

Catalog of Courses Offered

Sociology

SOC 1051 Introductory Sociology 3 cr.

Offered each semester. A first course in the study of human beings in society using basic concepts and methods of sociology. Topics include the influences of social groups on individuals' attitudes and behaviors, stability and change in the family, and social inequality.

SOC 2098 Special Topics in Sociology 3 cr.

A theoretical and methodological examination of selected sociological topics with emphasis on current trends and tendencies in modern societies. This course may be repeated once for credit.

SOC 2273 Society and the Person 3 cr.

A review of the relationships between society and the person. The social conditioning of the individual through infancy, childhood, and adult life and the reciprocal influences of the person in society are the essence of the course.

SOC 2707 Social Statistics I 4 cr.

Offered each semester. Prerequisite: three hours of mathematics. A study of descriptive and inferential statistics employed in social science research including measures of central tendency and variation, rates, graphing techniques, measures of association, tests of significance, and regression. Laboratory meetings also cover introduction to computer usage, spread sheets, and PC-based statistics programs. Successful completion of SOC 2707 and 2708 meets the general degree requirement for computer literacy. Three hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory.

SOC 2708 Methods in Social Research 3 cr.

Offered each semester. Prerequisite: SOC 1051. A comprehensive examination of the logic and applications of the scientific method in the social sciences. Topics include survey, evaluation, experiment, existing sources, and field research. In addition, the student is introduced to computer usage, including work processing and data analysis with a statistics package on a main frame computer. Successful completion of Sociology 2707 and 2708 meets the general degree requirement for computer literacy.

SOC 2871 The Environment as a Social Problem 3 cr.

Examines environmental hazards and depletion of natural resources as important social problems confronting contemporary society. Alternative understandings of the seriousness and probable causes of a number of environmental problems, such as air pollution, toxic contamination, loss of wetlands, and species extinction, are explored.

SOC 2881 The City 3 cr.

A comparative study of cities and social groups and processes in the urban environment.

SOC 2962 Current Social Problems 3 cr.

A study of contemporary social problems and their consequences for humankind with emphasis on American society. Topics include crime, drug abuse, family problems, inequality, mental illness, population problems, and suicide.

SOC 2994 Multiculturalism and Diversity in U.S. Society 3 cr.

U.S. society has been settled by immigrants from all over the world. In addition, such constitutional protections as freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of association create legal protections for diversity. The present course uses sociological concepts and theories to analyze diversity and multiculturalism in U.S. society. It identifies circumstances which tend to give rise to tolerance or repression, assimilation or separation, respect or condemnation. It addresses both the problems diversity generates, as well as the potential it has to enrich our lives.

SOC 3091 Independent Work 1 cr.

Offered each semester. Prerequisite: consent of department. Readings, conferences, and research reports under the direction of a member of the sociology faculty. In no case may a student register for SOC 3091-3097 for a total of more than nine hours, nor may a student apply more than six hours of sociology courses numbered 3091-3097 toward the hours required for the major in sociology.

SOC 3092 Independent Work 1 cr.

Offered each semester. Prerequisite: consent of department. Readings, conferences, and research reports under the direction of a member of the sociology faculty. In no case may a student register for SOC 3091-3097 for a total of more than nine hours, nor may a student apply more than six hours of sociology courses numbered 3091-3097 toward the hours required for the major in sociology.

SOC 3093 Independent Work 1 cr.

Offered each semester. Prerequisite: consent of department. Readings, conferences, and research reports under the direction of a member of the sociology faculty. In no case may a student register for SOC 3091-3097 for a total of more than nine hours, nor may a student apply more than six hours of sociology courses numbered 3091-3097 toward the hours required for the major in sociology.

SOC 3094 Independent Field Research in Sociology 3 cr.

Offered each semester. Prerequisite: consent of department. Practical applications of data collection methods in natural settings; observation, participant-observation and field experimentation; emphasis on implementing research methods in the community. In no case may a student register for Sociology 3091-3097 for a total of more than nine hours, nor may a student apply more than six hours of sociology courses numbered 3091-3097 toward the hours required for the major in sociology.

SOC 3095 Independent Field Research in Sociology 3 cr.

Offered each semester. Prerequisite: consent of department. Practical applications of data collection methods in natural settings; observation, participant-observation and field experimentation; emphasis on implementing research methods in the community. In no case may a student register for Sociology

3091-3097 for a total of more than nine hours, nor may a student apply more than six hours of sociology courses numbered 3091-3097 toward the hours required for the major in sociology.

SOC 3096 Internship in Sociology 3 cr.

Offered each semester. Prerequisites: Consent of department. The sociology intern is placed in a city, parish, or state government agency or office in the metropolitan area to learn about the applicability of the sociological perspective and methodology to applied endeavors in government. Interns usually work eight hours a week at times mutually agreeable to the individual and the agency. In addition, students must meet regularly with the faculty adviser and the student's work must be evaluated by both the supervisor and adviser. In no case may a student register for Sociology 3091-3097 for a total of more than nine hours, nor may a student apply more than six hours of sociology courses numbered 3091-3097 toward the hours required for the major in sociology.

SOC 3097 Internship in Sociology 3 cr.

Offered each semester. Prerequisites: Consent of department. The sociology intern is placed in a city, parish, or state government agency or office in the metropolitan area to learn about the applicability of the sociological perspective and methodology to applied endeavors in government. Interns usually work eight hours a week at times mutually agreeable to the individual and the agency. In addition, students must meet regularly with the faculty adviser and the student's work must be evaluated by both the supervisor and adviser. In no case may a student register for Sociology 3091-3097 for a total of more than nine hours, nor may a student apply more than six hours of sociology courses numbered 3091-3097 toward the hours required for the major in sociology.

SOC 3099 Senior Honors Thesis 3 cr.

Prerequisites: consent of department and director of the Honors Program. Directed research leading to the writing of a Senior Honors Thesis. This course must be repeated once in order to graduate With Honors in Sociology. The sociology honors program requires six hours of honors thesis in addition to all other requirements.

SOC 3595 Academic Year Abroad: Special Topics in Sociology 3 cr.

This course is only offered through UNO's Academic Year Abroad (AYA) in Innsbruck, Austria and can be repeated once for credit.

SOC 4070/5070 Special Topics in Women, Literature and Society 3 cr.

(WGS/WS 4070, ENGL 4070 and SOC 4070 are cross-listed) Prerequisite: SOC 1051 or WGS/WS 2010 or consent of instructors. A team-taught, interdisciplinary study of women in literature and society. Variable topics include women and crime, women and work, women and the family, women and religion.

SOC 4080/5080 Perspectives on Women, Gender, & Sexuality 3 cr.

Prerequisites: SOC 1051 or consent of the instructor. This course examines an array of theoretical perspectives on gender relations and sexual identities. Particular emphasis will be given to the diversity of women's voices and to the intersections of gender, class, race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation.

SOC 4086/5086 Sociological Theory 3 cr.

Prerequisite: nine hours in sociology. A systematic inquiry into the origins of modern sociological thought, with emphasis on major concepts and theoretical perspectives. Offered each semester.

SOC 4094/5094 Social Change 3 cr.

A comparative study of theories and processes of social change, with emphasis on modernization, economic development, and revolution.

SOC 4098/5098 Selected Topics in Sociology 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 1051 or consent of department. Selected problems of sociological research and theory with emphasis on trends and tendencies in modern society. This course may be repeated once for credit.

SOC 4101/5101 Social Organization 3 cr.

The structure and functioning of social groups and institutions, emphasizing American society.

SOC 4103/5103 Racial Issues 3 cr.

This course introduces students to the sociology of race and ethnicity. It examines the history of race in the West through an analysis of institutional discourse and policy. It also explores current racial issues.

SOC 4104/5104 The Family 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 1051 or consent of department. An analysis of the family in social context, with emphasis on the ways in which communities and societies promote stability and change in families. Patterns of interaction among family members are also explored, together with the impact of family life on the individual's social development.

SOC 4107/5107 Sociology of Gender 3 cr.

This course examines issues of gender for men and women in society through a range of theoretically defined topics. Topics covered include the intersections of gender with race/ethnicity, class, and sexual orientation; gender role socialization, childbearing, reproductive rights, and parenting. Also included are units on gender and health, intimacy, and friendship. These topics are examined in terms of the social, economic, and political bases for gender differences.

SOC 4111/5111 Sociology of Medicine 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 1051 or consent of department. A sociological analysis of the interpersonal dynamics involved in the treatment of illness and the organizational structure and functions of health services.

SOC 4112/5112 Sociology of Mental Health 3 cr.

Prerequisite: Sociology 1051 or consent of department. A sociological analysis of mental illness including the following areas: the history of mental illness in society, etiological explanations of mental illness, epidemiology of mental illness, mental health professions, law and psychiatry, community mental health, and mental health and social policy.

SOC 4113/5113 Sociology of Aging and Death 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 1051 or consent of department. An examination of the personal, interpersonal, and cultural dimensions of aging, together with an appraisal of the meaning and consequences of death in America. While the emphasis is contemporary, some historical and cross-cultural materials are also used. Attention is drawn to personal and societal needs associated with aging and death.

SOC 4124/5124 Social Stratification 3 cr.

A study of classes, status groups, castes, and social mobility.

SOC 4150/5150 Sociology of Popular Culture 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 1051 or consent of the department. The course provides a survey of the sociology of culture, with a focus on popular culture. The emphasis is on theoretical approaches to the relationship of culture and society, the process of cultural production, and the reception of culture. The substantive focus includes the variety of meanings of film, rock music, and sport.

SOC 4161/5161 Political Sociology 3 cr.

An examination of social institutions and political ideologies under conditions of early and late modernity. Particular attention is given to the new types of social and political challenges created by globalization and such human-created risks as global climate change and bioterrorism. Additional topics include the relation between deliberative democracy and community, the continuing influence of tradition and fundamentalism, and international efforts to promote gender equity and human rights.

SOC 4180/5180 Women and Work 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 1051 or consent of the department. Topics include an overview of the status of women, market work, including labor force participation, wages and wage discrimination, occupational segregation, equal pay for work of comparable worth, and domestic work.

SOC 4216/5216 Advanced Social Psychology 3 cr.

Current theoretical and research problems in social psychology from a sociological perspective. Review of traditional areas such as socialization, perception, role attitudes, and group dynamics. Emphasis on new developments in socio- and psycho-linguistics, information theory, participation, observation, and experimental methods.

SOC 4219/5219 Social Deviance 3 cr.

A survey of theory and research on the violation of social norms and laws. Primary emphasis is on social phenomena influencing conformity and deviance, together with institutional responses to individual and group deviance.

SOC 4788/5788 Social Statistics II 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 2707 or equivalent. An exploration of intermediate level multivariate statistical techniques for analyzing sociological and other social science data. Topics include analysis of variance and co-variance, correlation, regression analysis, causal models and specialized topics in multivariate statistical methods.

SOC 4871/5871 Sociology of the Environment 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 1051, or consent of instructor. In-depth examination of the social dimensions of one to several environmental issues of contemporary relevance. Examples of the kinds of topics which will be covered include: biodiversity and species preservation; comparative cultural beliefs and values about the environment; conservation of wilderness areas and other environmental amenities; renewable energy and resource supplies; risk management; sustainable development; and technological controversies. The examined topics will be used as a venue through which to introduce students to an array of sociological concepts and theories about the human society-environmental interface.

SOC 4875/5975 Sociology of Disaster 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 1051 or consent of the instructor. The course focuses on sociological analysis of disasters of various origins in societies across the globe. It will examine how population characteristics, patterns of settlements, social structure, social inequality, socio-cultural systems, and the biophysical landscape influence how people face disasters, how they respond and cope, and the ways in which they recover. Specific emphasis is placed on group and community differences in resiliency; the question as to why certain groups or communities are able to withstand the shocks of disasters with quick recovery while others are unable to recover will be addressed. Furthermore, how disasters engender rapid social change will be explored.

SOC 4881/5881 The Urban Community 3 cr.

An analysis of the major subcommunities and subcultures to be found in any large urban complex. Special attention will be given to neighborhoods, ethnic and racial groups, suburbs, and religious and occupational subcultures.

SOC 4882/5882 Urban Issues: Planning and Social Policy 3 cr.

This course will deal with theory, policy, and methods in urban planning. It will also focus on special issues of contemporary problems, such as housing, urban renewal, and regional government.

SOC 4903/5903 Population Issues and Dynamics 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 1051 or consent of department. An examination of social demography, with emphasis on the development of the theories and methods used to examine transitions in fertility, mortality, and migration, and their impact on population growth, distribution, and composition. Other foci include the debates regarding the relationship between population growth and economic development, resource depletion, and environmental degradation, and the policy implications of the various positions taken.

SOC 4911/5911 Drugs and Society 3 cr.

This course approaches the subject of drugs from a multidisciplinary perspective, with attention given to the biological, psychological, sociological, and educational implications of drug use and abuse in American society. Special concern will be given to the analysis of the values as they relate to the development and elaboration of subcultures and countercultures whose lifestyles reflect the use of and/or dependency upon drugs.

SOC 4921/5921 Criminology 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 1051 or consent of department. An analysis of causes, consequences, and control of crime in American society. Special attention is given to the theoretical explanations of crime and the special methodological problems in studying criminal behavior.

SOC 4954/5954 Juvenile Delinquency 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 1051 or consent of department. An examination of the theoretical approaches to juvenile delinquency, alternative treatment programs, and the juvenile justice system, with primary focus on modern American society.

SOC 6096 Sociology in Applied Settings 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 6783, 6784 and consent of department. These two courses constitute a graduate internship where the graduate intern works in a public or private agency or organization a minimum of eight hours a week. The purpose is to apply sociological theory and methods to evaluate a particular problem or to assess the impact of proposed organizational changes or policies. The focus of the course is to produce an applied research paper, prepared under the direction of a graduate faculty advisor and a two-person committee. See program requirements for more details. No more than six hours in 6096-6097 may be counted for the degree, and a student may not count hours in both the 6096-6097 sequence and Sociology 7000 for the Master of Arts degree in Sociology.

SOC 6097 Sociology in Applied Settings 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 6783, 6784 and consent of department. These two courses constitute a graduate internship where the graduate intern works in a public or private agency or organization a minimum of eight hours a week. The purpose is to apply sociological theory and methods to evaluate a particular problem or to assess the impact of proposed organizational changes or policies. The focus of the course is to produce an applied research paper, prepared under the direction of a graduate faculty advisor and a two-person committee. See program requirements for more details. No more than six hours in 6096-6097 may be counted for the degree, and a student may not count hours in both the 6096-6097 sequence and Sociology 7000 for the Master of Arts degree in Sociology.

SOC 6098 Special Topics in Sociology 3 cr.

Selected topics pertinent to research and theory development in sociology are investigated with and emphasis on their relevance in contemporary society. The course may be repeated for credit.

SOC 6103 Race and Ethnicity 3 cr.

This course provides an overview of the sociology of race and ethnicity. Topics are addressed through history, theory, social policy, and current issues.

SOC 6105 Seminar: Complex Organization and Bureaucracy 3 cr.

Analysis of the characteristics of the major types of large-scale, bureaucratic organizations found in contemporary industrial society, emphasizing the special common features of human organizations which cut across the many types of organization life.

SOC 6107 Sociological Perspectives on Gender 3 cr.

Prerequisites: SOC 4086 or equivalent. This course is an advanced graduate seminar that examines a variety of theoretical perspectives in the social construction of gender and the applications of these perspectives to empirical research. Methodological issues and controversies involved in the study of gender are also explored. Throughout the course, emphasis will be placed on the impact of race, ethnicity, age, and sexual preference on gender relations.

SOC 6396 Independent Readings in Sociology 1-3 cr.

Offered each semester. Prerequisite: consent of department. Amount of credit to be determined at the time of registration. This course will consist of readings, conferences, reports, and research papers under the direction of a member of the graduate faculty. Total credit which may be accumulated in 6396, 6397, and 6398 is limited to six hours. Section number will correspond with credit to be earned.

SOC 6397 Independent Readings in Sociology 1-3 cr.

Offered each semester. Prerequisite: consent of department. Amount of credit to be determined at the time of registration. This course will consist of readings, conferences, reports, and research papers under the direction of a member of the graduate faculty. Total credit which may be accumulated in 6396, 6397, and 6398 is limited to six hours. Section number will correspond with credit to be earned.

SOC 6398 Independent Readings in Sociology 1-3 cr.

Offered each semester. Prerequisite: consent of department. Amount of credit to be determined at the time of registration. This course will consist of readings, conferences, reports, and research papers under the direction of a member of the graduate faculty. Total credit which may be accumulated in 6396, 6397, and 6398 is limited to six hours. Section number will correspond with credit to be earned.

SOC 6573 Social Psychology 3 cr.

(SOC 6573 and PSYC 6400 are cross-listed) Prerequisite: consent of department. Analysis of the relationship between human behavior and social context, emphasizing the impact of social forces on social action and cognition. Topics include theoretical paradigms in social psychology, language use and interaction, small groups, self and identities, collective behavior, attitudes and behavior. Critical analysis of existing theory and research methodology will be considered for each topic.

SOC 6783 Advanced Sociological Theory 3 cr.

Prerequisite: SOC 4086. A critical and analytical study of the major theoretical perspectives in contemporary sociology emphasizing the specific concepts and issues as well as ways these theories have shaped and guided social research.

SOC 6784 Methods of Sociological Investigation 3 cr.

A study of the principle methods of social science research with the purpose of developing students' ability to conduct research and be critical users of professional research.

SOC 6785 Seminar in Research Applications 3 cr.

Prerequisites: SOC 4788 6783 and 6784 or consent of department. The course provides graduate students advanced instruction in research design and analysis. It examines the types of validity claimed by sociological knowledge, covers research design and analytical methods, and culminates in a specific thesis proposal from each student.

SOC 6788 Qualitative Methods in Sociology 3 cr.

This course examines qualitative research methods in sociology, focusing on participant and nonparticipant observation, in-depth interviewing, and the use of documents as data. Attention is paid to the sociological analysis of qualitative data and how qualitative research is written for publication.

SOC 6813 Urban Sociology 3 cr.

An overview of theory and research on urban issues from a sociological perspective.

SOC 6814 Seminar in Sociology of Development 3 cr.

This course offers advanced instruction in the sociology of development using a comparative cross-national perspective. It examines various theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of societal development, as well as the implications of diverse development strategies for developed and underdeveloped countries. The social, institutional, and historical factors and processes affecting national development will be addressed.

SOC 6816 Seminar on Sexualities 3 cr.

This course studies the sociological study of sexuality. Topics covered include theories of sexuality, sexual bodies, sexual identities and communities, sexual politics and social institutions.

SOC 6871 Environmental Analysis 3 cr.

Prerequisite: URBN 6850 or consent of coordinators. An investigation of environmental problems from a sociological perspective, with an emphasis on environmental analysis, management, and policy.

SOC 7000 Thesis Research 1-9 cr.

Offered each semester. To be repeated for credit until thesis is accepted. Section number will correspond with credit to be earned.

SOC 7040 Examination or Thesis Only No credit 0 cr.

Open to students in a thesis program who have only (other than application for degree) the final typing and acceptance by the Graduate School of their thesis or dissertation or to students in a non-thesis program who have only (other than application for degree) to pass the final examination to complete graduation requirements.