



*Handbook
for
Majors in Sociology*

*General Information
Advising
Major Requirements
Career Information*

WELCOME TO THE SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Sociology majors seek to understand how the world works and their place in it, and to their potential for shaping that world. While sociologists may study large social structures such as institutions, social classes, societies, and world systems, we also explore the more localized structures that shape individuals place and experience in the world, including roles, statuses, and groups. We encourage students to examine the major organizing principles that contribute to shaping our social identities, including “race” and ethnicity, class, gender, age, and sexual orientation. We invite students to investigate how people may challenge, resist, alter, or preserve and protect their world and their place in it. And while we may not provide students with a handbook of easy solutions to social problems, we do teach students how to ask the difficult questions, to dig beneath the obvious, and to search for the multiple layers of social meaning.

Sociology majors find their skills sought after in fields as diverse as social and human services (both in for-profit and non-profit organizations), criminal justice agencies, health care administration, marketing, advertising, management, government, public policy, urban planning, teaching, and law.

Declaring a Major

Students can declare their major at <http://ppc.uconn.edu>. If you wish to declare a double major or additional degree, please see Katherine Covey, in room 114 of Manchester Hall (the Sociology Department office). She will be able to provide information, help with paperwork and assign you to an advisor. She can also help students with independent study forms, add-drop forms and other related matters. She is usually in the office between 8:00 – 4:00 (closed 12:00-1:00 p.m.) and no appointment is necessary.

Online Resources

The department web site provides general information about requirements, courses, and contact information for department faculty and staff. The department also has a Facebook page, which gives reminders about upcoming deadlines and information about events of interest. Majors also have access to the department site on HuskyCT.

Your Faculty Advisor

Majors in sociology are assigned to a faculty advisor in the department of Sociology. Students are free to request a particular faculty advisor or to request a change of advisor. We meet these requests insofar as professors’ advisory loads allow. In addition to making suggestions of courses during each registration period and meeting with you to talk about your academic and career goals, your sociology advisor is the one who approves the “related courses” necessary for your major and the only one who may sign your final PLAN OF STUDY. Although you may continue to get course advice from others (e.g., your prior advisor or a counseling program), only your advisor can approve your final PLAN OF STUDY for a major in sociology. You need to get to know your advisor. Before going to see your advisor, it is always a good idea to make an appointment. E-mail or phone your advisor or stop by to set up an appointment. Your faculty advisor will meet and talk with you about such things as:

- Making your academic and vocational plans
- Selecting courses appropriate to your plans
- Helping with various academic problems
- Suggesting suitable graduate schools and programs

See your advisor every semester. **At registration time your advisor must raise your advising bar before you can register for courses.**

Your preliminary PLAN OF STUDY should be worked out with your faculty advisor at preregistration for the fifth semester. This is just for planning purposes; you are not required to follow it exactly. The FINAL PLAN OF STUDY must be filed with the Registrar no later than the end of the fourth week of the semester in which you

expect to graduate. The PLAN OF STUDY form is available outside the departmental office. If you are not sure which PLAN OF STUDY is correct for you, ask Katherine Covey.

Requirements for Sociology Majors

All sociology majors must complete **Sociology 1001 (Introduction to Sociology), 1251 (Social Problems), 1501 (Race, Class, and Gender) or 1701 (Society in Global Perspective)** before Sociology 3201, 3211Q and 3251. We strongly recommend taking one of these 1000 level courses before your Junior year. In addition, students must complete **24 credits in 2000-4000 level sociology courses** including 3201, 3211, and 3251. Students must have a grade point average of 2.0 or better in these 24 credits. It is expected that advanced course work in the major will be completed in residence.

In addition to the 24 credits in 2000-4000 level sociology courses, you must have **12 credits in “related” courses** in other departments. 2000+ courses from African American Studies, Asian American Studies, Anthropology, Economics, History, HDFS, Human Rights, Judaic Studies, Political Science, Psychology, Puerto Rican and Latino Studies, and Women’s Studies will automatically be counted as related (except those that are cross-listed with Sociology). With your advisor’s permission, relevant courses from other departments may also be counted as related.

The major requirements depend on the PLAN OF STUDY that applies to you. *Your PLAN OF STUDY is determined by your date of entry to the College of Liberal Arts and Science—that is, the year you first declared a major in CLAS (even if your first major was not sociology).*

If you entered in Catalog Year 2005 or after, you must complete:

1. *Three required courses:*

Soci 3201	Research Methods
Soci 3211Q	Quantitative Methods in Social Research
Soci 3251	Social Theory

Note that 3201 is a prerequisite for 3211Q. An exception to the rule of three required courses: If you have taken PSYC 2100QW, you may substitute it for Sociology 3211Q and take an additional sociology course at the 2000 level or above.

2. *One Course from this list of inequality, diversity and change courses:*

Soci 2827, Soci 3221, Soci 3222, Soci 3421, Soci 3429, Soci 3501, Soci 3503, Soci 3505, Soci 3511, Soci 3601, Soci 3621, Soci 3701, Soci 3703, Soci 3801, Soci 3821, Soci 3825, Soci 3905

3. *Four additional 2000- 4000 level Sociology courses, i.e., 12 credits (no more than 3 credits from Sociology 3990/3991).*

If you entered in catalog year 2001-2004 , please see Katherine Covey in room 114

Honors Program

The department has a strong and supportive Honors Program for juniors and seniors. The Honors Program allows students more individualized contact with faculty and greater academic challenge. Students must take four honors courses during their last two years, and must write an honors thesis. Sophomores (Juniors can sometimes be included) with a 3.4 grade point average (3.2 for students following the 2007-08 Undergraduate Catalog or earlier) who are not currently in the Honors Program should speak with Prof. Richard Rockwell, the Honors Advisor in Sociology.

Advice for Majors Who Plan Graduate Study in Sociology & Related Areas

Students who are considering graduate school in sociology or related fields are encouraged to take at least one graduate seminar. Graduate schools often look favorably upon the successful completion of a graduate course as evidence of your ability to perform graduate-level work. Participation in these seminars also gives you close academic contact with a graduate faculty member, who is then in a better position to write letters of recommendation for you. To register for a graduate course, you must have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.67 and get a permission number from the instructor. Talk to your advisor about potential graduate courses.

Janet M. Fierberg Scholarship

Sociology majors are encouraged to apply for the Fierberg Scholarship. Scholarships of at least \$1000 are awarded annually to outstanding students planning further study in sociology or a career in social work. Selection is based on academic standing, future professional promise, and financial need. Ask Katherine Covey katherine.covey@uconn.edu for details on how to apply, or see the Sociology web site. The scholarship application process is announced in March/April.

Library Resources

For an overview of the resources provided by the library system for sociology students, see: <http://classguides.lib.uconn.edu/soci>.

Career Services

The Career Services Office is located in Wilbur Cross. For more information for sociology majors, go to: http://www.career.UConn.edu/majors_sociology.html. For a list of possible internships please go to <http://www.internship.UConn.edu>.

Department of Sociology Faculty and Their Areas of Interest

Maya Beasley	Racial and Ethnicity, Social Movements, and Stratification
Claudio Benzecry	Social Theory and Sociology of Culture
Mary Bernstein	Social Movements, Sexuality, Gender
Ruth Braunstein*	Sociology of Culture, Political Sociology, Social Movements, Religion
Noel Cazenave*	Poverty & Inequality, Social Movements
Simon Cheng	Race and Ethnicity, Education, Family, Quantitative
Andrew Deener	Urban Sociology, Sociology of Culture, Ethnography
Manisha Desai	Collective Behavior/Social Movements, Gender, Globalization
Susan Eisenhandler*	Stratification (Waterbury Campus)
Mary Fischer	Race, Demography, Quantitative Methods
Davita Silfen Glasberg*	Political Sociology, Economic Sociology
Lynne Goodstein*	Women and Crime, Women's Studies and Education
Elizabeth Holzer	Political Sociology, Human Rights, Gender, Law and Society
Matthew Hughey*	Race and Ethnicity, Qualitative Methodology, Social Psychology
Ralph McNeal, Jr.	Education, Quantitative Methods, Adolescence
Nancy Naples	Gender, Inequality in the State, Public Policy
Jeremy Pais	Race and Ethnicity, Immigration, Demography, Stratification, Urban Sociology
Kim Price-Glynn*	Qualitative Methods, Gender, Family, Sexuality, Health (Hartford Campus)
Bandana Purkayastha*	Gender/Race, Transnational Processes
Kathryn Strother Ratcliff	Sociology of Health, Women & Health
Daisy Reyes*	Social Movements, Latino Politics, Class and Inequality, Gender & Sexuality
Richard Rockwell	Urban Sociology, Demography
Michael Wallace	Political Economy, Work & Labor Markets
David Weakliem	Political Sociology, Public Opinion, Quantitative Methods
Daniel Winchester*	Sociological and Cultural Theory, Religion, Qualitative Methods
Bradley Wright	Social Problems, Criminology, Deviance

* Not accepting advisees from Storrs at this time [current]

NOTE: Faculty e-mails can be found on the UConn web site by entering the faculty name into the Phone Directory search box.

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