

Sociology

B.A. Degree

Minor also Offered

Sociology is a field with diverse areas of study. These range from the behavior of the individual as a social actor to the behavior of entire societies. Consequently, key topics include social psychology, socialization, deviant behavior, group behavior, organizations and institutions, power, inequality, and social change, among others. The major social institutions are also explored in detail, including the family, education, religion, social welfare, medicine, work, politics, leisure, the media, and so on. To develop skills for studying society, students are also introduced to such valuable techniques as survey research, sampling, observational methods, content analysis, experimentation, and interviewing.

Because sociology is a core subject for any liberal arts education, the department offers a variety of courses of interest to non-majors. These concern such current social issues as the problems of the aged, drugs and society, gender roles, education, and the information revolution.

The major has been designed to allow each student, in consultation with an advisor, to develop a personal program of study. The required courses ensure a solid grounding in sociological concepts, theories, and research approaches. To help students in additional course selections, the department has developed a Career Guide that provides suggested plans for numerous career paths. It also has a career development class to help students select their personal goals.

Applications of sociology in business include: organizational consulting, human relations, union organization, industrial relations, communication consulting, marketing, and personnel.

The human services emphases are for those interested in supervision, program planning and development, proposal writing, community organization, and counseling in agencies such as halfway houses, alcohol rehabilitation homes, battered women's shelters, recreation departments, special schools, social welfare agencies, and so on. These classes develop the administrative, organizational, and research skills for these occupations, as well as appropriate sociological information about social needs in American society.

Other opportunities exist in government, self-employment, and teaching. Also, Sociology is a strong preparation for those who wish to go on to graduate training in such fields as sociology, social work, counseling, public health administration, gerontology, business administration, urban planning, and law.

Regardless of one's career interest, the department encourages students to gain practical on-the-job training through internships with major employers and social agencies in the area.

The department also supports a Sociology Club to encourage student participation, has a chapter of the national sociology honor society, Alpha Kappa Delta, and gives the C. Wright Mills Award annually for the most creative research paper done by a Sociology major.

Career Alternatives

Sociology provides an excellent preparation for a wide range of careers. Combined with a minor in Management Studies, it leads to positions in personnel, marketing and sales, general administration, and organizational consulting. Alone it leads to jobs in the human services, including alcohol and drug rehabilitation, health agency administration, counseling, recreation, senior services, social welfare, vocational and rehabilitation counseling, women's programs, and youth activities. A bachelor's degree will also qualify one for opportunities in national, state, and local government, including research, public administration, personnel, and planning. A sociology major is also a valuable preparation for graduate work in law, business, and a variety of human services professions, as well as doctoral programs in several academic areas.



Bachelor of Arts In Sociology

Degree Requirements	Units
General Education	51
Sociology Courses	40
Electives	29
Total units needed for graduation	120

Major Requirements

SOCI 201	Introduction to Sociology	3
SOCI 300	Sociological Analysis	4
SOCI 375	Survey of Sociological Theory	4
SOCI 498	Senior Seminar.....	4
	Methods Seminar	4
	Substantive Areas.....	9–12
	Upper Division courses in consultation with an advisor.....	8–15
Total units in the major		40

Note: Students must earn a grade of C or better in each of the four required courses. Students who earn a grade below C in a required course must repeat the course and earn a C or better before enrolling in the next required class.

Minor in Sociology

SOCI 201	Introduction to Sociology	3
	Upper-division courses in Sociology chosen in consultation with an advisor.....	17
Total units in the minor		20

Teaching Credential Preparation

The Department of Sociology participates in a Single Subject Waiver Program in Social Studies. Completion of the waiver program certifies the subject matter competence required for a teaching credential in social studies and exempts the student from taking the National Teachers Examination in social studies. Sociology majors interested in pursuing either a Multiple Subject (Elementary) Credential or a Single Subject (Secondary) Credential may also demonstrate competence by passing the appropriate portions of the National Teachers Examination. For further information contact the Credentials Office at (707) 664-2832.

We hope this information will be helpful. Official requirements of all majors and programs are published in the Sonoma State University catalog. Sonoma State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution and has a strong commitment to the principal of diversity. A member of the California State University

