

Department of Sociology

General Interest Courses

Students with a general interest in sociology are invited to enroll in one or more of the courses offered. Students should plan to take SOCI 1006 first, since this is normally a prerequisite for other sociology courses.

Minor in Sociology

SOCI 1006: Introduction to Sociology AND SOCI 2013: Research Design & Methods OR SOCI 2023: Understanding Statistics and 9 credit hours in any sociology courses.

Major in Sociology

Students majoring in sociology require a total of 36 credit hours in Sociology, including the following required courses:

- SOCI 1006 Introduction to Sociology
- SOCI 2013 Research Design & Methods
- SOCI 2023 Understanding Statistics
- SOCI 2033 Classical Sociological Theory
- SOCI 3023 Contemporary Sociological Theory
- SOCI 4013 Senior Seminar

Honours in Sociology

The Honours program is designed to provide students with an opportunity to engage in independent sociological research under supervision. Completion of the Honours program is the normal preparation for graduate school. Normally, students must have a grade point average of B+ in sociology courses to enter the Honours program. Application for admission to the Honours program in sociology should be directed to the Chair of Sociology. Students honouring in Sociology require a total of 48 credit hours in sociology, including the following required courses:

- SOCI 1006 Introduction to Sociology
- SOCI 2013 Research Design & Methods
- SOCI 2023 Understanding Statistics
- SOCI 2033 Classical Sociological Theory
- SOCI 3023 Contemporary Sociological Theory
- SOCI 3033 Seminar in Research Strategies (recommended)
- SOCI 4006 Honours Thesis
- SOCI 4023 Honours Workshop
- SOCI 4033 Advanced Sociological Theory

To earn an Honours degree, a student must obtain a minimum 3.0 grade point average on 48 credit hours of sociology courses including the required courses, and a minimum B grade on

Course Numbers

Guide to numbering system:

- 1000s introduction – open to students with no prior credits in sociology
- 2000s open to students who have 6 credit hours in sociology at 1000 level
- 3000s open to students who have 6 credit hours in sociology at 2000 level
- 4000s open to students who have completed required courses for the Major in sociology – specifically SOCI 2013, SOCI 2023, SOCI 2033 and SOCI 3023
- Last digits represent number of credit hours for the course
- Students who do not have the number of credit hours in sociology required for senior courses, may be admitted at the discretion of the instructor.

SOCI-1006. Introduction to Sociology

A survey course that introduces students to the discipline of sociology with particular reference to Canadian Society. This course examines theories and research concerning the nature of social order and conflict in industrial society; the relations between important structures or elements of society, including the economy, family, education, religion, complex organizations, racial and ethnic groups, and the dynamics of social change. Several major theoretical approaches in sociology are compared throughout the course.

SOCI-2013. Research Design & Methods (NATI)

An introduction to the main research approaches used in sociology. The course includes practical experience in developing a research program by considering research question development, research design, methods of data collection, research ethics and data analysis. Of particular interest are the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches.

SOCI-2023. Understanding Statistics (NATI)

Statistics are used and misused by social scientists, policy makers, and the media to describe the social world. Sociologists use statistics to understand social inequality and examine relations of power. In this course you examine the use and meaning of statistics in sociology, social policy and popular media to increase your ability to differentiate dodgy statistics from valid evidence. Note: To fulfill requirements for the Minor, Major or Honours in sociology, students may take this course or any other statistics course.

SOCI-2033. Classical Sociological Theory

A study of the classical tradition in sociological thought focussing on those theorists whose ideas constitute the foundation of contemporary sociological analysis. This will include a consideration of the work of Marx, Weber, Durkheim, among others.

SOCI-2106. Canadian Society

The purpose of this course is to give the student an understanding of the operation and functioning of the society in which we live. The configuration of Canadian institutions is analyzed in terms of their historical patterns of development.

SOCI-2116. Sociology of Atlantic Canada

This course is designed as an introduction to the sociological study of Atlantic Canada. The first term focuses on the development of the Maritimes and Newfoundland from mercantile societies to under-developed regions within the centralized Canadian economy. The second term focuses on the contemporary structure, problems, and issues of Atlantic Canadian society.

SOCI-2123. Introduction to Sociology of Globalization

Introduction to Sociology of Globalization explores social conditions characterized by global economic, political, cultural, and environmental interconnections and flows that cross existing political borders. Therefore, it challenges our existing conceptualization of an international world of borders and nation states. The course explores the concept of globalization and its relevance to our lives. Types of empirical topics covered include contemporary global inequalities; environmental problems; transnational communities and families; transnational migration; the effect of globalization on gender, race, ethnicity, and religion; transnational social movements; and the women's movement. Prerequisites: SOCI-1006. Introduction to Sociology or instructor's permission.

SOCI-2143. Interaction and Everyday Conduct

Studies in conversation analysis show that in their everyday human interaction people fine-tune their actions in co-ordination with others. Using practical, everyday reasoning, the members of society produce and sustain the ongoing orderly details of everyday life. The course will teach students to identify and analyze how people orient to and build up the numerous micro-structures of social interaction that make up daily life in the family, amongst friends, at work, in medical encounters, in the media, and in other institutions in society. Materials will be drawn from published observations, recordings and transcripts of everyday human interaction. Students will be taught how to begin making their own empirical observations and analyses. Controversies about the influence of social structure and social context on interaction will be examined.

SOCI-2213. Society and Ecology (ENVS)

This course is an introduction to the sociological study of environmental problems and the issues they raise, using C. Wright Mills' notion of the TEMC /SptC. es8nbs1teSacSociety and Ecology (ENVS)

equality - particularly social class, gender and race - intersect. One section of the course may have a service learning requirement, where students engage in volunteer work in the community, and then reflect upon their experiences through reading, writing, and discussion.

SOCI-2423. Social Problems I - Sociological Perspectives (GEND)

The various perspectives used by sociologists to examine social problems will be described and evaluated. Concrete social problems will be used as examples of these perspectives.

SOCI-2433. Social Problems II - Canadian Social Problems (GEND)

Several current Canadian social problems will be examined from the perspectives used in SOCI 2423. These problems include: poverty, minorities, Canadian identity, the effects of urbanization, and technology, etc. Prerequisite: SOCI 2423.

SOCI-3033. Seminar in Research Strategies

This course helps students learn what original research entails from its initial conception to its completion. It highlights the techniques and strategies successful researchers use to develop their research questions; select an appropriate research design and data collection method(s); meet university research ethics requirements; ensure the research is socially relevant and completed in a timely manner. Students are expected to design a research project and write a proposal outlining their plans. This exercise allows students to gain an appreciation of the research design process and the components of research. For some students the proposal will be the initial work towards an honours thesis; for others it will be a model for the preparation and planning of research in other courses or outside academia. After taking the course students should feel prepared to undertake research projects in any academic, government, research, or policy setting.

SOCI-3043. Qualitative Research Methods

This course is intended for 3rd-year Honours students who are considering using qualitative analysis in the research for their Honours thesis. It will address theoretical foundations of qualitative analysis, research ethics for qualitative researchers, and provide hands-on experience in developing a research question and collecting and analyzing data using basic qualitative techniques including observation, in-depth interviewing, and unobtrusive measures.

SOCI-3113. Political Sociology

The focus of this course is on the type of political system known as liberal democracy. Particular emphasis is placed on the historical genesis of liberal democracy, on its structural dynamics, and on the role of the working class within the system. The examination includes an analysis of the sources of stability and cleavage governing the development of liberal democracies. Finally, the functioning of liberal democracies is contrasted with that of communist political systems.

SOCI-3123. Social Movements, Social Activism & Social Change

This course explores conceptual, theoretical and methodological understandings of social movements and activism as an organized way of effecting social change. It also examines a series of historical and contemporary case studies within Canadian and global contexts. Students analyze social movements or activism for social change in their local and/or global communities.

SOCI-3133. Sociology of Work

The sociology of work studies the changing nature of work from pre-industrial to contemporary times. It is concerned with how our work activities and occupations shape our everyday lives, how work is gendered and the implication of technological innovation on individual workers and societal processes. Different forms of work, occupational hierarchies and social relations of production are key themes explored within this course.

SOCI-3153. Sociology of War

The sociology of war explores organized mass violence across societal boundaries. Topics include the rise of the military-industrial complex, cultures of militarism, the political economy of war in the context of global struggles to control resources, and the active practices that militarize religious and ethnic identities, moralize political and economic conflicts, and impose dominant justifications onto the conduct of war.

SOCI-3173. Women and Education

With the rise of neo-conservative governments in Canada, we see changes in schooling and

higher education due to the restructuring of government finances and privatization. By beginning from the standpoint of women engaged in mothering, classroom teaching, graduate studies and university teaching, this course examines the impact of re-structuring on gender, ethnicity and class in the classroom and in higher education.

SOCI-3183. Sociology, the Self & the Other

We are nearly always relating to other people, even when we are alone. In this course, we look at several aspects of this relationship between self and other, using a variety of different theories. Topics may include: Taking the attitude of the other towards yourself (Theory: Symbolic Interaction); Being intensely engaged with another person (Theory: Phenomenology) The moment-by-moment co-ordination of our activities with others (Theory: Conversation Analysis.) Presenting a version of ourselves to others (Theory: Goffman); Mourning the death of someone close to us (Theory: Deconstruction). A number of feature films engaging with the themes of the course will be viewed and analyzed. Students are encouraged to discuss popular culture and their own experiences in light of 4 (t nanc)6 (es and pr) .

SOCI-3323. Sociology of Women and Law (GEND)

This course explores the relationship of women to the state and to law. The ways in which criminal and family law influence gender relations in society are analyzed, including the implications of legal intervention and non-intervention in family relations. Sex-specific and sex-related legislation concerning such issues as sexual harassment, rape, pornography, and affirmative action, are also examined. Theoretical concepts and issues, such as the position of women within capitalism, patriarchy, sexuality and reproduction, formal and informal control, are addressed.

SOCI-3413. Employment Equity Policy and Gender Inequality at Work (GEND)

This is an advanced course on the organization of gender inequality in the labour force. It begins by studying how gender segregation is organized in the occupations of teaching, clerical work, and other professions. The course examines from a sociological perspective, the federal and provincial government policies which are aimed at the equal and fair treatment of individuals regardless of sex: pay equity legislation, employment equity programs, contractual provisions and human rights legislation on fair employment practices

SOCI-3513. Sociology of Education

This course focuses on the nature of the relationship between school systems and the

SOCI-4053. Independent Study

A program on independent study under the direction of a member of the faculty selected by the student. It is designed for students who wish to pursue an area of special interest through reading, research, and writing.

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