

## Department of Sociology

Phone: (512) 245-2113

Office: Derrick Hall 105

Fax: (512) 245-8362

Web: <http://www.soci.txstate.edu/>

### **Degree Programs Offered**

- BA, major in Sociology
- BSAS, major in Applied Sociology

### **Minors Offered**

- Sociology
- Social Gerontology
- Studies in Popular Culture

Sociology contributes both to the classic liberal arts tradition and to the practical application of the liberal arts to the world of work. The Department of Sociology provides academic advising and encourages all students considering a major in sociology to take advantage of these services. Suggested degree plans, while helpful in planning an academic schedule, should not be used in lieu of academic advising.

Sociology majors may choose the Bachelor of Arts, major in Sociology, which prepares them for professional or graduate study in the liberal arts tradition, or the Bachelor of Science in Applied Sociology, major in Applied Sociology, which provides practical research skills for students who wish to attend graduate school or to enter the work force upon graduation. The BA in sociology is a 33-hour degree for students interested in entering the professions. As such, it is a pre-professional degree that includes courses designed to prepare students for professional or graduate study. The BSAS is a 36-hour major designed for students who intend to apply sociological principles and practices in governmental and business settings. Students who are interested in collecting, analyzing, interpreting, and presenting data on a variety of social phenomena may select the BA or the BSAS.

Majors in both degree programs learn to conduct social research, to work with computers, and to enhance the practical skills of writing and analysis. Graduates enter a variety of fields, including law, management, education, the ministry, public administration, and human resource management in business, government and industrial settings.

**Bachelor of Arts**  
**Major in Sociology**

Minimum required: 120 semester hours

General Requirements:

1. Majors are required to complete SOCI 1310, 3307, 4306, 4308, and 4309.
2. The remaining 18 hours of coursework may be selected from any SOCI courses. Majors are encouraged to consult with the undergraduate academic advisor for elective course selection.
3. Sociology majors must select a minor from the list of approved minors in this catalog.
4. Nine hours of writing intensive courses (not including ENG 1310 or 1320) are required for graduation.
5. The natural science component (7-8 hours) must include at least one semester of laboratory science.
6. The social science component may not include SOCI 1310 or 3300.
7. The minimum number of hours required for a degree is 120. The number of free elective hours a student will complete depends on the number of hours a student may need to achieve the 120 and/or the 36 advanced and/or the 9 hours writing intensive required for graduation.

<b>Freshman Year</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Sophomore Year</b>	<b>Hours</b>
SOCI 1310.....	3	SOCI 3307 .....	3
COMM 1310 .....	3	SOCI elective .....	3
ENG 1310, 1320.....	6	ENG Literature (ENG 2310, 2320, 2330, 2340 2359, 2360) .....	3
US 1100.....	1	Minor .....	3
HIST 1310, 1320.....	6	Modern Language 1410, 1420.....	8
MATH 1315 or higher.....	3	POSI 2310, 2320.....	6
Natural Science Component .....	7-8	Social Science Component.....	3
PHIL 1305 or 1320.....	3		
PFW two courses.....	2		
<b>Total</b>	<b>34-35</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Junior Year</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Senior Year</b>	<b>Hours</b>
SOCI 4306.....	3	SOCI 4308, 4309 .....	6
SOCI, advanced electives .....	6	SOCI advanced electives.....	9
ART, DAN, MU, or TH 2313.....	3	Minor .....	9
Electives (as needed) .....	3		
BA Science Requirement.....	3		
Minor.....	6		
Modern Language 2310, 2320.....	6		
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>

## Bachelor of Science in Applied Sociology Major in Applied Sociology

Minimum required: 120 semester hours

### General Requirements:

1. Majors are required to complete SOCI 1310, 3307, 3318, 4306, 4308, 4309, and 4690. The remaining 12 hours coursework should be related to their occupational goals or free SOCI advanced electives. Courses should be chosen with the advice of the undergraduate academic advisor.
2. The following specialization tracks are optional. The tracks are intended as guidelines to help meet occupational goals. It is not necessary to select a specialization track: Business and Society: SOCI 3319, 3324, 3327, 3328, 3344, 3353, 3363, and 3370; Deviance and Social Control: SOCI 2320, 3321, 3325, 3327, 3343, 3344, 3347, 3348, 3349, and 3363; Sociological Practice: SOCI 2320, 3319, 3321, 3324, 3337, 3347, 3348, 3363, 3370, 3383, and 3384; Gerontology: SOCI 3319, 3337, 3338, 3363, 3383, and 3384; Applied Research: SOCI 3328, 3363, 3370, and 4332.
3. In the senior year, majors must complete a field internship (SOCI 4690) related to their applied sociological training and minor concentration. Enrollment in the internship requires completion of all other course work in the major and a Texas State GPA of 2.00, a major GPA of 2.25 and a minor GPA of 2.00.
4. The Social Science component may not include SOCI 1310 or 3300.
5. In addition to general education requirements and requirements for the BS degree, students must complete two semesters of coursework in the same foreign language (1410, 1420), and must complete one additional English sophomore literature course or Technical or Professional Writing (ENG 3303 or 3304).
6. The minimum number of hours required for a degree is 120. The number of free elective hours a student will complete depends on the number of hours a student may need to achieve the 120 and/or the 36 advanced total hours required for a degree.

Freshman Year	Hours	Sophomore Year	Hours
SOCI 1310.....	3	SOCI 3307, three hours.....	6
COMM 1310 .....	3	ENG Literature (ENG 2310, 2320, 2330, 2340 2359, 2360).....	6
ENG 1310, 1320.....	6	Modern Language 1410, 1420 .....	8
US 1100.....	1	PHIL 1305 or 1320 .....	3
HIST 1310, 1320.....	6	POSI 2310, 2320.....	6
MATH 1315 or higher.....	3	ANTH 1312, ECO 2301, 2314, GEO 1310, or PSY 1300.....	3
Natural Science Component .....	7-8	<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>
PFW two courses.....	2	<b>Senior Year</b>	<b>Hours</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	SOCI 4308, 4309 .....	6
<b>Junior Year</b>	<b>Hours</b>	Electives (as needed).....	3-9
SOCI 3318.....	3	Minor.....	9-12
SOCI 4306.....	3	SOCI 4690 (taken last semester).....	6
SOCI, advanced electives .....	9	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>
ART, DAN, MU, or TH 2313.....	3		
Electives as needed.....	6		
Minor.....	9-12		
<b>Total</b>	<b>24-30</b>		

### Minor in Sociology

A minor in Sociology consists of a minimum of 18 semester hours, including SOCI 1310 (or 3300). Twelve of the remaining 15 SOCI hours must be completed at the advanced (3000-4000) level.

### Minor in Social Gerontology

Students who desire to build on an academic base leading to further study in gerontology or to a career working with programs directly or indirectly oriented toward older persons may select social gerontology as a minor.

A minor in Social Gerontology requires 18 semester hours including 9 hours from the following core courses: SOCI 1310 (or 3300), 3383, SOWK 4320, PSY 3313.

The remaining nine hours shall be selected from the following courses: SOCI 4308, 3327, 3337, 3383, 3384; SOWK 4320; PSY 3330, 3313, 3361; REC 1320.

## Minor in Studies in Popular Culture

The Studies in Popular Culture minor is designed to acquaint students with trends in American popular culture. Techniques of research, social meanings and consequences of popular culture are the major foci of the minor.

Courses for the Studies in Popular Culture minor were selected because they deal with significant aspects of everyday life ranging from mass media through the history of cultural trends and phenomenon. The courses selected deal with subjects that both are influenced by and influence popular culture.

SOCI 3317-Popular Culture and Society is the only required course for this minor. The remaining 15 hours of advanced level courses are to be selected from the following: ANTH 3309; ENG 3309, 3326, 3329, 3331; HIST 3343, 4376, 4361; MC 3355, 4308, 4382I; POSI 4301; SOCI 3324, 3333, 3340, 3366; ARTH 4301; COMM 4307, 4321, 4322.

### Courses in Sociology (SOCI)

SOCI 1310 or 3300 is a prerequisite to all other sociology courses except SOCI 3300, 3327, 3333, and 3350.

**1310 (SOCI 1301) Introduction to Sociology.** (3-0) A survey of the basic concepts in sociology including social organization, culture, socialization, groups, and human population leading to the development of a sociological perspective of human behavior. SOCI 1310 and 3300 may not both be counted for credit.

**2320 (SOCI 1306) Social Problems.** (3-0) This course examines community problems, significant social issues, and disorganization in major social institutions in contemporary American society.

(WI) **3300 Principles of Sociology.** (3-0) Survey of the discipline of sociology, including socialization, social institutions, collective behavior, urban and community studies, demography, race relations, culture, and personality. Emphasis on basic concepts and the behavioral science approach to the study of human groups. SOCI 1310 and 3300 may not both be counted for credit.

**3307 Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences.** (3-0) The application of descriptive and inferential statistics of behavioral science data.

**3317 Popular Culture and Society.** (3-0) The content of popular culture, including movies, television, genre novels, popular music, fads and fashion, sports, contemporary folklore, festivals and celebrations, clothing and body decoration, and related cultural material, is examined and analyzed for social significance.

**3318 Applied Data Analysis.** (3-0) This course introduces the student to some of the uses of various existing statistical software packages including proper application, limitations, and interpretations of results. Prerequisites: Three hours of statistics.

**3319 Social Psychology.** (3-0) The basic course in social psychology; the nature of the individual in society; the process of socialization; the human personality; personality and social adjustment; and social interaction.

**3320 Population Dynamics.** (3-0) A study of the composition of the world's population, focusing on growth, problems, politics, and controls. (MC)

**3321 Suicide, Society, and Human Experience.** (3-0) This course will offer a systematic approach to understanding the human encounter with suicide. Issues of theoretical concern are addressed. The course draws upon current and classic sociological research.

**3324 Social Stratification.** (3-0) The study of inequality as it relates to occupational, educational, religious, political, and other social activities.

**3325 Social Deviance.** (3-0) Theoretical and descriptive analysis of the major types of deviant behavior.

**3327 Multicultural Relations.** (3-0) The nature and the problems inherent in racial and other minority groups, with special reference to the American scene. (MC/P)

**3328 Complex Organizations.** (3-0) The study and analysis of complex organizations, bureaucracies, and professions and their influence on individuals and society and its institutions.

**3329 Life Course Sociology.** (3-0) This course examines major sociological approaches to the study of the human life course. Theoretical approaches reviewed include age stratification, the life course perspective, and constructivist and critical approaches to the life course.

**3333 The Sociology of Popular Music.** (3-0) This course explores the dynamic and interactive relationships between music, culture, and society. Popular American music - from blues, gospel, ragtime, jazz, country, and swing to rock, disco, punk, alternative, and rap - will be analyzed as reflections of culture, as society's "voice," and as a powerful instrument of socialization and social change.

**3337 The Family.** (3-0) A comparative study of the family in various cultures, both historical and contemporary, with attention to the family in terms of social organization, social change, and social disorganization.

**3338 Family Problems.** (3-0) This course applies sociological knowledge to common problems encountered in families: spouse and child abuse, elder abuse, catastrophic illness, suicide, unemployment, poverty, teen pregnancy, aging and gender issues. Worldwide traditions and norms affecting the institution of the family are also reviewed. (MC)

**3340 Sociology of Sport and Leisure.** (3-0) The theories and research in leisure and popular culture will serve as the broad framework. An emphasis will be placed on the sub-area of sport sociology, including such topics as sport and aggression, competition, children, women, minorities, professionalism, and others.

**3343 Criminology.** (3-0) The various theories of crime, the cause of crime, areas of crime, treatment of criminals through the courts, punishment, reform, education, probation, and parole, and means of crime prevention.

**3344 The Sociology of Law.** (3-0) This course introduces students to the function of law in human societies. Theories relevant to the study of law as a mechanism of social control and social change will be discussed. Law as a social institution, the training of lawyer, and their socialization into the role of lawyer will be examined.

**3347 Juvenile Delinquency.** (3-0) Delinquency in modern society, basic factors and conditions of juvenile delinquency, and the problem of delinquency control.

**3348 Social Control.** (3-0) An examination of the creation and maintenance of order in society, including socialization and institutions which respond to disorder. Included areas are education, religion, law, welfare, and medicine. Focus on law as both a mechanism of control and the basis for control in other institutions in industrial society.

**3349 Drugs and Society.** (3-0) A sociological examination of the social context of drug abuse with emphasis on the social factors, processes, and institutions that impact drug abuse. Applications of sociological theories and research methods will be studied.

**3350 Men, Women, and Societies.** (3-0) This course examines the relations between male and female roles throughout the world, including the United States, Europe, and third world countries. Special attention is given to changes in these roles and the consequences of such changes for societies, including familial, marital, and sexual relationships. (MC)

**3353 Urban Society.** (3-0) A study of urbanization as a social phenomenon with attention to traditional sociological studies of the community.

**3358 Work and Occupations.** (3-0) This course will explore sociological studies of work and occupations, including the structure of work, economic changes, and concerns of workers such as earnings, promotions, and unemployment. It is divided into three main topics: the social organization of work, current work trends, and inequalities at work. Prerequisite: SOCI 13310.

(WI) **3363 Medical Sociology: The Sociology of Health and Illness Behavior.** (3-0) An examination of the social determinants and consequences of human health, morbidity, and mortality, including considerations of health institutions, organizations, professionals, and clients. Social epidemiology of human diseases and mortality and changing relationships of acute and chronic diseases are stressed.

**3365 Environmental Sociology.** (3-0) This course addresses issues emerging from the reciprocal relationship between society and its environment. The impacts of social and economic organization, social class, and government policies on the physical and social milieu

will be examined in order to produce a better understanding of social and environmental interactions.

(WI) **3366 Folkways and Folklore: An Introduction.** (3-0) A study of the folkways of the cultures of Texas through selected examples of traditional beliefs, customs, folktales, songs, arts, games, artifacts, and techniques for the collection and preservation of folk materials. (MC)

**3370 Industrial Sociology.** (3-0) The social setting and formal organization of work; individual and group adaptation in industrial organization.

**3375 Special Topics in Sociology.** (3-0) Sociological analysis and interpretation of selected topics of special interest in the areas of social organization, social disorganization, and social interaction. Topics treated and instructors will vary from semester to semester. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis. (MC)

**3375H The Sociology of Technology.** (3-0)

**3375I Food and Society.** (3-0)

**3383 The Sociology of Aging.** (3-0) A study focusing on the processes of aging primarily in American society and including attention to the special problems related to the middle and later stages of the life cycle.

**3384 The Sociology of Death and Dying.** (3-0) A study of the sociological and social psychological perspectives on death and dying in contemporary societies with particular emphasis on the meanings of death, on dying as a social process, and on death in the context of both social organization and the life cycle.

**3390 Technology and Society.** (3-0) The subject of this course is the relationship between technologies and social institutions. Topics covered may include but are not limited to theories of sociotechnical change, diffusion, social constructivism, modernity and rationalism, and case studies of transformative technologies such as the clock, the car, and the birth control pill.

**3395 Sociology of Sexuality.** (3-0) Sexuality is explored from a social constructionist perspective, in contrast to essentialist and biological determinist perspectives dominating the Western understanding of sexual roles and behavior. Sexual identity, desire, behavior, response, and health are viewed as socially constructed, largely in response to concerns about societal order.

(WI) **4306 Sociological Theory.** (3-0) This course will examine classical sociological theories and the contemporary theories that follow from them. The major approaches covered are functionalism, conflict theory, symbolic interaction, and phenomenology. Prerequisites: 1310, twelve hours of Sociology, and departmental approval.

(WI) **4308 Quantitative Research Methods.** (3-0) Basic issues in social research are introduced, while emphasizing design and analysis of quantitative research studies. Research exercises culminate in a major research paper analyzing secondary data from The General Social Survey. Critique of published research articles is also required. Prerequisites: SOCI 3307, 4306, and departmental approval. SOCI 3318 recommended.

(WI) **4309 Qualitative Research Methods.** (3-0) This course examines issues in the sociological research process with an emphasis on qualitative methods. Students will design, propose, and submit a qualitative study based on an extensive review of the sociological literature. Prerequisites: SOCI 1310, 4306, twelve hours of Sociology, and departmental permission.

**4332 The Sociology of Education.** (3-0) An examination of education as a formal institution and as a social system. Emphasis is placed upon the nature and functions of education organization in modern societies.

**4360 Directed Study.** (3-0) (By arrangement) A course of independent study open to superior students by permission of the professor and approval of the Chair of the department. May be repeated with different emphasis.

(WI) **4690 Internship in Applied Sociology.** (6-0) A supervised work experience related to students' career interests. Requirements include a 300 hour internship within a public or private organization and classroom meetings. To qualify for enrollment, students must meet all

prerequisites established by the Department. This course can be taken for credit only once, and may be taken only by BSAS majors.