Sociology (SOCI)

SOCI 101. Introduction to Sociology. 3 Units.
This course examines the basic principles that underlie how sociologists look at the world: “The Sociological Imagination”. It addresses the basic questions: How is social order possible and how does change occur? The course is designed as a foundation for further study in field of sociology and related disciplines. It introduces the student to the role that culture and social institutions play in modern society and examines important concepts such as socialization, deviance, social control, patterned inequalities and social change. These concepts are discussed in the context of both contemporary and historical social theories. Additionally, the student will be introduced to the methods of inquiry used by practicing sociologists.

SOCI 113. Critical Problems in Modern Society. 3 Units.
Social inequality is deep-rooted in our culture and society, but often unacknowledged because of the mechanisms of that inequality serve dominant groups and those in power. In this course, we will study specific social problems in modern society as a way to understand how and why we allow inequality and problems to exist, for whose interests, and the consequences for individuals and society. Topics can rotate, but will address issues related to wealth and capitalism; technology; structural racism and sexism; health disparities; and political disenfranchisement. We will discuss how all of these intersect with gender/sexualities, race/ethnicity, and social class. After taking this course, students will be able to: 1. Evaluate social conditions that harm some individuals or all people in society. 2. Translate “private troubles” into “public issues.” 3. Articulate the purpose and contributions of public sociology. 4. Recognize dimensions of social inequality that cause or perpetuate disadvantage. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement.

SOCI 201. Introduction to Gender Studies. 3 Units.
This course introduces women and men students to the methods and concepts of gender studies, women’s studies, and feminist theory. An interdisciplinary course, it covers approaches used in literary criticism, history, philosophy, political science, sociology, anthropology, psychology, film studies, cultural studies, art history, and religion. It is the required introductory course for students taking the women’s and gender studies major. Offered as ENGL 270, HSTY 270, PHIL 270, RLGN 270, SOCI 201, and WGST 201. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement. Prereq: ENGL 150 or passing letter grade in a 100 level first year seminar in FSCC, FSNA, FSSO, FSSY, FSTS, or FSCS.

SOCI 202. Race and Ethnic Minorities in The United States. 3 Units.
This is a survey course that looks at the relations between racial and ethnic relations in the United States from an historical and contemporary perspective. This course will look at relations between: European colonists and native Americans; whites and blacks during the period of slavery, Jim Crow, the civil rights era and contemporary period; immigrants at the turn of the 20th and 21st century; Mexicans and Puerto Ricans; and the pan-ethnic groups such as Latinos, Asian Americans, and Arab Americans. We examine the origins of racial/ethnic hierarchies, the social construction of identities, and stratification of racial and ethnic groups. This course will take a macro perspective that examines larger structural forces (e.g., colonization, industrialization, and immigration) to explain inter-group relations, and a constructionist perspective to understand how power manufactures and maintains the social meaning of identities (looking at stereotypes and hegemonic discourse). Students who have received credit for SOCI 302 may not receive credit for SOCI 202. Offered as AFST 202 and SOCI 202. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement.

SOCI 203. Human Development: Medical and Social. 3 Units.
Social influences on health and illness across the lifespan. Social determinants of health and health behavior, and delivery of health care. Guest lecturers from the medical school and other health care providers address professional practice issues across the lifespan. Issues include: new approaches to birthing; adolescent substance abuse: myths and realities of AIDS; risk factors of diseases in middle age; menopause, cognition and aging-Alzheimer’s disease; problems in care of elderly; medical ethic of death and dying.

SOCI 204. Criminology. 3 Units.
What is crime and to what extent does crime affect you? This course will investigate the nature and extent of crime, theories on the causes of crime, types of crime and criminals, and the efforts society makes to cope with and prevent criminal behavior.

SOCI 208. Dating, Marriage, and Family. 3 Units.
What is the family today? How has it changed over the last century? How will it change in the future? This course aims to answer these questions as it explores the influences of work, education, government, health and religion on today’s changing families. The course considers the factors that affect mate selection. It also examines parenting, roles of husbands and wives, and family dysfunction, and divorce.

SOCI 228. Sociology of Sexuality. 3 Units.
This course analyzes the issues of sex and sexuality from a sociological point of view. It is centered on the notion that what we consider to be ‘normal’ or ‘natural’ about sex and sexuality is, in reality, socially constructed. One’s viewpoint on the issues surrounding sexuality are influenced by the social context in which they live, as opposed to the purely biological viewpoint that presupposes some sense of normalcy or naturalness regarding sexual relations. A range of topics will be covered, including readings that discuss the variations of sexuality and the notions of sexual “deviance” in order to explore the cultural and societal variation that exists along the lines of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age and disability. Offered as SOCI 228 and WGST 228.
SOCI 239. International Comparative Family Policy. 3 Units.
This course focuses on the connections between public policies and families and the values that enter into policy debates and family choices. It provides conceptual frameworks that can be used to identify and understand some of the influences underlying policy choices affecting families and also frameworks for evaluating the consequences of these choices for families of diverse structures, socio-economic statuses, and racial and ethnic backgrounds. We will apply this framework to topics such as maternity leave, child care, income assistance, and marriage promotion. We will compare U.S. policies to those of other industrialized countries, especially those in Italy. You will end the semester by conducting research on a social policy topic that we have not covered during the semester from understanding the initial social problem all the way through to making a policy recommendation to help you learn to explore a new topic independently. Central to the course are the intersections between families and governments via policy outputs, and the roles that citizens and family professionals can play in improving them. Using UNICEF resources, located in Florence, Italy, we will delve into evidence-based approaches for ameliorating suffering in young families across the globe. Using Florence as a classroom, we will explore differences in family life between the U.S. and Italy as a means to understand the ways in which the state must respond to differing cultures and needs. At the Innocenti Museum, in the same building as UNICEF's research offices, we will see an orphanage that began operations in 1445 and functioned as an orphanage and hospital until 1875, making it the oldest public institution in Italy. The building has been dedicated to the protection of children’s rights and education since that time, and provides a backdrop for an early understanding of ways to think about family policy. Offered as SOCI 239 and WGST 239. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement.

SOCI 250. Law & Society: Law, Rights and Policy. 3 Units.
How do rights, including human rights, fit in the legal system and society? We will ask how legal actors, like judges and lawyers, think about rights compared to non-lawyers. We will (try to!) observe court hearings in an Ohio Appellate Court and a local small claims court. We will closely examine legal institutions, such as correctional facilities. We will benefit from hearing experts, local, national, and international, discuss how "law" works and whether rights are useful to making change. We will hear from a law school professor on how law school works and what the practice of law is like.

SOCI 255. Special Topics. 1 - 3 Units.
Courses taught as special topics seminars focus on selected areas of study in sociology. They tend to be more specialized and emphasis is placed upon a sociological examination of one social institution (such as the media) or on one historical period (such as the ’60s).

SOCI 264. Body, Culture and Disability. 3 Units.
This course examines the ways that the body is constructed through culture, media, and policy and how that, in turn, defines disability. Students will explore the socio-historical shifts in views and treatment of the body, as a way to understand how this is used to classify, marginalize and contain social differences. We trace these trends through the American Freak Show to present day Disability Determination Processes in the Social Security Administration. We further explore how historical perspectives of the body "carry forward" through social institutions such as health care, religion and education.

SOCI 275. Lives in Medicine: Becoming and Being a Physician. 3 Units.
This course applies a sociological approach to medical profession. Medical sociology emerged as a distinct field of study in the 1950s in part due to prominent studies of medical education such as The Student Physician by Robert K. Merton and Howard Becker’s Boys in White. Since then, sociologists and other social scientists have written extensively about how issues of race, gender, aging and ethnicity are tied to issues of medical education, medical training, medical socialization and physician decision-making. Using a life course perspective, this course will examine how lives in medicine change over time; in particular, we’ll study changing workforce patterns, physician satisfaction, and burnout. Other topics to be covered include contemporary ethical issues and alternative professional health careers. The course provides an overview of how medicine and medical practice have a profound influence on—and are influenced by—social, cultural, political and economic forces. In short, you’ll become familiar with how scholars outside of medicine cast a sociological gaze on the profession.

SOCI 300. Modern Sociological Thought. 3 Units.
The most profound commentary of industrial society began in the middle of the nineteenth century with thinkers such as Durkheim, Marx, and Max Weber. Students will read the work of these scholars as it appeared in the original sources. They thoughtfully address concepts such as social integration and alienation, crime and punishment, and the social impact of modernization. The course is of special relevance to students in the social sciences, but is also recommended for students in other fields who wish to understand the social context in which professional lives will be conducted. Prereq: SOCI 101 and Sophomore standing.

SOCI 306. Logic of Social Inquiry. 3 Units.
This course provides an introduction to the epistemologies and research methodologies used in sociological inquiry. We concentrate on the fundamental principles of research design and on developing a basic understanding of the research process. Topics include formulating a question, alternative modes of research design and principles of measurement, sampling and analysis. We draw examples from published work, ongoing studies, and publicly available data. Offered as SOCI 306 and SOCI 406. Prereq: SOCI 101 and sophomore standing.

SOCI 307. Social Statistics. 3 Units.
This course provides an introduction to social statistics, including univariate statistics and bivariate tests of association (chi-square, ttest, ANOVA, correlation, regression). Topics include: levels of measurement, probability theory and inference; hypothesis testing; and statistical power. Students receive hands-on instruction using statistical software. A student may receive credit for only one of the following: SOCI 307, ANTH 319, PSCL 282, or STAT 201. Offered as SOCI 307 and SOCI 407. Counts for CAS Quantitative Reasoning Requirement. Prereq: SOCI 101 and Sophomore Standing.

SOCI 310. The Individual in Society. 3 Units.
This course focuses on the relationship between individuals and the societies in which they live. Influences of values and culture on individuals’ selves and identities are discussed as well as how individuals attach meaning to personal life experiences and histories in the context of society at large. Offered as SOCI 310 and SOCI 410. Prereq: SOCI 101.
SOCI 311. Health, Illness, and Social Behavior. 3 Units.
This course considers the role of social factors (e.g., poverty, occupational and family structure) on health and illness. Discussion will concentrate on the role of health promotion (e.g., anti-smoking campaigns), social behavior and lifestyle in health and health care use. Considerable attention is given to understanding health careers and professions and their role in the health of societies and individuals. Offered as SOCI 311 and SOCI 411. Prereq: SOCI 101 and Sophomore standing.

SOCI 313. Sociology of Stress and Coping. 3 Units.
This course will focus attention on human stress throughout the lifespan and its role in personal health and well-being. There have been exciting advances in recent years in understanding the nature of stress in everyday life as well as elements of extreme stress. Trauma is experienced by many people due to normative events such as illness and bereavement or natural and man-made disasters such as crime or war. Coping strategies and social supports which ameliorate negative impact of stress will be considered. Offered as SOCI 313 and SOCI 413. Prereq: SOCI 101 and Sophomore standing.

SOCI 320. Delinquency and Juvenile Justice. 3 Units.
The primary focus of this course is on acquainting the student with the nature and the extent of juvenile delinquency. Accordingly, theoretical approaches to delinquency causation and the prevention, control, and treatment of delinquent behavior in society are addressed. Important aspects of juvenile justice procedures, policy, and practice are examined, and the early history of the juvenile justice system and the many changes occurring over the years are discussed. Prereq: SOCI 101.

SOCI 325. Departmental Seminar in Sociology: Great Books. 3 Units.
This course fulfills the SAGES requirement of a Departmental Seminar. It focuses on close readings of contemporary classics in sociology, analytical writing and intensive seminar-type discussion. The course examines theoretical perspectives and methodological issues in sociology such that students are able to investigate, analyze and present research findings in written form. Research is always an inherently collaborative process and thus the course will utilize seminar-style discussions to formulate and examine ideas. The seminar will focus on topics germane to a critical reading of books that inform our understanding of large and small group processes as well as individual experiences. Students will be introduced to the sociological imagination as an overarching frame work to examine groundbreaking classical and contemporary books on topics such as health and aging, gender, work and family, social inequality and crime and delinquency, guided by the instructor of record. Readings will provide a sociological perspective for understanding and assessing macro- and micro-level interactions as well as encourage and stimulate critical thinking. Counts as SAGES Departmental Seminar.

SOCI 326. Gender, Inequality, and Globalization. 3 Units.
Using a sociological perspective, this course examines how major societal institutions, including the economy, polity, medicine, religion, education and family, are structured to reproduce gendered inequalities across the globe. Attention is given to the intersections of race/ethnicity, social class, gender and sexuality in social systems of power and privilege. Of critical importance is how gender figures in the relationship between Economic North and Economic South countries. We will elucidate how gender norms vary by culture and exert profound influence on the daily, lived experiences of women and men. The course will be informed by recent scholarship on feminism, women’s movements, and globalization. Offered as SOCI 326 and WGST 326. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement. Prereq: SOCI 101 or permission of program director.

This course discusses theoretical foundations and methodologies of narrative research, including life stories, oral history, and autoethnography. The course is designed for students to complete a research project in the semester using narrative methods to collect and analyze primary data and write up the results. Offered as SOCI 327 and SOCI 427. Prereq: SOCI 101 and SOCI 303.

SOCI 328. Capitalism, Cities, and Inequality. 3 Units.
This course focuses on social inequality, but through an examination of cities in the U.S. and abroad. In many ways, cities provide a window onto the organization of the larger social world, including regional, state, national and global areas. As such, understanding cities goes far beyond their geographical boundaries. The purpose of this course then is to learn the central role that cities play within a larger capitalist economy, how public policies shape life in cities, how cities organize and reproduce social inequality, and how community groups and organizations challenge and negotiate the organization of power and inequality. The course will examine topics such as the formal and informal labor force, immigration, the growth of global cities and slums, urban poverty, racial segregation, housing and homelessness, crime, gentrification, policing, community organization and political resistance. Offered as AFST 328, SOCI 328 and SOCI 428. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement. Prereq: SOCI 101.

SOCI 338. Seminar and Practicum in Adolescents. 3 Units.
Supervised field placement and attendance in early childhood, child and adolescent settings including preschools, schools, hospitals, and neighborhood centers. This course is an elective. Recommended preparation: PSCL 101. Offered as EDUC 338, PSCL 338 and SOCI 338.

SOCI 344. Health Disparities. 3 Units.
We have come to understand that stark disparities in health result from the social organization of society, especially inequality in resources and opportunities between and within social groups in the population. This seminar course examines the differential distribution of health and illness in society, focusing on the social determinants of health. Topics include: socioeconomic inequality; geographic context; social cohesion and exclusion; health burden in minority populations; policy and federal priorities. We utilize a life course perspective to understand how inequality "gets under the skin" to produce adverse health. Offered as SOCI 344 and SOCI 444. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement. Prereq: SOCI 101 and Sophomore standing.

SOCI 345. Sociology of Mental Illness. 3 Units.
Focus is on social construction of mental health and illness and sociology of emotions. Social determinants of psychological distress will be discussed along with social stigma associated with mental illness. Institutional and community options for care of the mentally ill will be considered along with the impact of recent social movements of deinstituinalization and independent living. Offered as SOCI 345 and SOCI 445. Prereq: SOCI 101 and junior/senior standing.

SOCI 347. Sociology of Education. 3 Units.
This course provides an introduction to the field of sociology of education, which might be more properly called sociology of schooling. We will examine the development of schools historically and competing paradigms for understanding the place of school in society. Major theoretical perspectives concerning the nature and consequences of schools for individuals and for societies will be reviewed. Issues of individual opportunity - including how it is organized by race, class, and gender - will be covered, as well as issues institutional dynamics - including tracking, testing and so-called crisis and reform. Offered as SOCI 347 and SOCI 447. Prereq: SOCI 101 and junior or senior standing.
SOCI 349. Social Inequality. 3 Units.
This course discusses classical theory and contemporary research on the mechanisms of power that produce inequalities in income, wealth, education, privilege, and occupational prestige and are manifest in racial, ethnic, gender, age, health, and sexual hierarchies. Offered as SOCI 349 and SOCI 449. Prereq: SOCI 101 and Sophomore standing.

SOCI 355. Special Topics. 3 Units.
One or more sections each semester focusing on selected areas of study in sociology. Offered as SOCI 355 and SOCI 455.

SOCI 356. Economic Sociology: Money, Markets, Morals, and Social Life. 3 Units.
The course introduces students to a sociological perspective on the economy, and the social processes that affect and are embedded in economic behavior, economic institutions and markets. Students will examine issues such as the social significance of money, the effect of social networks on labor market outcomes, the success and failure of firms, tips and gifts, informal markets and the trade of illicit goods, as well as topics such as immigration and globalization. Our investigations into these diverse topics reveal how economic phenomena, economic systems and processes are shaped by social networks, cultural understandings and relations of power. Throughout the course students will examine how economic relations are facilitated–created, maintained, transformed, and constrained–by social relations, revealing that economic life and behavior is just as social as religion, family or education. Prereq: SOCI 101.

SOCI 357. Sociology of Human Rights. 3 Units.
This course is designed to introduce students to the sociology of human rights. The starting point is fundamental ideas of rights, including citizenship and human rights. We then study various aspects of human rights treaty processes. Over the remainder of the term, we examine different human rights issues, both long-standing and contemporary. Throughout the term, we will critically approach human rights systems and scholarship. Offered as SOCI 357 and SOCI 457. Prereq: SOCI 101.

SOCI 360. The Sociology of Law. 3 Units.
This course will focus on the role of rights in the U.S. legal system and society. In particular, we will consider three questions. The first is how do rights fit in the legal system and society? Second, how have different social groups used and thought about rights? Third, how do legal actors like judges and lawyers think about rights compared to non-lawyers? Offered as SOCI 360 and SOCI 460. Prereq: SOCI 101 and Sophomore standing.

SOCI 361. The Life Course. 3 Units.
Individual experiences and transitions over the life course are considered as the result of societal, cultural, psychological, biological, and historical influences. Developmental issues of childhood, adolescence, young adulthood, middle years and late life are discussed in the context of social expectations, challenges, and opportunities. Emphasis is placed on theoretical readings. Offered as SOCI 361 and SOCI 461. Prereq: SOCI 101 and Sophomore standing.

SOCI 365. Health Care Delivery. 3 Units.
Health care in the U.S. may be approaching a critical crossroad. Limiting care to older persons and the chronically ill has been proposed as a means to combat rising costs and limited access to health care. What are the alternatives to health care rationing? Socialized medicine? National health insurance? This course deals with issues of cost, quality, and access to health care in the United States and other societies. It considers how solutions by other societies can provide directions for the organization of health care in the U.S. Offered as SOCI 365 and SOCI 465. Prereq: SOCI 101 and Sophomore standing.

SOCI 366. Racial Inequality and Mass Imprisonment in the US. 3 Units.
This course examines the relationship between racial inequality and mass imprisonment in the U.S. It begins by exploring the role of prisons in the Jim Crow south, with a particular focus on convict-leasing practices, and then turns to the north to examine the social forces that created the black urban ghetto and concentrated black urban poverty. The course also examines the impact that these same social forces have had on Puerto Ricans. We will then explore a series of topics including urban poverty and crime, the war on drugs, the politics of mass incarceration, the prospects that mass incarceration has become the new Jim Crow, and the effects that mass incarceration has had on voting rights, urban communities, families and children. We will conclude with a discussion of varying decarceration arguments, strategies, movements, and achievements. Offered as AFST 366 and SOCI 366. Prereq: SOCI 101 or SJUS 100.

SOCI 369. Aging in American Society. 3 Units.
Considers the position and participation of aged adults in American society. Sociological perspectives through which to interpret the aging process and old age; social policies; intergenerational relations; lifestyles and how they affect participation of the aged in American society; dying and death serve as major themes. Offered as SOCI 369 and SOCI 469. Prereq: SOCI 101 and Sophomore standing.

SOCI 372. Work and Family. U.S. and Abroad. 3 Units.
Covers the impact on human lives of the interface between work and family; the different ways gender structures the experience of work and family depending upon racial and ethnic background, social class, age, and partner preference; the impact of historical context on work-family experiences; work-family policies in the United States and other countries. Offered as SOCI 372, WGST 372, and SOCI 472. Prereq: SOCI 101 and Sophomore standing.

SOCI 375. Independent Study. 1 - 3 Units.
Prereq: SOCI 101 and SOCI 300.

SOCI 377. Population Dynamics and Changing Societies. 3 Units.
Population and social structure are inextricably linked, as changes in one elicit changes in the other. Social demography, as a discipline, examines these linkages through the systematic study of the size, composition and distribution of populations and their relationship to the social, political and economic organization of societies. This course will pay particular attention to mortality, morbidity and health, fertility, family and household organization, and migration as the major processes of population change. The population dynamics of the United States will be emphasized, with select comparisons to developing and developed countries. Offered as SOCI 377 and SOCI 477. Prereq: SOCI 101 or equivalent; 9 hours in SOCI, ANTH, or ECON.

SOCI 380. Social Movements and Social Change. 3 Units.
This course will introduce students to the theories of social movements and collective action. We look at the conditions that create grievances in democracies, how grievances get translated into collective action, and what types of collective actions are successful for bringing about social change. We discuss a variety of movements in the U.S. in the 20th century to illustrate these theories and concepts. Prereq: SOCI 101 or requisites not met permission.
SOCI 384. Sociology of Sex(es), Gender(s) and Sexuality(ies). 3 Units.
Gender is an organizing principle of society and affects every element of
social life. Ideas about gender and sexuality shape identity and suffuse
interactions, institutions and the societies within which we live. These
ideas vary from individual to individual, but also across time and place.
This course surveys research on sex, gender and sexuality with the goal
of providing students with a theoretical grounding for analyzing sex,
gender and sexuality from a sociological perspective. We will explore
outdated theories like essentialism and biological determinism, and
newer theories rooted in social constructionism. Central to this course
is intersectionality, a theoretical perspective that reveals ways in which
race/ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality and other social categories are
inextricably connected and form interlocking systems of inequality.
Additional topics to be explored include: the sexual revolution, the hook-
up culture, gendered families, gendered health, occupational segregation,
sexual harassment and gendered violence, reproduction, social change
and feminist activism. Offered as SOCI 384, SOCI 484, and WGST 384.
Prereq: SOCI 101.

SOCI 385. Ethnography. 3 Units.
The course will be taught twice weekly as a seminar for upper level
undergraduate students and graduate students, and will examine some
of the key debates in ethnography, read ethnographies published as both
books and articles, and explore various ways of designing ethnographic
fieldwork. Offered as SOCI 385 and SOCI 485. Prereq: SOCI 101 and
Sophomore standing.

SOCI 386. Race and Racism. 3 Units.
Race and Racism will discuss the classical and contemporary
understandings of the concepts of race and racism. We will begin by
taking an historical approach, delving into processes of racialization
and the first instances where distinctions in human race were noted.
We will survey theories of race and use a social constructions approach
to examine how sociologists approach the study of racial and ethnic
group difference. We will examine how definitions of racial groups have
evolved over time and differ across contexts, as well as some of the
underlying social and structural processes that create racial hierarchies.
At the end of the course students should have a strong understanding
of the mechanisms that reproduce systems of racial classification.
The course will also examine patterns and trends in racial and ethnic
inequality over recent decades, centering our discussion on the legacies
of racism, current discrimination, and new processes that are currently
unfolding to reproduce inequality. While the course’s main focus is to
examine understandings of race and racism in the United States, we
will devote some attention to how race and ethnicity emerge in different
environments by examining race and racism in an international context.
Offered as AFST 386, SOCI 386 and SOCI 486. Counts for CAS Global &

SOCI 392. Senior Capstone Experience. 3 Units.
SOCI 392 represents the completion of an independent study paper
involving exploration of a sociology topic to be chosen in consultation
with the student's capstone advisor. The student will interact regularly
with the faculty advisor who will review their progress on the project.
This project allows for original thought and for the tailoring of the research
to the student's interests. The student will integrate theory, methods
and social issues as he/she applies critical thinking skills and insights
to the analysis of some aspects of a subject chosen from any of the
following subfields and concentrations: Gerontology, Social Inequality,
Medical Sociology, Crime and Delinquency, The Life Course, Education,
Work and Family, Sociology of Law, and Deviance. The Capstone Project
has both a written and an oral component. Following the submission of
the Capstone paper, the student will give a presentation of the project
at the Senior Capstone fair, or another forum chosen by the department.
Counts as SAGES Senior Capstone. Prereq: SOCI 101 and SOCI 300 and
SOCI 306 and (SOCI 307 or ANTH 319 or PSCL 282 or STAT 201).

SOCI 397. Honors Studies. 3 Units.
Intensive investigation of research or conceptual problem; original work
under supervision of faculty member. Limited to senior majors. Prereq:
Senior status.

SOCI 398. Honors Studies. 3 Units.
Intensive investigation of research or conceptual problem; original work
under supervision of faculty member. Limited to senior majors.

SOCI 400. Development of Sociological Theory. 3 Units.
This course examines in detail the works of the major social theorists of
the 19th and 20th centuries. It is intended to integrate their ideas with
the social and historical milieu from which they were born. Questions
of intergroup conflict vs. cooperation, interactions between economic,
familial, religious, and political institutions, and the development of
the self as a function of larger social processes are addressed. Such
celebrated figures as Marx, Weber, and Durkheim, as well as modern
thinkers will be presented and discussed. Prereq: Graduate standing.

SOCI 401. Contemporary Sociological Theory. 3 Units.
Current viewpoints in sociological theory are explored using contrasting
theoretical perspectives.

SOCI 406. Logic of Social Inquiry. 3 Units.
This course provides an introduction to the epistemologies and research
methodologies used in sociological inquiry. We concentrate on the
fundamental principles of research design and on developing a basic
understanding of the research process. Topics include formulating
a question, alternative modes of research design and principles of
measurement, sampling and analysis. We draw examples from published
work, ongoing studies, and publicly available data. Offered as SOCI 306
and SOCI 406.

SOCI 407. Social Statistics. 3 Units.
This course provides an introduction to social statistics, including
univariate statistics and bivariate tests of association (chi-square, t test,
ANOVA, correlation, regression). Topics include: levels of measurement,
probability theory and inference; hypothesis testing; and statistical
power. Students receive hands-on instruction using statistical software.
A student may receive credit for only one of the following: SOCI 307,
ANTH 319, PSCL 282, or STAT 201. Offered as SOCI 307 and SOCI 407.
SOCI 410. The Individual in Society. 3 Units.
This course focuses on the relationship between individuals and the societies in which they live. Influences of values and culture on individuals’ selves and identities are discussed as well as how individuals attach meaning to personal life experiences and histories in the context of society at large. Offered as SOCI 310 and SOCI 410.

SOCI 411. Health, Illness, and Social Behavior. 3 Units.
This course considers the role of social factors (e.g., poverty, occupational and family structure) on health and illness. Discussion will concentrate on the role of health promotion (e.g., anti-smoking campaigns), social behavior and lifestyle in health and health care use. Considerable attention is given to understanding health careers and professions and their role in the health of societies and individuals. Offered as SOCI 311 and SOCI 411.

SOCI 413. Sociology of Stress and Coping. 3 Units.
This course will focus attention on human stress throughout the lifespan and its role in personal health and well-being. There have been exciting advances in recent years in understanding the nature of stress in everyday life as well as elements of extreme stress. Trauma is experienced by many people due to normative events such as illness and bereavement or natural and man-made disasters such as crime or war. Coping strategies and social supports which ameliorate negative impact of stress will be considered. Offered as SOCI 313 and SOCI 413.

This course discusses theoretical foundations and methodologies of narrative research, including life stories, oral history, and auto ethnography. The course is designed for students to complete a research project in the semester using narrative methods to collect and analyze primary data and write up the results. Offered as SOCI 327 and SOCI 427.

SOCI 428. Capitalism, Cities, and Inequality. 3 Units.
This course focuses on social inequality, but through an examination of cities in the U.S. and abroad. In many ways, cities provide a window onto the organization of the larger social world, including regional, state, national and global areas. As such, understanding cities goes far beyond their geographical boundaries. The purpose of this course then is to learn the central role that cities play within a larger capitalist economy, how public policies shape life in cities, how cities organize and reproduce social inequality, and how community groups and organizations challenge and negotiate the organization of power and inequality. The course will examine topics such as the formal and informal labor force, immigration, the growth of global cities and slums, urban poverty, racial segregation, housing and homelessness, crime, gentrification, policing, community organization and political resistance. Offered as AFST 328, SOCI 328 and SOCI 428. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement.

SOCI 443. Medical Sociology. 3 Units.
Course covers theories, research methods, and problems in sociology of medicine. Topics include social epidemiology, health and illness behavior, and sick role. Structures and functions of delivery systems and their interrelationships with other social institutions are discussed.

SOCI 444. Health Disparities. 3 Units.
We have come to understand that stark disparities in health result from the social organization of society, especially inequality in resources and opportunities between and within social groups in the population. This seminar course examines the differential distribution of health and illness in society, focusing on the social determinants of health. Topics include: socioeconomic inequality; geographic context; social cohesion and exclusion; health burden in minority populations; policy and federal priorities. We utilize a life course perspective to understand how inequality "gets under the skin" to produce adverse health. Offered as SOCI 344 and SOCI 444. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement.

SOCI 445. Sociology of Mental Illness. 3 Units.
Focus is on social construction of mental health and illness and sociology of emotions. Social determinants of psychological distress will be discussed along with social stigma associated with mental illness. Institutional and community options for care of the mentally ill will be considered along with the impact of recent social movements of deinstitutionalization and independent living. Offered as SOCI 345 and SOCI 445.

SOCI 447. Sociology of Education. 3 Units.
This course provides an introduction to the field of sociology of education, which might be more properly called sociology of schooling. We will examine the development of schools historically and competing paradigms for understanding the place of school in society. Major theoretical perspectives concerning the nature and consequences of schools for individuals and for societies will be reviewed. Issues of individual opportunity - including how it is organized by race, class, and gender - will be covered, as well as issues institutional dynamics - including tracking, testing and so-called crisis and reform. Offered as SOCI 347 and SOCI 447.

SOCI 449. Social Inequality. 3 Units.
This course discusses classical theory and contemporary research on the mechanisms of power that produce inequalities in income, wealth, education, privilege, and occupational prestige and are manifest in racial, ethnic, gender, age, health, and sexual hierarchies. Offered as SOCI 349 and SOCI 449.

SOCI 455. Special Topics. 3 Units.
One or more sections each semester focusing on selected areas of study in sociology. Offered as SOCI 355 and SOCI 455.

SOCI 457. Sociology of Human Rights. 3 Units.
This course is designed to introduce students to the sociology of human rights. The starting point is fundamental ideas of rights, including citizenship and human rights. We then study various aspects of human rights treaty processes. Over the remainder of the term, we examine different human rights issues, both long-standing and contemporary. Throughout the term, we will critically approach human rights systems and scholarship. Offered as SOCI 357 and SOCI 457.

SOCI 460. The Sociology of Law. 3 Units.
This course will focus on the role of rights in the U.S. legal system and society. In particular, we will consider three questions. The first is how do rights fit in the legal system and society? Second, how have different social groups used and thought about rights? Third, how do legal actors like judges and lawyers think about rights compared to non-lawyers? Offered as SOCI 360 and SOCI 460.
SOCI 461. The Life Course. 3 Units.
Individual experiences and transitions over the life course are considered as the result of societal, cultural, psychological, biological, and historical influences. Developmental issues of childhood, adolescence, young adulthood, middle years and late life are discussed in the context of social expectations, challenges, and opportunities. Emphasis is placed on theoretical readings. Offered as SOCI 361 and SOCI 461.

SOCI 465. Health Care Delivery. 3 Units.
Health care in the U.S. may be approaching a critical cross-road. Limiting care to older persons and the chronically ill has been proposed as a means to combat rising costs and limited access to health care. What are the alternatives to health care rationing? Socialized medicine? National health insurance? This course deals with issues of cost, quality, and access to health care in the United States and other societies. It considers how solutions by other societies can provide directions for the organization of health care in the U.S. Offered as SOCI 365 and SOCI 465.

SOCI 466. Promoting Health Across Boundaries. 3 Units.
This course examines the concepts of health and boundary spanning and how the synergy of the two can produce new, effective approaches to promoting health. Students will explore and analyze examples of individuals and organizations boundary spanning for health to identify practice features affecting health, compare and contrast practices and approaches, and evaluate features and context that promote or inhibit boundary spanning and promoting health. Offered as MPH 466, PQHS 466, SOCI 466, NURS 466 and BETH 466. Prereq: Graduate student status or instructor consent.

SOCI 469. Aging in American Society. 3 Units.
Considers the position and participation of aged adults in American society. Sociological perspectives through which to interpret the aging process and old age; social policies; intergenerational relations, lifestyles and how they affect participation of the aged in American society; dying and death serve as major themes. Offered as SOCI 369 and SOCI 469.

SOCI 472. Work and Family: U.S. and Abroad. 3 Units.
Covers the impact on human lives of the interface between work and family; the different ways gender structures the experience of work and family depending upon racial and ethnic background, social class, age, and partner preference; the impact of historical context on work-family policies in the United States and other countries. Offered as SOCI 372, WGST 372, and SOCI 472.

SOCI 477. Population Dynamics and Changing Societies. 3 Units.
Population and social structure are inextricably linked, as changes in one elicit changes in the other. Social demography, as a discipline, examines these linkages through the systematic study of the size, composition and distribution of populations and their relationship to the social, political and economic organization of societies. This course will pay particular attention to mortality, morbidity and health, fertility, family and household organization, and migration as the major processes of population change. The population dynamics of the United States will be emphasized, with select comparisons to developing and developed countries. Offered as SOCI 377 and SOCI 477. Prereq: SOCI 101 or equivalent; 9 hours in SOCI, ANTH, or ECON.

SOCI 484. Sociology of Sex(es), Gender(s) and Sexuality(ies). 3 Units.
Gender is an organizing principle of society and affects every element of social life. Ideas about gender and sexuality shape identity and suffuse interactions, institutions and the societies within which we live. These ideas vary from individual to individual, but also across time and place. This course surveys research on sex, gender and sexuality with the goal of providing students with a theoretical grounding for analyzing sex, gender and sexuality from a sociological perspective. We will explore outdated theories like essentialism and biological determinism, and newer theories rooted in social constructionism. Central to this course is intersectionality, a theoretical perspective that reveals ways in which race/ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality and other social categories are inextricably connected and form interlocking systems of inequality. Additional topics to be explored include: the sexual revolution, the hook-up culture, gendered families, gendered health, occupational segregation, sexual harassment and gendered violence, reproduction, social change and feminist activism. Offered as SOCI 384, SOCI 484, and WGST 384.

SOCI 485. Ethnography. 3 Units.
The course will be taught twice weekly as a seminar for upper level undergraduate students and graduate students, and will examine some of the key debates in ethnography, read ethnographies published as both books and articles, and explore various ways of designing ethnographic fieldwork. Offered as SOCI 385 and SOCI 485.

SOCI 486. Race and Racism. 3 Units.
Race and Racism will discuss the classical and contemporary understandings of the concepts of race and racism. We will begin by taking an historical approach, delving into processes of racialization and the first instances where distinctions in human race were noted. We will survey theories of race and use a social constructions approach to examine how sociologists approach the study of racial and ethnic group difference. We will examine how definitions of racial groups have evolved over time and differ across contexts, as well as some of the underlying social and structural processes that create racial hierarchies. At the end of the course students should have a strong understanding of the mechanisms that reproduce systems of racial classification. The course will also examine patterns and trends in racial and ethnic inequality over recent decades, centering our discussion on the legacies of racism, current discrimination, and new processes that are currently unfolding to reproduce inequality. While the course’s main focus is to examine understandings of race and racism in the United States, we will devote some attention to how race and ethnicity emerge in different environments by examining race and racism in an international context. Offered as AFST 386, SOCI 386 and SOCI 486. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement.

SOCI 509. Advanced Statistical Analysis. 3 Units.
The purpose of this course is to teach students multivariate data analysis, including linear regression, logistic regression, and econometric models. Students will learn about issues in data management such as variable measurement and techniques for handling missing data. Students also learn to select appropriate statistical models, design the analysis, and assess model fit. The course includes hands-on instruction with computer labs. Prereq: SOCI 407 and SOCI 406 or requisites not met permission.

SOCI 514. Qualitative Methods/Field Research. 3 Units.
Students explore the theoretical foundations of qualitative social research. The course is designed to introduce and provide experience with a range of data generation strategies and analytic skills. The ethnographic techniques of semi-structured interviewing and participant-observation receive particular attention.
SOCI 525. Multilevel Modeling. 3 Units.
This course is designed to provide an introduction to multilevel, or hierarchical, regression models, and to explore its two primary applications in the social sciences: (1) studies of individuals nested within groups; (2) studies of repeated observations nested within individuals. After taking this course, students should be able to discuss the components of the multilevel model, including random intercepts & slopes, variances at levels 1 & 2, within- and between-group regressions. Students should also be able to conduct independent statistical analysis using Stata from initial tests of assumptions and hypothesis testing, and to assessing model fit. This course will additionally provide instruction on time-based and age-based latent growth curves within the multilevel modeling framework. Prereq: SOCI 509 or requisites not met permission.

SOCI 601. Reading and Research. 1 - 9 Units.
Individual study and/or project work.

SOCI 701. Dissertation Ph.D.. 1 - 9 Units.
(Credit as arranged.) Prereq: Predoctoral research consent or advanced to Ph.D. candidacy milestone.