

SOCIOLOGY (SOC)

Sociology (SOC) Courses

SOC 1013. Introduction to Sociology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = SOCI 1301)

Introduces the study of human groups, the relations of individuals to groups, and the process of becoming a group member and functioning in a group setting. May be applied toward the Core Curriculum requirement in Social and Behavioral Sciences. (Formerly titled "Introduction to the Study of Society.") Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer. Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRC1 \$12; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 1013. Social Problems. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = SOCI 1306)

Examines major contemporary social problems and their causes and consequences. Topics may include poverty, racism, sexism, deviance and crime, drug and alcohol dependence, the urban crisis, overpopulation, and war. May be applied toward the Core Curriculum requirement in Social and Behavioral Sciences. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer. Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRC1 \$12; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 2023. Social Context of Drug Use. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = SOCI 2340)

Explores the use and abuse of mind-altering substances within society. Topics of study may include historical treatments of drug use, drug treatment and recovery interventions, the global magnitude of contemporary drug problems, and the problematic nature and consequences of drug legislation and enforcement. May be applied toward the Core Curriculum requirement in Social and Behavioral Sciences. (Formerly titled "Drugs in Society.") Generally offered: Fall, Spring. Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRC1 \$12; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 2033. Introduction to Health and Social Services Professions. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

This course introduces students to the health and social services professions. Students will explore career opportunities and develop professional skills. In considering the delivery of health care and social services across society, several bureaucratic and organizational perspectives are examined with an awareness regarding cultural diversity and ethics. Service delivery systems are introduced and classified according to sub-populations being served by the professional and inter-professional teams. Major characteristics of the U.S. health care system are introduced and integrated as the student explores issues that influence professional practice. Different career options are explored utilizing assessment tools and reflective writing to identify the knowledge, skills, educational requirements, and potential compensation of various career opportunities. Students develop career planning skills while creating a professional portfolio for volunteer opportunities, internships, and employment. Course fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 2063. Special Topics in Sociology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

An organized course offering the opportunity for a specialized topic at the lower division level that is available through the regular course offerings. Special Topics may be repeated for credit when topics vary, but not more than 6 semester credit hours, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3013. Social Stratification. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examines theory and research pertaining to inequalities of power, prestige, and economic privilege. Major emphasis upon inequality and social mobility in the United States. Generally offered: Fall, Spring. Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3043. Race and Ethnic Relations. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examines the dominant-subordinate relations in world societies, with major emphasis on the United States. Models of assimilation, colonial and class society, and consequences for minority and majority populations may be examined. Generally offered: Fall, Spring. Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3053. Deviance and Difference. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Analyzes the forms of deviance and consideration of social/political trends toward difference. An examination of theories may include: biological, analytic, labeling, functionalist, culture conflict, radical, and poststructuralist. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18; DL01 \$75.

SOC 3063. Collective Behavior. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: SOC 1013 or consent of instructor. Focuses on case studies and associated theory dealing with various forms of collective behavior ranging from spontaneous events to organized mass movements. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18; DL01 \$75.

SOC 3083. Social Change and Development. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Presents principal models and theories of social transformation applied to examples of societal change. Topics may include consideration of master trends such as rationalization, industrialization, and bureaucratization, and the expansion and contraction of global interconnectedness. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3093. Religion and Society. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Focuses on religious institutions and movements in the United States with comparative data from other countries. Topics may include the relationship of religious institutions to social stratification, economic institutions, and political and social change. Generally offered: Fall, Spring. Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3113. Criminology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examines the nature, prevalence, and impact of different types of legal violations, including street crime, organized crime, political crime, and white-collar crime. Includes treatment of social and legal responses to crime. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer. Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3163. Families in Society. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examines the modern family, structures and functions, variant patterns and the influence of the broader society in producing family change. Contemporary and continuing issues are covered in the context of theory and research. Topics may include variability in childhood socialization, family violence, changing gender roles, marriage, divorce and remarriage, alternative family structures, and the aging family. (Formerly SOC 2053. Credit cannot be earned for both SOC 3163 and SOC 2053.) (Formerly titled "Marriage and Family.") Generally offered: Fall. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18; DL01 \$75.

SOC 3193. The Sociology of Work and Occupations. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: SOC 1013 or consent of instructor. Explores occupational structures in selected societies; the relationship between occupations and economic rewards, lifestyles, and worldview; and determinants of work satisfaction. Generally offered: Fall, Spring. Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3203. Gerontology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examines the historical and cross-cultural differences in the status of the elderly in society. Includes interaction of the elderly with social institutions, and policy implications of the demographic shift toward an aging population in the United States. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18; DL01 \$75.

SOC 3213. Medical Sociology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examines social factors in the cause and distribution of disease; relationships between patients and medical professionals; the contribution of lay belief to health, illness, treatment, and recovery; the organization of health-care delivery; and the disparities in the distribution of medical resources. Generally offered: Spring. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18; DL01 \$75.

SOC 3223. Population Dynamics and Demographic Techniques. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Introduces the common methods, techniques, and models employed by demographers. Topics may include demographic data sources, introduction to life table techniques; construction, standardization, and decomposition of rates; measures of concentration and diversity; and population growth projections. Students will become familiar with microcomputer programs for demographic analysis. (Formerly titled "Demographic Techniques.") Same as DEM 3223. Credit cannot be earned for both SOC 3223 and DEM 3223. Generally offered: Fall, Spring. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18; DL01 \$75.

SOC 3253. The Individual and Society. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examines the major theories dealing with the effects of culture and social structure on the development and functioning of the personality and the self. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3263. Latinas in U.S. Society. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Focuses on women of Latino descent in the United States with a comparative emphasis on the experiences of Texas Latinas relative to those residing elsewhere in the Southwest. Topics may include: historical presence in the Southwest; patriarchy and familialism; labor and employment issues; immigration and border issues; political involvement and feminist vision; artistic, cultural and intellectual expression. (Same as WGSS 3953 (formerly WS 3953). Credit cannot be earned for both SOC 3263 and WGSS 3953 if the topics are the same.) Generally offered: Spring. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3283. Poverty. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examines the causes and consequences of poverty in the United States and selected other societies. An examination of social programs designed to combat poverty. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18; DL01 \$75.

SOC 3293. Sociology of Gender. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Explores the nature of gender roles in our own and other societies. Consideration of how people learn gender roles and the outcomes of this learning for individuals, families, and societies. Alternatives to conventional gender roles. (Formerly titled "Gender Roles.") Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18; DL01 \$75.

SOC 3323. Introduction to Social Research. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: SOC 1013. Introduction to the philosophy of science and the logic of research design. Examines a variety of social research designs including experiments, survey research, content analysis, and historical analysis. Course emphasizes techniques related to information gathering, basic data analysis, and reporting findings. (Formerly titled "Research Methods in Sociology.") Generally offered: Fall, Spring. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18; DL01 \$75.

SOC 3353. Sociological Theory. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: SOC 1013. Begins with an examination of the foundational writings in classical sociological theory with special emphasis on the work of Karl Marx, Emile Durkheim and Max Weber. Contemporary paradigms in sociological theory (e.g., functionalism, neo-Marxism, phenomenology, and feminism), and current debates over the state of theory are then addressed. Attention is also given to the linkages between theory and research. (Formerly SOC 3183. Credit cannot be earned for both SOC 3353 and SOC 3183.) Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer. Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3373. Qualitative Research Methods. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: SOC 3323. Introduces the philosophy of science and research design, including participant observation, in-depth interviews, oral history, and focus groups through field research. The course provides opportunities for developing qualitative research skills while gaining familiarity with issues and problems common to these methods. Generally offered: Fall, Spring. Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3393. Quantitative Research Methods. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisites: Completion of the Core Curriculum requirement in mathematics, SOC 1013, and SOC 3323. Application of conceptualization and operationalization in the quantitative analysis of a variety of sociological subjects. Use of elementary measures of central tendency and dispersion, cross tabulations, and linear model procedures to evaluate relationships among variables; problems of descriptions and inference. Includes the use of standard computer packages and secondary analysis of data. (Formerly SOC 3313. Credit cannot be earned for both SOC 3313 and SOC 3393.) Generally offered: Fall, Spring. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18; DL01 \$75.

SOC 3413. Sociology of the Mexican American Community. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Focuses on contemporary issues regarding Mexican American communities. Topics of discussion include family structure, gender roles, border issues and political power. Comparison with other minorities and the majority group will allow discussion of variant community patterns. (Same as MAS 3413 and BBL 3413. Credit cannot be earned for both BBL 3413, MAS 3413, and SOC 3413.) (Formerly titled "Mexican American Family.") Generally offered: Summer. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3423. Mass Media in Society. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examines media production and its role in the economy; the construction of media meaning, signification, and ideology; and the role of the audience in making sense of messages. Larger issues of societal power will be treated, along with an examination of alternative media. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3443. Health in Adolescence and the Transition to Adulthood. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

This course examines sociological perspectives on health and well-being in adolescence and the transition to adulthood. The life course perspective is presented as a framework for understanding adolescence within social, historical, and institutional contexts. An additional focus of the course is on inequalities in risks, opportunities, resources, and health outcomes across racial, ethnic, gender, socioeconomic, and other social statuses. Course fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3463. Sociology of Sport and Leisure. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examines the social meanings of play and leisure in advanced industrial societies. Emphasis will be on the origins, structure, and function of these phenomena in the United States, with major emphasis on sport as an institution. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 3553. Health Care Fraud and Compliance Investigation. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

This course introduces students to the examination of health care fraud and compliance investigation. Students will also explore career opportunities related to health care compliance. This class will look at the devastating effects that healthcare fraud has on the financial resources of the United States. We will review cases of healthcare fraud that involved more than just money - the ultimate price - human lives. We will review healthcare fraudulent schemes and methods to detect these schemes. Who are the perpetrators? Who are the victims? Methods of investigation will be explored to look at how to prevent fraud with current laws, task forces and compliance efforts. Whistleblowers will be discussed regarding their efforts to stop healthcare fraud and the risks they took to come forward. The class will also examine the many free resources available to the public on the topic of healthcare fraud. Students will have a chance to investigate possible career paths related to fighting healthcare fraud. Course fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 4023. Violence and Society. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examines and assesses the major social science perspectives and theories that attempt to explain why violence occurs in society. (Formerly SSC 3203. Credit cannot be earned both for SOC 4023 and SSC 3203.) Generally offered: Spring. Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 4093. Urban Sociology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

This course explores the nature, conditions, and consequences of urbanization. A focus on population growth and structural change in metropolitan areas is presented. Additionally, social and demographic characteristics are used to understand dynamics associated with urban populations. Course fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 4123. Senior Seminar in Sociology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Pre-requisites: SOC 3323, SOC 3373 or SOC 3393, and SOC 3353. A writing intensive capstone course for sociology majors that synthesizes and applies sociological knowledge through the integration of theory and research methods. Professional development is emphasized. Course fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 4133. Religion, Spirituality, and Health. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

This course introduces students to the study of religion, spirituality, and health. Students will explore the effects of religion and spirituality on mental health, physical health, and mortality risk. Taken together, these diverse aspects of the course will: (a) provide new information about the role of religion and spirituality in contemporary life, especially in the United States, (b) help students to learn about basic theoretical tools and empirical approaches via which scholars in the social scientists and multiple other disciplines study the religion/spirituality-health connection, and (c) acquaint students with central themes and findings in the burgeoning empirical literature on religion and spirituality and mental health and psychological well-being, physical health, biological functioning, and mortality. Course fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 4213. Behavioral Profiling. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: SOC 1013 or PSY 1013. This course is designed to expose students to the process of criminal behavioral profiling, an investigative tool used by law enforcement, criminologists, and forensic scientists to predict the characteristics of unknown subjects through crime scene analysis. This is a unique course and is arranged around the deductive profiling method developed by a few of the more published criminal profilers in the United States. Topics include case assessment, crime scene reconstruction methods, evidence dynamics, victimology, criminal motivation, and ethics. Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 4433. Culture and Society. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Explores the social significance of cultural production, including the relationships between art, consciousness, the economy, and history. Themes examined may include the social production of art, art and ideology, the problem of artistic reception, and art movements and cultural resistance. Topics include art and culture in minority social movements, the relation between high and low culture, and cultural conflict over art. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 4683. Health Disparities. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

The main purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding of how racial/ethnic, social, economic, demographic and gender factors contribute to disparities in health and health care in the United States. Generally offered: Spring. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18; DL01 \$75.

SOC 4853. Topics in Sociology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

An organized course offering the opportunity for specialized study not normally or not often available as part of the regular course offerings. Special Studies may be repeated for credit when topics vary, but not more than 6 semester credit hours, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree. (Formerly SOC 4953. Credit may be earned for both SOC 4853 and SOC 4953 but may not exceed 6 semester credit hours combined). Course Fees: DL01 \$75; LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 4863. Topics in Sociology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

An organized course offering the opportunity for a specialized topic not normally or not often available as part of the regular course offerings. Special Topics may be repeated for credit when topics vary, but not more than 6 semester credit hours, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 4911. Independent Study. (0-0) 1 Credit Hour.

Prerequisites: Permission in writing (form available) from the instructor, the student's advisor, the Department Chair, and the Dean of the College in which the course is offered. Independent reading, research, discussion, and/or writing under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated for credit, but not more than 6 semester credit hours of independent study, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$6.

SOC 4913. Independent Study. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisites: Permission in writing (form available) from the instructor, the student's advisor, the Department Chair, and the Dean of the College in which the course is offered. Independent reading, research, discussion, and/or writing under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated for credit, but not more than 6 semester credit hours of independent study, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 4923. Public Health Study Abroad. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.

The purpose of this course is to provide students greater understanding of global health issues. The study abroad program focuses on health care and public health in different international settings and provides students with a unique opportunity to integrate direct academic learning and field experience in public health. The program involves attending class room lectures in public health and interacting with local public health officials in understanding how health care system is responding to the health needs of its population. This course will satisfy 3 hours of the Public Health Internship requirement under the Sociology degree. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 4926. Public Health Study Abroad. (0-0) 6 Credit Hours.

The purpose of this course is to provide students greater understanding of global health issues. The study abroad program focuses on health care and public health in different international settings and provides students with a unique opportunity to integrate direct academic learning and field experience in public health. The program involves attending classroom lectures in public health and interacting with local public health officials in understanding how health care system is responding to the health needs of its population. This course will satisfy 6 hours of the Public Health Internship requirement under the Sociology degree. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$36.

SOC 4933. Internship in Sociology. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisites: Completion of SOC 3353 and either SOC 3373 or SOC 3393, and consent of internship coordinator. Provided as part of the COLFA Signature Experience and offers supervised work experience relevant to sociology within selected organizations and agencies. Internships selected should be relevant to previous coursework. A maximum of 6 semester credit hours may be earned through this internship. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.

SOC 4936. Internship in Sociology. (0-0) 6 Credit Hours.

Prerequisites: Completion of SOC 3353 and either SOC 3373 or SOC 3393, and consent of internship coordinator. Provided as part of the COLFA Signature Experience and offers supervised work experience relevant to sociology within selected organizations and agencies. Internships selected should be relevant to previous coursework. A maximum of 6 semester credit hours may be earned through this internship. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$36.

SOC 4993. Honors Thesis. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: Enrollment limited to candidates for Honors in Sociology during the last two semesters. Supervised research and preparation of an honors thesis. May be repeated once with advisor's approval. Generally offered: Fall, Spring. Course Fees: LRHC \$10; STHC \$18.