SOCIOLGY MAJOR (B.A.)

https://cola.unh.edu/sociology/program/ba/sociology

Description

Majoring in sociology provides a solid, multifaceted foundation in the liberal arts, including analytical thinking and writing, and skills in collecting and analyzing data. Students learn diverse theoretical approaches to the social world and acquire tools for conducting and understanding social science research. The wide range of substantive areas taught in the UNH Department of Sociology include courses concentrating on family and work, environmental sociology; social policy; inequalities of race, class and gender; criminology, social control and deviant behavior; medical sociology; and religion.

Undergraduate training in sociology is an excellent background for a variety of careers, including the business world, where majors might work in marketing and sales or human resources; government and nonprofit services, where majors might work in education, health services, social welfare or criminal justice; and research. An undergraduate degree in sociology is also excellent preparation for graduate work in law, social work, criminal justice, counseling, public administration, public health, business administration, urban planning or further studies in sociology.

To declare a major in sociology, students must have completed at least one introductory-level sociology course with a grade of C or better. New students who declare the major upon admission to UNH must enroll in SOC 400 Introductory Sociology during their first semester and earn a grade of C to maintain status in the program.

Conjoint minors (allowing double-counting of one or two courses) are available for justice studies; gerontology; American studies; race and ethnic studies; women’s and gender studies; and other approved minors. Students also have the opportunity to pursue a second major, including justice studies. Students interested in social work or teaching can develop programs in conjunction with the appropriate departments. The departmental honors program is recommended for students with cumulative grade-point averages over 3.4, and especially for those anticipating graduate study.

Requirements

Majors must complete a minimum of 40 semester credits in sociology courses with grades of C- or better in each course and a GPA of 2.0 or better in sociology courses.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 400</td>
<td>Introductory Sociology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 402</td>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 599</td>
<td>Sociological Analysis</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 601</td>
<td>Methods of Social Research</td>
<td>4</td>
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Discovery Program Capstone Requirement:

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 595</td>
<td>Independent Reading and Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 601</td>
<td>Methods of Social Research</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
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Total Credits 40

1 SOC 599 Sociological Analysis must be completed no later than the junior year and is a prerequisite for majors taking 600- and 700-level courses.

2 Both SOC 402 Statistics and SOC 599 Sociological Analysis are prerequisites for SOC 601 Methods of Social Research.

3 Complete SOC 611 Sociological Theory during senior year.

Sociology Language Requirement

Candidates for a degree must satisfy all of the University Discovery Program requirements in addition to satisfying the requirements of each individual major program. B.A. candidates must also satisfy the foreign language proficiency requirement.

Students interested in majoring in sociology should consult with the chair of the undergraduate committee in the sociology department for guidance. It is the responsibility of all sociology majors to obtain the latest information from the department office.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Outcome 1**: Students will learn to articulate and evaluate how individual biographies are shaped by social structures, social institutions, cultural norms, and multiple dimensions of social stratification and inequality. (Sociological imagination)
- **Outcome 2**: Students will learn to analyze and evaluate multiple and competing arguments about high-profile social, political, and cultural current events; distinguish between evidence and opinions; and use reason and data to advance an argument. (Critical thinking)
- **Outcome 3**: Students will learn to use, evaluate, and apply classical and contemporary theoretical perspectives to historical and contemporary events. (Sociological theory)
- **Outcome 4**: Students will learn how to generate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data in a value-neutral way. (Data analysis)
- **Outcome 5**: Students will learn how to interpret and evaluate several of the major social science research methodologies, as well as the relationship between research questions and appropriate methods. (Research methods)
• Outcome 6: Students will learn to effectively communicate a sociological perspective both in writing and verbally. (Communication skills)

• Outcome 7: Students will learn to understand how people of different cultural, racial, ethnic, sex, gender, religious, and political identities interpret the world around them. (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion)

• Outcome 8: Students will learn to work effectively and respectfully with people of different backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives. (Collaboration)