender Studies	3
SOC/GS 2103	Gender Roles in Society	3
SOC 3243		
Total Hours		6

Military and Veterans Track (aligned with the Veterans Studies Minor)

SOC 2801/MVS 2100	Veterans in American Society	3
SOC 2802/MVS 2130	Gender and the Military	3
SOC 3801	The Military and Society	3
Total Hours		9

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Sociology

Upon Completion of the Bachelor of Arts, or Bachelor of Science in Sociology, a student will be able to:

Identify and apply sociological theories to understand social phenomena by:

- Recognizing the differences between "folk" explanations of social phenomena and sociological theories of those phenomena
- Distinguishing modes of sociological inquiry from other disciplinary modes of inquiry
- Applying key concepts and key themes in sociological theory to analyze social phenomena
- Discerning the role of social structures in creating and reproducing social inequality and examining how social structures change
- Distinguishing among micro, meso, and macro levels of observation, inquiry, and analysis

Apply scientific principles to understand the social world by:

- Effectively utilizing evidence-based knowledge and sociological theories and concepts to generate research questions and/or hypotheses
- Identifying the strengths and weaknesses of scientific methodology and methods for analyzing social phenomena in different contexts
- Explaining disciplinary standards for the qualitative and quantitative analysis of data

Critically evaluate explanations of human behavior and social phenomena by:

- Identifying and appraising major theoretical perspectives, including their assumptions, key concepts, and main arguments in terms of historical context and interpretive and explanatory capacities
- Employing the sociological imagination to analyze social problems in context and evaluate solutions to social problems

Use sociological knowledge to inform social change by:

- Engaging with the world around them, including everyday life, work, policy debates, stakeholders, and the public
- Constructing and proposing real world solutions to social issues;
- Expressing sociological ideas in a clear and coherent manner in written and oral communication
- Demonstrating informal, technological, qualitative, and quantitative literacy

Sample Four Year Plans

Urban Sociology Concentration (p. 2)

Sociology of Health and Aging Concentration (p. 2)

Military Sociology Concentration (p. 2)

Gender and Families Concentration (p. 3)

Urban Sociology Concentration

First Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ENGL 1100	3	SOC 1040 or 1241	3
CORE - Mathematics Proficiency	3	SOC 2160	3
INTDSC 1003	1	EXPLORE - Humanities and Fine Arts	3
SOC 1010	3	Foreign Language 1002	5
Foreign Language 1001	5		
		15	14
Second Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SOC 2202	3	SOC 3210	3
SOC 2203	3	SOC 2000+ level course	3
Foreign Language 2101	3	EXPLORE - Humanities and Fine Arts	3
EXPLORE - Math and Sciences	3	CORE - US History and Government	3
EXPLORE - Humanities and Fine Arts	3	CORE - Information Literacy	3
		15	15
Third Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SOC 3221	3	SOC 3230	3
SOC 3344	3	EXPLORE - Math and Sciences	3
ENGL 3100	3	Cultural Diversity Requirement	3
EXPLORE - Math and Sciences	3	Elective or minor	6
Elective or minor	4		
		16	15
Fourth Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SOC 4000-level course	3	SOC 4307	3
Elective or minor	12	Elective or minor	12
		15	15
Total Hours: 120			

¹ INTDSC 1003 is required only for first-time freshmen and transfer students with less than 24 college credits.

Please Note: This plan is an example of what a four year plan could look like for a typical student. Placement exam scores in math as well as the completion of coursework may change the plan. It should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor each semester. All requirements are subject to change.

Sociology of Health and Aging Concentration

First Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
INTDSC 1003 ¹	1	SOC 1040 or 1241	3
SOC 1010	3	SOC 2160	3
Mathematics Proficiency	3	Foreign Language 1002	5
ENGL 1100	3	EXPLORE - Humanities and Fine Arts	3
Foreign Language 1001	5	Elective or minor	1
		15	15
Second Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
EXPLORE - Math and Sciences	3	SOC 3210	3
EXPLORE - Humanities and Fine Arts	3	SOC 2000+ level course	3
Foreign Language 2102	3	EXPLORE - Humanities and Fine Arts	3
SOC 2170 or GERON 2170	3	CORE - US History and Government	3
SOC 4400 or GERON 4400	3	CORE - Information Literacy	3
		15	15
Third Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SOC 3221	3	SOC 3230	3
SOC 3400 or GERON 3400	3	EXPLORE - Math and Sciences	3
ENGL 3100	3	Cultural Diversity	3
EXPLORE - Math and Sciences	3	Elective or minor	6
Elective or minor	3		
		15	15
Fourth Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SOC 4000-level course	3	SOC 4307	3
Elective or minor	12	Elective or minor	12
		15	15
Total Hours: 120			

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Military Sociology Concentration

First Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
INTDSC 1003	1	SOC 1040 or 1241	3
ENGL 1100	3	SOC 2160	3
SOC 1010	3	FGN LANG 1002	5
Foreign Language 1001	5	EXPLORE - Humanities and Fine Arts	3
CORE - Mathematics Proficiency	3		
		15	14

Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SOC 2801 or MVS 2100	3	SOC 3210	3
SOC 2802 or MVS 2130	3	SOC 2000+ level course	3
Foreign Language 2101	3	EXPLORE - Humanities and Fine Arts	3
EXPLORE - Math and Sciences	3	CORE - US History and Government	3
EXPLORE - Humanities and Fine Arts	3	CORE - Information Literacy	3
	15		15

Third Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SOC 3221	3	SOC 3230	3
SOC 3801	3	EXPLORE - Math and Sciences	3
ENGL 3100	3	Cultural Diversity Requirement	3
CORE - Math and Sciences	3	Elective or minor	6
Elective or minor	4		
	16		15

Fourth Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SOC 4000-level course	3	SOC 4307	3
Elective or minor	12	Elective or minor	12
	15		15

Total Hours: 120

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Gender and Families Concentration**First Year**

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
INTDSC 1003 ¹	1	SOC 1040 or 1241	3
ENGL 1100	3	SOC 2160	3
CORE - Mathematics Proficiency	3	Foreign Language 1002	5
SOC 1010	3	EXPLORE - Humanities and Fine Arts	3
Foreign Language 1001	5	Elective or minor	1
	15		15

Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SOC 2102 or GS 2102	3	SOC 3210	3
SOC 2103	3	SOC 2000+ level course	3
Foreign Language 2101	3	CORE - US History and Government	3
EXPLORE - Math and Sciences	3	CORE - Information Literacy	3
EXPLORE - Humanities and Fine Arts	3	EXPLORE - Humanities and Fine Arts	3
	15		15

Third Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SOC 3221	3	SOC 3230	3
SOC 3243	3	EXPLORE - Math and Sciences	3
ENGL 3100	3	Cultural Diversity Requirement	3
EXPLORE - Math and Sciences	3	Elective or minor	6
Elective or minor	3		
	15		15

Fourth Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SOC 4000-level course	3	SOC 4307	3
Elective or minor	12	Elective or minor	12
	15		15

Total Hours: 120

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