SOCIOLOGY, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

The sociology minor allows students to explore the wide range of topics, social groups, and social interactions studied by sociologists. From social inequalities and social problems to the social institutions of family, school, religion, and government, the diversity of courses available allows sociology minors to explore courses relevant to their interests. The courses also provide multiple viewpoints, studying the intimate interactions of families and small groups and the complex interactions of global economies and political alliances. Requiring a minimum of 18 credits in sociology, including SOC 1 and two courses at the 400 level, students have flexibility in choosing a set of courses for their sociology minor.

What is Sociology?

Sociology is the scientific study of social behavior and human social groups. The topics covered in sociology are as diverse as society itself, from families to gangs, from non-profit organizations to nations. Sociology focuses on the ways that groups and individuals interact, examining how social environments, like neighborhoods, schools, religious organizations, workplaces, and social networks shape individuals' behaviors and create cooperation or conflict. Sociology uses different methods (surveys, interviews, network analysis, observation, social media, censuses, case studies) to make the invisible patterns of the social world visible.

Sociology especially helps us understand the roots of racial, gender, and class inequality by investigating the ways that social groups control resources, enforce social boundaries, and accept unequal social outcomes. But sociology also helps us to understand how societies change, whether due to the impact of large-scale events like pandemics and economic recessions, or through social movements and labor unions.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You want to understand how society influence our lives, both in the United States and throughout the global community.
- You would like to learn skills for social research, group facilitation, or organizational leadership.
- You want to pursue a career in research, law, social work, business, community organizing, social entrepreneurship, education, non-profit organizations, public policy, counseling, or the health professions.
- You want to understand social inequality as well as social change.