

## 2015-2016 Sociology Course Descriptions

**SOC 100S Introduction to Sociology.** A survey of the basic concepts, methods and principles used in the scientific study of human interaction. Emphasis is on such distinctively sociological concepts as socialization, social stratification, social organization, minority groups, deviant behavior and social change. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 130 Introduction to Social Services.** A study of contemporary social service organization and practice in private and public agencies. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 199 Special Topics.**

**SOC 200 Contemporary Social Issues.** A study of the major social issues in American society. Among the issues considered are aging, the environment, terrorism, family violence, gender roles and minority group relations. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 205 Juvenile Delinquency.** This course is an examination of children and crime. It includes an overview of the theoretical models that explain delinquency and an examination of how these models relate to our social institutions and to juvenile corrections. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 215 Drugs and Society.** This course examines the impact of substance use and abuse on the user, the user's interpersonal relationships, as well as on society, as a whole. Also, the course examines the history and philosophy of various regulatory efforts, their successes and failures, and the impact of those on society. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 220 The Many Faces of Poverty.** Poverty is one of the most persistent social problems in America. And it is a social problem that causes or impacts many other social conditions in America. Depending on the definition used to measure poverty, between 14 percent and 20 percent of Americans live in poverty. This course covers the social characteristics of the poor, the impact of poverty on personal life chances, and the social consequences of poverty. Analysis is also provided of societal attempts to address poverty. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 225 Family Violence.** An examination of family violence from sociological, legal and medical perspectives. Considers major issues related to family violence including types, predictors and consequences. Also evaluates the strategies that are used by professionals to study, detect, intervene, treat and prevent family violence. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 235 Stress and Wellbeing.** An examination of how the social environment affects health. Investigates stress processes that are rooted in social structures including race, class, gender, age, work and family. Examines how such characteristics and conditions help explain the unequal distribution of health. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 240 Sex, Love, and Relationships.** An examination of the process of forming adult relationships in the U.S. including gender role development, dating, mate-selection, love, sexuality, marriage or alternative relationship choices, and parenthood in sociological perspective. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 245 The World of Education: A Sociological Perspective.** This course identifies how various political, economic, and cultural forces influence educational institutions in the American society. Further analysis is directed to analyzing the sociological factors that influence the internal workings of the school and the classroom and the factors that impact how students experience the educational process. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 250 Medical Sociology.** An examination of health, illness, and medical care from the sociological perspective. Topics include social epidemiology; health and illness behavior, socialization of health professionals; health care provider /patient relationships; and the organization of health and medical care. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 260 Social Gerontology.** An introduction to the process of human aging with particular emphasis on their social and social psychological aspects. Included in the course are examinations of the processes of aging, problems of the aged and demographic characteristics of the aged. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 275 White Collar Crime.** The course is designed for Sociology, Criminal Justice, Business, and Accounting majors and explores the various types of white collar crime. The course examines both occupational crimes (which benefit the offender) and corporate crimes (which benefit the company). The causes of these crimes, motives of offenders, and the history of laws governing these offenses are discussed. Finally, the methods used by business and government to deter, investigate, and prosecute these crimes are included. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 280 Criminology.** A survey of the major theories of crime causation and a social scientific examination of various types of crime, criminals and criminal behavior. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 299 Special Topics.**

**SOC 310 American Family.** Both an historical and contemporary examination of the family system in America from marriage through death or divorce. Includes discussions about marital commitment, adjustment, satisfaction and sexuality as well as child rearing, family violence and abuse. Prerequisite: SOC 100. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 315 Corrections.** This course will examine adult corrections in criminal justice. It will examine the history and purpose of correctional philosophy and correctional institutions, and it will explore the history, theories, and issues surrounding probation and parole in America. Students will also be introduced to basic treatment strategies for criminal offenders. Prerequisite: SOC 100 or CRJ 105. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 320 The World of Males and Females: A Sociological Perspective.** A study of the cultural norms and social roles which govern the relationships between men and women in contemporary American society. The course examines the origin of masculine and feminine gender roles, the nature of sexism, and the changing roles of men and women in families, occupations, politics and religion. Prerequisite: SOC 100 or GEN 201 . 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 325 Organizational Analysis.** An examination of bureaucracy, decision making, communication, leadership, power relations and the environmental context for both business and service organizations. This course includes a 15hr field practicum. Prerequisites: SOC 100 or junior standing and permission of instructor. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 330 Minority Group Relations.** An examination of the social and structural relationships between racial, ethnic, religious, sexual and other stigmatized groups and the dominant society in America. Prerequisite: SOC 100. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 345 Deviance.** Emphasis is upon examination of the major theoretical explanations of deviant behavior and the empirical evidence supporting these perspectives. Prerequisite: SOC 100. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 350 Grants and Planning.** This course introduces students to the professional skills required of social scientists working in applied settings. In particular, the course emphasizes the development of both theoretical and practical knowledge associated with grant writing, strategic planning and other philanthropic-related skills required of social scientists working in both non-profit and for-profit organizations. Prerequisites: SOC 100 or PSY 110 and junior standing. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 364 Research Methods.** This course will familiarize students with the research methods that are used in the social and behavioral sciences. This includes issues related to research design, measurement, and data collection. Attention will be given to both qualitative and quantitative approaches. Prerequisite: SOC 100 or CRJ 105. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 365 Social Science Statistics and Analysis.** This course will introduce students to basic statistical procedures necessary for social science research with quantitative data. Students will also learn data entry and management, conducting statistical analysis and interpreting results utilizing SPSS program. Prerequisite: satisfactory score on the mathematics placement exam or MTH 100. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 375 Sociological Theory.** A study of sociological theory from Comte to the present with emphasis upon the major schools of sociological theory and the main contributions of outstanding sociologists. Prerequisites: SOC 100 and junior or senior standing. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 384 Diversity: Intercultural Communication.** A study of human communication across cultures focusing on the variables that influence interaction when members of different cultures come together. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 399 Special Topics.**

**SOC 405 Independent Study.** A study of selected topics in sociology with emphasis on individual research and systematic reporting. Offered upon demand and with permission of the instructor. Prerequisites: SOC 100, SOC 364, SOC 365. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 490 Senior Practicum.** This course will involve an applied experience, which is an on-site placement for a profit or non-profit organization. The applied experience will be the basis for a thesis which will analyze the applied experience by incorporating theory, methods, and knowledge gained from previously-taken sociology classes. In addition, the practicum will include class meetings covering topics related to the applied experience and career paths for majors in Sociology. Prerequisites: SOC 100, SOC 364, SOC 365, SOC 375. 4 Semester Hours.

**SOC 494 Honors Thesis/Project.**

**SOC 499 Field Work Internship.** Sociology majors are placed in appropriate profit or non-profit organizations. Supervision is provided by both the sociology faculty and the host organization. Students will be assigned appropriate readings and written assignments, including a daily journal, as part of a weekly seminar. Prerequisites: senior sociology major, minimum 2.0 GPA, and permission of the sociology faculty. 4, 8, 12, or 16 Semester Hours.