SOCIETY (SOC)

Sociology is the study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Sociologists investigate the structure of groups, organizations, and societies, and how people interact within these contexts.

Since human behavior is shaped by social factors, the subject matter of sociology ranges from the intimate family to the hostile mob; from organized crime to religious cults; from the divisions of race, gender, and social class to the shared beliefs of a common culture.

https://cola.unh.edu/sociology

Programs

- Sociology Major (B.A.) (http://catalog.unh.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/programs-study/sociology/sociology-major-ba)
- Sociology Minor (http://catalog.unh.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/programs-study/sociology/sociology-minor)

Courses

Sociology (SOC)

SOC 400 - Introductory Sociology
Credits: 4
Overview of sociology as the scientific study of human social and cultural relationships. Social theory, methods and techniques of research, and current research findings on a wide range of social issues.
Attributes: Social Science (Discovery)

SOC 400H - Honors/Introductory Sociology
Credits: 4
Overview of sociology as the scientific study of human social and cultural relationships. Social theory, methods and techniques of research, and current research findings on a wide range of social issues. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Social Science (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

SOC 400W - Introductory Sociology
Credits: 4
Overview of sociology as the scientific study of human social and cultural relationships. Social theory, methods and techniques of research, and current research findings on a wide range of social issues. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Social Science (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

SOC 440A - Honors/Drug Addiction in American Society
Credits: 4
This course will introduce students to interdisciplinary topics in the study of drug addiction, drug panics, and the U.S. war on drugs. It will draw on scholarly and journalistic research to consider sociological theories, methods, and data gathering techniques in the study of addiction, and it will explore ways in which individuals create, interact with, and are shaped by social groups and institutions, including those associated with politics, health, economics, family, and the legal system.
Attributes: Social Science (Discovery)

SOC 444A - Society in the Arctic
Credits: 4
Introduction to societies of the far North today, from Alaska and Canada through Greenland, Iceland, northern Scandinavia and Russia. Reviews interconnected issues of social change, environment, sustainable development, local control, and modernization vs. traditions. Arctic dilemmas highlight some basic questions facing all societies in the 21st century. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Environment, TechSociety (Disc); Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

SOC 502 - Statistics
Credits: 4
Elementary applied statistical techniques; tables, graphs, cross-classifications; central tendency and dispersion; correlation and linear regression; confidence intervals and hypothesis testing. Other statistical classes including ADM 430, BIOL 528, ADMN 420, EREC 525, HHS #540, MATH 439, MATH 539, OHIL 412, MATH 644, PSYC 402 cannot be used to satisfy the major requirement. This is, all majors must take SOC 502 even if they have taken an introductory statistics course in another department. A student can, however, petition to receive eight credits for two introductory statistics courses, if and only if, SOC 502 is taken after the student became a sociology major and took their first statistics course prior to declaring SOC as their major. Majors cannot receive credit for statistics courses taken after they have declared SOC.
Attributes: Quantitative Reasoning (Disc)

SOC 502H - Honors/Statistics
Credits: 4
Elementary applied statistical techniques; tables, graphs, cross-classifications; central tendency and dispersion; correlation and linear regression; confidence intervals and hypothesis testing. No credit for students who have completed ADM 430, BIOL 528, ADMN 420, EREC 525, HHS #540, MATH 439, MATH 539, MATH 644, PSYC 402, but petitions for acceptance of such courses to fulfill the sociology major requirement in statistics will be entertained.
Attributes: Quantitative Reasoning (Disc)

SOC 515 - Introductory Criminology
Credits: 4
Introduces the scientific study of crime. Reviews the different forms of criminal behavior, theories of crime, and strategies of crime control.

SOC 520 - Family
Credits: 4
Sociological study of marriage and the family in American society. Following a life-cycle approach, topics include gender roles, communication and conflict, dating and mate selection, work and family economics, the transition to parenthood, middle- and late-life family, divorce, and remarriage.

SOC 525 - Juvenile Crime and Delinquency
Credits: 4
Crime, violence, and the criminal justice system as it affects children and youth in the role of both perpetrators and victims.

SOC 535 - Homicide
Credits: 4
Introduces to theory and research in homicide studies, including a review of the origins of and social responses to homicide.
SOC 540 - Contemporary Social Problems
Credits: 4
This course introduces students to the study of major social problems in contemporary society, including poverty, discrimination, inequality, crime, violence, and environmental degradation. Explores how and why people come to view certain social conditions as problematic. Also explores the consequences of and possible solutions to contemporary social problems. This course fulfills the requirement in the Social Science category of UNH's Discovery Program.
Attributes: Social Science (Discovery)

SOC 545 - Sexualized Violence
Credits: 4
Students examine the spectrum of sexualized violence in contemporary society. Topics include theoretical and methodological issues inherent in researching gender-based violence in the U.S. and in Europe. Students study sexualized violence in historical context, with particular attention to war, conflict, and military settings as well as examples of the impact of sexualized violence in everyday life. Finally, we explore how the pornography industry normalizes sexualized violence.

SOC 555 - Environment and Society
Credits: 4
Environmental and Society focuses on the complex interactions between human communities and the natural world. The course considers the interconnected ways that social systems, the built environment, and related technologies produce environmental changes, and in turn how shifts in resources, air, water quality, climate, biodiversity, and ecosystems force societies to adapt. This course fulfills the Environment, Technology, and Society category of UNH's Discovery Program.
Attributes: Environment, TechSociety (Disc)

SOC 570 - Sexual Behavior
Credits: 4
This course approaches sexuality as a social phenomenon. We examine variability in sexual practices, sexual identities, and sexual behaviors throughout history, across cultures, and throughout the life course of individuals. Particularly, we focus on the social control of sexuality and the extent to which sexualities are socially constructed. We consider the media and other cultural influences on a diverse range of sexual experiences and take a straightforward, non-stigmatizing approach to tackling controversial issues.

SOC 595 - Independent Reading and Research
Credits: 2-8
Independent study of advanced or specialized topics in sociology requiring extensive reading and writing. Before registering, students must develop a project in consultation with a faculty supervisor and submit a proposal to the undergraduate committee. Prereq: 12 sociology credits and permission.

SOC 597 - Special Topics
Credits: 4
Occasional or experimental offerings. May be repeated for different topics.

SOC 599 - Sociological Analysis
Credits: 4
Basic skills essential to sociological study, including: development of critical reading skills; evaluation of theory construction and evidence; analysis of classic and contemporary works, research, writing, and use of library resources. To be taken by sociology majors no later than the junior year. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

SOC 601 - Methods of Social Research
Credits: 4
Overview of major research methods: survey analysis, personal interview, participant observation, content analysis, and experimental design. Each student designs and completes a research project. Prereq: SOC 502 or equivalent; juniors and seniors only. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

SOC 611 - Sociological Theory
Credits: 4
Analysis of the origins and development of sociological theory. Includes the classical works of Marx, Weber, and Durkheim and their connections to the major strands of present day research. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

SOC 620 - Drugs and Society
Credits: 4
Provides students with an overview of drug using behavior as viewed from a sociological perspective. Highlights historical and current drug use trends, examines the social correlates of drug use, considers societal responses to drug use including treatment, prevention, and policy, and engages students in key controversial debates confronting U.S. citizens and policymakers. Provides a foundation for understanding of drugs and society.

SOC 625 - Mental Health and Society
Credits: 4
This course introduces students to sociological approaches for studying and understanding mental health and illness in society. With an Emphasis on the importance of social stress, we examine the distribution of mental illness in the United States and identify the factors that help to explain mental health differences across social roles and statuses.

SOC 630 - Sociology of Gender
Credits: 4
Gender examined as (1) socially constructed differences between the sexes, and (2) a system of social relations, which are part of the fabric of our social institutions. Topics include gender socialization, gender and education, gender and employment, and work-family intersections. Attention paid to the issue of gender inequalities and to the intersection of class, culture, race-ethnicity, age, and sexual orientation with gendered experience and gendered institutions. Focuses primarily on the contemporary United States.

SOC #635 - Medical Sociology
Credits: 4
Health and Illness are considered as a sociocultural phenomenon. Meanings are attached to health and illness as they are influenced by our social values and our cultural beliefs, which to a large degree are influenced by available medical technologies. People's experiences of health and illness are shaped by a range of social factors (e.g., race, class, gender) and follow clear patterns of social inequality. A critical approach is taken to examine topics such as the social determinants of health, illness and healthcare; the social construction of illness; the medicalization of society; and the social organization of health care.
SOC 635W - Medical Sociology
Credits: 4
Health and Illness are considered as a sociocultural phenomenon. Meanings are attached to health and illness as they are influenced by our social values and our cultural beliefs, which to a large degree are influenced by available medical technologies. People's experiences of health and illness are shaped by a range of social factors (e.g., race, class, gender) and follow clear patterns of social inequality. A critical approach is taken to examine topics such as the social determinants of health, illness and healthcare; the social construction of illness; the medicalization of society; and the social organization of health care. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

SOC 640 - Religion
Credits: 4
The continuing significance of religion in society is a central area of sociological inquiry. Examines the historical and cultural explanations for the persistence of religion and apply diverse sociological perspectives to explaining the personal, institutional, and cultural relevance of religion with a focus on contemporary American society. Topics studied include religious authority, identity, violence, and the impact of religion on various domains of social life including gender relations, family, politics, and economy. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

SOC 645 - Class, Status and Power
Credits: 4
Focuses on the major dimensions of inequality, including class, gender, and race, by exploring the distribution of economic, political, and social resources within contemporary societies.

SOC 655 - Sociology of Law and Justice
Credits: 4
Systematic study of how social factors, such as inequality, differentiation, culture, and organization, influence the justice process. Historical and cross-cultural focus on the behavior of the police, courts, and other legal institutions. Prereq: SOC 515 or permission; juniors and seniors only.

SOC 656 - Environmental Sociology
Credits: 4
Interactions between society and the physical environment, including environmental constraints, population and economic growth, social impacts of resource development, large-scale environmental change, and the social bases of environmental attitudes, behavior, and politics. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

SOC 665 - Environmental Sociology
Credits: 4
Interactions between society and the physical environment, including environmental constraints, population and economic growth, social impacts of resource development, large-scale environmental change, and the social bases of environmental attitudes, behavior, and politics. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

SOC 670 - Urban Sociology
Credits: 4
Focuses on urban communities, urbanization, and urban social issues. Covers the historical development of cities; the differences between urban, suburban, and rural communities; urban life styles; and the significance of poverty and race for understanding contemporary American cities. Emphasizes American cities, with some consideration to world patterns of urbanization and the growth, development, and role of global cities. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
SOC 730 - Sociology of the Environment
Credits: 4
Introduces graduate students to the major theoretical literature in human geography and community development. Covers the social and ecological challenges facing communities around the world, including urbanization, economic development, and political change. Students study theoretical and empirical approaches to understanding the relationships between social and environmental conditions in different contexts.
SOC 773 - Childhood and Social Policy
Credits: 4
Exposes students to a variety of sociological perspectives about childhood in American society. Stimulates analysis about how social institutions, like the modern family, school, economic system, justice system and communications media affect children. Assumes prior understanding of important sociological concepts, critical thinking skills and social science writing ability. Permission required. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

SOC 780 - Social Conflict
Credits: 4
Analysis of the social conditions associated with the major forms of conflict management in human societies: discipline, rebellion, vengeance, negotiation, mediation, law, therapy, supernaturalism, and avoidance. Permission required. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

SOC 788 - Advanced Medical Sociology
Credits: 4
This course is intended to provide an in-depth introduction to the major theoretical frameworks of medical sociology and empirical research examining social factors that influence individual’s health and illness. We will take a critical approach in our examination of: the distribution of health and illness (by socioeconomic status, sex/gender, and race/ethnicity); medicalization and social control; and the social construction of health and illness. Most of the learning in this course will take place through shared facilitation of class discussions based on the reading. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

SOC 792 - Internship Independent Study
Credits: 2-8
Provides upper level sociology majors with an opportunity to apply what they have learned in the classroom to the real world. This will provide the opportunity for students to work individually with a faculty member on an Internship with the option of variable credit. There is no formal class time required. Students will arrange meetings with supervising faculty to plan assigned readings, update internship progress and complete semester projects. Project ideas are developed with faculty and internship site supervisor. Permission required.

SOC 793 - Internship
Credits: 4
Provides upper level sociology majors with an opportunity to apply what they have learned in the classroom to the real world. Students meet weekly to discuss assigned readings, internship progress and semester project. Project ideas are developed with faculty and internship site supervisor. Permission required.

SOC 794 - Evaluation Research
Credits: 4
This course is designed to cover major methodological and practical issues in the field of evaluation research, including the definition and meaning of evaluation; the purposes of evaluation; the design and conduct of evaluation studies; evidence-based policy writing; and the uses of evaluation results. This is an advanced undergraduate-level and graduate-level course. The prerequisite for the course is successful coursework in methods of research and statistical analysis.

SOC 797 - Special Topics
Credits: 4
Occasional or experimental offerings. May be repeated for different topics. Permission required. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

Faculty
https://cola.unh.edu/sociology/people