

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND SOCIOLOGY

SOCIOLOGY and CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Richard H. Coon	Associate Professor of Sociology
Timothy J. Fiedler	Associate Professor of Sociology
Jennifer L. Huck	Assistant Professor of Sociology

The Sociology Program offers majors in criminal justice and sociology, as well as minors in criminal justice and sociology.

Criminal Justice Major Bachelor of Science

The criminal justice major is designed to meet the needs of students considering a career in the criminal justice system, including law enforcement, law and the courts and corrections. The major has an interdisciplinary liberal arts focus, emphasizing social science knowledge as well as basic communication and intellectual skills. We offer courses that help students understand the structure and philosophy of the American criminal justice system including the dimensions and causes of crime and delinquency, theories of crime prevention and control, the history, nature and theories of law enforcement, the basis and operation of criminal courts, and the philosophies and practices of various correctional institutions and programs, including corrections in the community.

The criminal justice major has two tracks within it. The internship track requires students to have earned no grades in the major less than C, to have an overall grade point average in courses taken in the major of 2.6, and to complete the courses in the internship track listed below. The classroom track requires students to have a 2.25 grade point average in courses taken in the major and to complete the courses in the classroom track listed below.

Learning Outcomes for Criminal Justice

Students successfully completing the major are expected to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the structure, philosophy and administration of the criminal justice system.
2. Show a basic understanding of the history, development and practice of corrections.
3. Describe and apply criminological theory.
4. Display a basic understanding of criminal law and procedure.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the history and practice of law enforcement.
6. Utilize and evaluate appropriate research and analytical methods in criminal justice.

7. Practice effective communication skills.

Internship Track Core Courses

Sociology 102, Sociology of Social Problems
 Sociology 103, Introduction to Criminal Justice
 Sociology 211, Juvenile Delinquency
 Sociology 212, Criminology
 Sociology 230, Fundamentals of Interviewing
 Sociology 304, Introduction to Criminal Law
 Sociology 307, Corrections in American Society
 Sociology 311, Methods of Social Research
 Sociology 481, Capstone: Internship in Criminal Justice

Two elective courses from the following:

Communication 241, Communication and Conflict
 Communication 350, Communication Law
 Psychology 201, Abnormal Psychology or
 Psychology 221, Life Span Psychology
 Sociology 213, Minority Groups in American Society
 Sociology 220, Police in Society
 Sociology 303, Criminal Procedure, Evidence and Investigation

Required Support Courses (Required for primary majors only)

4 credits of computer science including Computer Science 107
 Mathematics 112, Introduction to Statistics
 Politics 141, Introduction to American Politics

Classroom Track Core Courses

Sociology 102, Sociology of Social Problems
 Sociology 103, Introduction to Criminal Justice
 Sociology 211, Juvenile Delinquency or
 Sociology 212, Criminology
 Sociology 230 Fundamentals of Interviewing
 Sociology 304, Introduction to Criminal Law or
 Sociology 307, Corrections in American Society
 Sociology 311, Methods of Social Research

Four elective courses from the following:

Communication 241, Communication and Conflict
 Communication 350, Communication Law
 History 305, Recent America
 Psychology 201, Abnormal Psychology or
 Psychology 221, Life Span Psychology
 Sociology 211, Juvenile Delinquency or
 Sociology 212, Criminology (whichever is not taken as a part of the core above)
 Sociology 213, Minority Groups in American Society
 Sociology 220, Police in Society

SOCIOLOGY

Sociology 301, Social Change and the Future of Society
Sociology 303, Criminal Procedure, Evidence and Investigation
Sociology 304, Introduction to Criminal Law or
Sociology 307, Corrections in American Society (whichever is not taken as a part of the core above)

Required Support Courses (Required for primary majors only)
4 credits of computer science including Computer Science 107
Mathematics 112, Introduction to Statistics
Politics 141, Introduction to American Politics

Criminal Justice Minor

Sociology 103, Introduction to Criminal Justice
Sociology 211, Juvenile Delinquency or
Sociology 212, Criminology

Three elective courses from among the following:

Sociology 211 or
Sociology 212 (whichever not taken from above)
Sociology 213, Minority Groups in American Society
Sociology 220, Police in Society
Sociology 303, Criminal Procedure, Evidence and Investigation
Sociology 304, Introduction to Criminal Law
Sociology 307, Corrections in American Society

Sociology Major Bachelor of Science

The mission of the Sociology major is to prepare students to use sociological theory, methods and empirical evidence to critically examine the social world. Students will develop a sociological perspective grounded in social justice and sustainability. Primary to the mission of the major is the cultivation of a well-rounded understanding of the discipline of sociology that contributes to informed citizenship, lifelong learning, and an understanding of a diverse and changing social world.

Learning Outcomes for Sociology

Upon successful completion of major requirements students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an awareness of the scope and diversity of societal/cultural elements addressed by the field of sociology.
2. Use and apply sociological concepts, research methods and theoretical perspectives to make sense of their world.
3. Use the sociological imagination to recognize and describe how institutional patterns and social structural forces shape many aspects of individual life.

Core Courses

Sociology 101, Introduction to Sociology
 Sociology 308, Sociological Theory
 Sociology 311, Methods of Social Research
 Sociology 399, Capstone in Sociology
 Six elective courses in sociology

Required Support Courses (Required for primary majors only)

4 credits of computer science including Computer Science 107
 Mathematics 112, Introduction to Statistics
 Communication 207, Intercultural Communication or
 English 255, Postcolonial Literature or
 Philosophy 207, History and Philosophy of Science

Sociology Minor

Sociology 101, Introduction to Sociology
 Sociology 308, Sociological Theory or
 Sociology 311, Methods of Social Research
 Three elective courses in sociology

SOC 101. Introduction to Sociology S1 4 credits
 An introduction to sociological concepts, explanations, and research findings to enable students to better understand the society in which they live and their place in that society. Topics include: culture, inequality, social relationships, deviance, membership in groups and social institutions such as education, religion and the family. *(Fa, Sp)*

SOC 102. Sociology of Social Problems S1 4 credits
 A survey and analysis of major problem areas in contemporary American society, including areas such as drug use and abuse, family issues, poverty, crime, delinquency, environmental issues and war. *(Fa, Sp)*

SOC 103. Introduction to Criminal Justice 4 credits
 A survey of the history, structure, functions and operations of the primary components in the criminal justice system in the United States including law enforcement, courts and corrections. Includes an analysis of current issues such as discretion, sentencing practices, disparities in sentencing, and alternatives to incarceration. May not be counted toward a sociology major or minor. *(Fa, Sp)*

SOC 110. Cultural Anthropology S1, CCD 4 credits
 The study of literate and nonliterate cultures from throughout the world using basic anthropological concepts. Explores descriptive data from a variety of cultures and the general patterns that exist across cultures. Includes topics such as culture, language, subsistence, stratification, family, kinship, descent, religion, social control and cultural change. *(Fa, Sp, Su)* ENG 170 is recommended prior to enrollment.

SOCIOLOGY

SOC 202. Society and Ecology

4 credits

This course examines the relationships between the cultural and structural patterns of society and the ecosystem. The course focuses on a critical examination of contemporary social systems and their relationships to the natural environment. It investigates the role culture plays in affecting human relationships with the earth and how the belief systems of a people shape their perspective regarding the role of humans in the natural world. Students identify and examine parameters of sustainable social systems. (Sp) Prerequisite: SOC 101 or 102.

SOC 211. Juvenile Delinquency

4 credits

A general survey and analysis of juvenile delinquency. Includes explanations of juvenile delinquency as deviant behavior with an emphasis on the nature, extent and causes of delinquency. Explores factors such as social structure, school, family and peers that have a major impact on juveniles. Also explores the role of police courts and the nature and history of attempts to control, prevent and treat delinquents. (Fa) Prerequisite: SOC 101, 102 or 103.

SOC 212. Criminology

4 credits

A general survey and analysis of crime. Explores criminological theory, societal values with respect to crime, criminal behavior systems and criminal processing systems including police, courts and correctional procedures. (Sp) Prerequisite: SOC 101, 102 or 103.

SOC 213. Minority Groups in American Society

4 credits

Analysis of what minority groups are, how they are formed, persist and change. Includes the study of a variety of minority groups such as ethnic, racial, sexual and other minority groups and the relationships between minority groups and majority groups in society. (Fa) Prerequisite: SOC 101 or 102.

SOC 217. Social Psychology

4 credits

The study of how people are influenced by and relate to one another. Explores how membership in groups and organizations influences the thoughts, feelings, and actions of people. Includes topics such as socialization, attitudes, conformity, leadership, power, persuasion, aggression, attraction and collective behavior. (Sp) Prerequisite: One course in sociology or psychology.

SOC 220. Police in Society

4 credits

A study of the history, goals, organization, structure and role of police in American society. Addresses a range of critical issues facing police and society including police culture, discretion, ethics, use of force, legal boundaries, police work and community relations. This course is not a how-to training course for police officers. May not be counted toward a sociology major or minor. (Sp) Prerequisite: SOC 103.

SOC 230. Fundamentals of Interviewing

4 credits

Students will learn and practice techniques and skills to increase their effectiveness in interviewing. Included is the ability to effectively understand verbal and nonverbal communication. Students will learn how to structure an interview through the intro-

ductory, developmental and termination phases. Challenges posed by diverse interview subjects will be addressed. Special emphasis will be placed on active listening and practicing interviewing skills. May not be counted toward a sociology major or minor. (Fa) Prerequisite: SOC 103.

SOC 291/391. Special Topics in Sociology **4 credits**
Study of a selected topic in sociology that is not covered in regular course offerings. Generally takes a lecture and discussion format. The topic will be announced prior to registration. Prerequisite: SOC 101 or 102.

SOC 296/396. Reading and Research in Sociology **1-3 credits**
Research conducted under the supervision of a faculty member and designed to permit individual students or groups of students to research special areas in sociology related to their educational interests and goals. Prerequisites: Sociology major or minor, junior standing, approval of divisional dean and consent of instructor.

SOC 298/398. Independent Study in Sociology **4 credits**
A course for students who have completed the necessary background courses in a specific area and wish to work with a faculty member to extend their study in that area. Students considering this course must get the approval of the divisional dean and consent of the instructor during the previous semester at least two weeks prior to registering for the course. Results of the study will be presented to the sociology faculty. Prerequisites: Sociology major, junior standing, approval of the divisional dean and consent of the instructor. (Fa, Sp, Su)

SOC 301. Social Change and the Future of Society **4 credits**
A general examination of the topic of social change. This course studies the role of social change in the development of societies, the consequences of social change for contemporary societies, and how change in various areas of society might affect life in the future. (Fa, odd years) Prerequisite: SOC 101 or 102.

SOC 302. Work Life in a Changing World: **4 credits**
Focus on Human Service Organizations
Explores structures and processes within organizations and the meaning and conduct of work. Includes analysis of types of organizations, changes in occupations, work/family conflicts and how organizations have an impact on workers. (Sp, even years)

SOC 303. Criminal Procedure, Evidence and Investigation **4 credits**
Introduces principles of evidence and techniques of investigation. Includes constitutional limitations on arrest, search and seizure, the exclusionary rule, interrogation and confessions. Identifies problems of evidence gathering and presentation as well as basic skills and procedures of criminal investigation. May not be counted toward a sociology major or minor. (Fa) Prerequisites: SOC 103, and 211 or 212.

SOC 304. Introduction to Criminal Law

4 credits

An examination of the nature, variety and sources of criminal law and the relationship of criminal law to theories of punishment and social control. Includes the classification of crimes, as well as the creation, organization and content of criminal law. May not be counted toward a sociology major or minor. (*Sp*) Prerequisites: SOC 103, and 211 or 212.

SOC 305. Marriage and Family in Contemporary Society

4 credits

The study of the changing nature of marriage and family life in the United States. An emphasis on processes and issues that challenge modern family life, including how the family interacts with other major social institutions. Topics include cohabitation, sexuality, mixed families, communication, parenting and divorce. (*Sp*) Prerequisite: Junior standing.

SOC 307. Corrections in American Society

4 credits

A study of the history, trend, purpose, organization and practice of corrections in American society. Includes jails, probation, intermediate sanctions, corrections in the community, prisons and supervision after release. Includes issues such as restorative justice, offender rights and incarceration of women, juveniles, special needs populations and members of minority groups. May not be counted toward a sociology major or minor. (*Fa*) Prerequisites: SOC 103; 211 or 212.

SOC 308. Sociological Theory

4 credits

An examination of the foundations and development of sociological theory from its beginning to the present. Explores the major theories and schools of thought and the relationship between theory and research through the works of important classical and contemporary sociological theorists. (*Sp*) Prerequisites: SOC 101 or 102 and junior standing.

SOC 311. Methods of Social Research

4 credits

A study of the ways sociologists use data to explore, describe and explain human social life. The focus will be on learning, evaluating and applying the techniques and methodology used in generating, gathering and analyzing social scientific data. (*Fa, Sp*) Prerequisite: SOC 101 or 102.

SOC 318. Sociology of Gender

4 credits

This course explores the social construction of masculinity and femininity and how they are maintained or challenged in interaction. The course also considers patriarchy and how gender intersects with other systems of inequality, such as race and class. (*Fa, even years*)

SOC 380. Internship in Applied Sociology

4 credits

An opportunity for majors to work as a sociologist in a designated institution or agency under faculty supervision. Students considering this course must consult with their program adviser during the semester preceding the internship. (*Fa, Sp*) Prerequisites: Junior standing, SOC 311, and consent of the instructor.

SOC 399. Capstone in Sociology

4 credits

Students will review their education experience as sociology majors and explore career paths. Assignments include readings that recap sociology as a field of study and writings that consider the relevance of sociology to professional and social life. (*Sp*) Prerequisite: Senior standing.

SOC 481. Capstone: Internship in Criminal Justice

4 credits

The internship course serves as the capstone experience for the study of criminal justice. It provides an opportunity for criminal justice majors to work in a designated agency or institution under faculty and agency supervision. Includes seminar meetings during the term. Students considering this course for a given semester must consult the instructor during the preceding semester. (*Sp*) Prerequisites: SOC 311, Senior standing, criminal justice major, consent of internship instructor and a minimum of 2.5 grade point average in courses in the major.