



# Sociology

Broadly speaking, sociologists study social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Sociology majors acquire a broad knowledge of the social structural world (i.e., social inequality, patterns of behavior, forces of social change and resistance, and how social structures work). They also develop a range of research skills, including analyzing and interpreting information, collecting and organizing detailed research notes into a logical presentation, communicating findings both orally and in writing, and using a computer for data processing and analysis.

Employers look for people with the skills and knowledge that the undergraduate sociology degree provides. Some career options for students to consider are in the areas of human services, criminal justice, education, government, social science research, environment, and business.

## Programs

- Social Studies, B.A. (Sociology-Anthropology Emphasis) *major*
- Sociology, B.A. *major*
- Sociology *minor*

## Career Directions

- Business
  - Human Resources -- Recruiting, Training, and Development Management
  - Marketing
  - Office Administration
  - Public Relations
  - Sales
- Criminal Justice
  - Corrections
  - Rehabilitation
  - Judiciary
  - Law Enforcement
- Education
  - Research
  - Teaching
- Environment
  - Advocacy Groups and Organizations
  - Consulting Firms
  - Environmental Periodicals
  - Health Agencies
  - Waste Management
- Government
  - City Planning
  - Demography
  - Law Enforcement
  - Policy Analysis
  - Program Development Human Services
  - Public Administration
  - Research
  - Social Statistics
- Human Services
  - Administration
  - Advocacy
  - Case Management
  - Counseling
  - Mental Health Services
  - Programming
- Social Science Research
  - Data Analysis
  - Demography
  - Information Sourcing
  - Market Research
  - Research
- Also: Graduate Study

## Preparation

### *Recommended High School Courses*

- Psychology
- Social Research
- Sociology

## Social Studies, B.A. *major* Sociology-Anthropology Emphasis

Note: A minimum of 22 semester credits used to meet course requirements in I

and II must be completed at Bemidji State University. No course grade below a C may be used to meet these requirements and a minimum GPA of 2.50 in this major is required for graduation. Students who desire a second field of emphasis are to consider completion a minor or a second major in that field. Such action may complement and increase the marketability of this major.

Required Credits: 48  
Required GPA: 2.50

## I REQUIRED CORE CURRICULUM

### CAPSTONE COURSE

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSE:

- POL 4500 Thesis and Career Preparation (3 credits)

### ECONOMICS COURSES

SELECT 1 OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- ECON 2000 Markets and Resource Allocation (3 credits)
- ECON 2100 Macroeconomics and the Business Cycle (3 credits)

### GEOGRAPHY COURSES

SELECT 1 OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES

- GEOG 2100 Introduction to Physical Geography (3 credits)
- GEOG 2200 Introduction to Human Geography (3 credits)

### GEOGRAPHY COURSES

SELECT 1 OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- GEOG 3410 Geography of North America (3 credits)
- GEOG 3800 Regional Geography (1-3 credits)
- GEOG 3810 Geography of Europe (3 credits)
- GEOG 3820 Geography Of Asia (3 credits)
- GEOG 3840 Geography of Africa (3 credits)

### UPPER DIVISION WORLD HISTORY

SELECT 1 OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES

- HST 2208 Greece and Rome, 1500 BCE-500 CE (3 credits)
- HST 2218 Medieval Europe (3 credits)
- HST 2228 Renaissance and Reformation Europe (3 credits)
- HST 2580 Russia (3 credits)
- HST 2600 Topics in History (3 credits)
- HST 2660 Women and History (3 credits)
- HST 2700 World Religions (3 credits)
- HST 2800 Reacting to the Past (3 credits)
- HST 3159 The World at War, 1931-1945 (3 credits)
- HST 3169 History of the Vietnam War (3 credits)
- HST 3258 Foundations of the Western Legal Traditions (3 credits)
- HST 3268 The Roman Revolution, 200 BCE-CE 14 (3 credits)
- HST 3277 Readings and Research in European History (3 credits)
- HST 3409 Colonialism and Modernization in the Non-Western World (3 credits)
- HST 3419 East Asia (3 credits)
- HST 3429 South and Southeast Asia (3 credits)
- HST 3449 Middle East (3 credits)
- HST 3459 Latin America (3 credits)

### UPPER DIVISION U.S. HISTORY

SELECT 1 OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES

- HST 2600 Topics in History (3 credits)
- HST 2610 Minnesota History (3 credits)
- HST 2617 Film and American History (3 credits)
- HST 2640 United States Diplomatic History (3 credits)
- HST 2650 Witchcraft and Magic in Early America (3 credits)
- HST 2667 Men and Women: Gender in America (3 credits)
- HST 2800 Reacting to the Past (3 credits)
- HST 3117 American Revolutionary Era, 1763-1800 (3 credits)
- HST 3128 Testing Democracy: Reform in Nineteenth-Century America

(3 credits)

- HST 3137 Civil War and Reconstruction, 1844-1877 (3 credits)
- HST 3159 The World at War, 1931-1945 (3 credits)
- HST 3169 History of the Vietnam War (3 credits)
- HST 3178 American Intellectual History since 1877 (3 credits)
- HST 3187 American West (3 credits)

### POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSES

SELECT 1 OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES

- POL 1200 Introduction to American Politics (3 credits)
- POL 1300 Introduction to International Relations (3 credits)
- POL 1400 Introduction to Comparative Politics (3 credits)

### POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSES

SELECT 1 OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES

- POL 3100 American Foreign Policy (3 credits)
- POL 3130 Asian Political Development (3 credits)
- POL 3150 Topics in Political Science (1-3 credits)
- POL 3160 Comparative European Politics (3 credits)
- POL 3170 International Relations (3 credits)
- POL 3180 International Law and Organization (3 credits)
- POL 3190 International Political Economy (3 credits)
- POL 3200 Minnesota Politics (3 credits)
- POL 3210 Public Administration (3 credits)
- POL 3230 Environmental Politics (3 credits)
- POL 3410 Legislative and Executive Relations (3 credits)
- POL 3420 Campaigns and Elections (3 credits)
- POL 4200 Constitutional Law (3 credits)

### SOCIOLOGY COURSES

SELECT 2 OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- SOC 2200 Social Movements and Change (3 credits)  
*or* SOC 2210 American Culture: A Sociological Interpretation (3 credits)
- SOC 3010 Contemporary Sociological Theory (3 credits)

## II REQUIRED FIELD OF EMPHASIS

SELECT 18 SEMESTER CREDITS OF ELECTIVES FROM SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

- ANTH\*\*\*\*
- SOC \*\*\*\*

## SUGGESTED SEMESTER SCHEDULE FOR SOCIAL STUDIES MAJOR, B.A.

The following is suggested for logical and effective scheduling but can be interpreted as flexible for meeting requirements and a student's particular needs. Students should meet with the Social Studies coordinator and advisor as early as possible in their planning.

Freshman - Sophomore

- Geography and History constitute the "matrix" of Social Studies and students should complete required core courses in these subjects first.
- Complete Liberal Education requirements

Junior-Senior

- Complete remaining core course requirements and courses for area of emphasis.
- Complete Professional Education courses

- Students pursuing the B.S. Teacher Licensure in Social Studies should complete GEOG 3460 no sooner than their junior year, preferably just prior to their student teaching.

## Sociology, B.A. *major*

---

Required Credits: 45

Required GPA: 2.25

### I REQUIRED COURSES

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- SOC 1104 Social Issues (3 credits)
- SOC 2230 Ethnic And Minority Group Relations (3 credits)
- SOC 2240 Men, Women, and Society: A Sociological Interpretation (3 credits)
- SOC 3000 Qualitative Research Methods (3 credits)
- SOC 3001 Social Statistics (3 credits)
- SOC 3002 Quantitative Research Methods (3 credits)
- SOC 3010 Contemporary Sociological Theory (3 credits)
- SOC 4700 Career Preparation (3 credits)
- SOC 4800 Capstone in Sociology (3 credits)

### II ELECTIVES IN SOCIOLOGY

SELECT 1 OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- SOC 2200 Social Movements and Change (3 credits)
- SOC 2210 American Culture: A Sociological Interpretation (3 credits)
- SOC 2220 Sociology of Marriage and Family (3 credits)

SELECT 3 OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- SOC 3020 Urban Sociology (3 credits)
- SOC 3040 The United States and Globalization: A Sociological Perspective (3 credits)
- SOC 3050 Environmental Sociology (3 credits)
- SOC 3120 Organizations in Society (3 credits)
- SOC 3230 Social Psychology (3 credits)

### III ELECTIVES

#### ELECTIVES

An additional 6 credits need to be taken either from Sociology or from another discipline. Courses are to be chosen with the approval of the Sociology program.

### SUGGESTED SEMESTER SCHEDULE FOR SOCIOLOGY MAJOR, B.A.

The following is a list of required Sociology courses arranged by year. This schedule is intended to help students plan their courses in an orderly fashion; however, these are only suggestions and this schedule is flexible.

#### Freshman

- SOC 1104 Social Issues (3 credits)
- SOC 2230 Ethnic And Minority Group Relations (3 credits)
- SOC 2240 Men, Women, and Society: A Sociological Interpretation (3 credits)
- Sociology electives at the 2000 level

#### Sophomore

- SOC 3001 Social Statistics (3 credits)
- SOC 3002 Quantitative Research Methods (3 credits)
- Sociology electives at the 2000 or 3000 level
- Make progress on completing Liberal Education requirements
- Begin taking courses in a minor or second major (2000 or 3000 level), if appropriate

#### Junior

- SOC 3000 Qualitative Research Methods (3 credits)
- SOC 3010 Contemporary Sociological Theory (3 credits)
- Sociology electives at the 2000 or 3000 level
- Make progress on completing courses for additional major/minors

#### Senior

- SOC 4700 Career Preparation (3 credits)
- SOC 4800 Capstone in Sociology (3 credits)
- Take 6 elective credits either in Sociology or from another discipline that complement your career direction. These courses need the approval of the Sociology program.
- Complete courses in additional majors/minor(s)

## Sociology *minor*

---

Required Credits: 18

Required GPA: 2.00

### I REQUIRED COURSES

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- SOC 1104 Social Issues (3 credits)

SELECT 6 SEMESTER CREDITS FROM SOCIOLOGY COURSES AT THE 2000 LEVEL

SELECT 9 CREDITS FROM SOCIOLOGY COURSES AT THE 3000 LEVEL

## Sociology Courses

---

#### SOC 1104 Social Issues (3 credits)

Basic concepts and theories of society. Culture, social institutions, socialization, race relations, social class and gender relations as they relate to an understanding of modern society. Liberal Education Category 5

#### SOC 2200 Social Movements and Change (3 credits)

A social history of social movements and change. Focuses on understanding and analyzing these dynamics as generational changes and as the emergence of broader social forces driving the major movements of the past fifty years. The shift from modernity to postmodernity sets the overall theoretical framework, with an emphasis on the dynamics of race, class, gender, environment, and culture. Liberal Education Goal Area 8.

#### SOC 2210 American Culture: A Sociological Interpretation (3 credits)

This course traces the origins of American cultural patterns and institutions and examines contemporary elements of diversity and social change. Readings explore the mores associated with the American character, focusing on individualism while investigating how public and private life is framed. Unifying themes involve theoretical discussions regarding the degree to which the "decentered" experience of individuals in the United States today raises questions about the meaning of the very term "American culture." Liberal Education Categories 7 & 9

**SOC 2220 Sociology of Marriage and Family (3 credits)**

A study of the various forms of family structure, including variations that occur by social class and ethnic status. Examination of the changing forms of American families throughout history and consideration of the issues and evidence surrounding the debate over the nature of the family. The topics of gender roles, romantic love, courtship, nonmarital life styles, divorce, remarriage, and stepfamilies will also be examined from the sociological frame of reference. Liberal Education Category 5

**SOC 2230 Ethnic And Minority Group Relations (3 credits)**

Study of dominant-subordinate relations with emphasis on racial, cultural, and sexual domination. Examination of a variety of dominant-group tactics, including the causes and consequences of prejudice and discrimination. Prerequisite: SOC 1104 or consent of instructor. Liberal Education Categories 7 & 9

**SOC 2240 Men, Women, and Society: A Sociological Interpretation (3 credits)**

Study of the construction of gender in society and the differential consequences of particular social arrangements on the lives of men and women. Examines gender, male and female sexuality, intimate relationships, gendered patterns of work and education, the gender of violence, and sociological theories of femininity and masculinity. Emphasizes changes in gendered social patterns in U.S. society in the 21st century and compares those changes to shifting patterns in other societies. Liberal Education Goal Areas 5 & 7.

**SOC 2925 People and the Environment: Sociology Perspective (3 credits)**

This course is a section of the interdisciplinary environmental issues course, People and the Environment. The focus of this course is to understand that environmental problems are both problems for society and problems of society. Students explore how sociology and its unique viewpoint add much to understanding the environment/society nexus. Liberal Education Goal Area 10.

**SOC 3000 Qualitative Research Methods (3 credits)**

Principles, techniques, and practices in the conduct of field research in natural social settings, focusing on participant observation, unstructured and semi-structured interviewing, use of informants, personal and public documents, content analysis, unobtrusive research techniques, interpreting narrative data, and preparation of a field research report (ethnography). Prerequisite: SOC 1104 or ANTH 1110. Also ANTH 3000.

**SOC 3001 Social Statistics (3 credits)**

Introduces students to descriptive and inferential statistics and bivariate measures of association. Students learn to choose, calculate, and interpret statistics, and learn to use SPSS to help them analyze and interpret data. Prerequisites: MATH 1100 or MATH 1170 or consent of instructor.

**SOC 3002 Quantitative Research Methods (3 credits)**

Examines the basic quantitative methods sociologists and other social scientists use to study diverse social processes and to improve our understanding of social issues. Students gain hands-on experiences developing a quantitative research project and work on various aspects of actual research projects. Prerequisite: SOC 3001 or consent of instructor.

**SOC 3010 Contemporary Sociological Theory (3 credits)**

An overview of selected sociological theories and theorists considered against the background of the classical period of sociological theorizing in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Emphasis on comparative understanding of the major models of society - order, pluralism, conflict, etc. - that have dominated sociological thinking in the modern period. Prerequisites: SOC 1104 or consent of instructor.

**SOC 3020 Urban Sociology (3 credits)**

Explores the social factors that impact the culture and politics of urban environments. Examines the history of cities and the social theories that are used to interpret urban development from modern to postmodern times. Emphasis on understanding urban enclaves, patterns of inequality, the meanings of place and space, and the impact of global economic and cultural forces on city life. Students compare and contrast current trends in U.S. development of place and community with those in other societies. Each term, students are required to travel to a U.S. metropolitan area where they engage in first-hand observations of a particular city through this sociospatial lens. Prerequisites: SOC 1104 and junior standing.

**SOC 3040 The United States and Globalization: A Sociological Perspective (3 credits)**

A social history of the emergence of the United States as one of the major actors in what is referred to as "globalization." Focuses on understanding and analyzing the dynamics of political economic change and the emergence of broader social forces driving a series of globalization projects over the past fifty years. A third focus alludes to shifting sociological dynamics of globalization and the implications for race, class, gender, environment, and culture. Examines the "anti-globalization" forces through a social movement lens. Prerequisite: SOC 1104 or consent of instructor.

**SOC 3050 Environmental Sociology (3 credits)**

Examines the relationship between society and the environment. Emphasis on political and economic institutions and the consumer lifestyle and values. Considers how the treadmill of production affects ecosystems and discusses possible solutions to environmental problems. Prerequisites: SOC 1104 or consent of instructor.

**SOC 3120 Organizations in Society (3 credits)**

An analysis of complex organizations in societies. Examines the rise of bureaucracy in business and government, following through to contemporary times, and contemporary shifts in form from modern to postmodern. Emphasizes the tensions, contradictions, and paradoxes found in these organizational arrangements. Other topics may include the differential experiences of workers in complex organizations. Prerequisite: SOC 1104 or consent of instructor.

**SOC 3230 Social Psychology (3 credits)**

An overview of theory and research in social psychology from a sociological viewpoint. Emphasizes the impact of social location on thought, behavior, and emotion. Explores patterns of interpersonal relationships and small group processes, and why humans establish certain "taken-for-granted" meaning systems and ways of being. Prerequisite: SOC 1104 or consent of instructor.

**SOC 4700 Career Preparation (3 credits)**

Provides students with an opportunity to explore careers that require the substantive knowledge and skills developed through their course of study. Students identify their career interests, create resumes and cover letters, engage in mock interviews, and explore graduate school options. They are also asked to consider how they might use their sociology skills and knowledge in their future roles (as individual, employee, citizen). Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing and Sociology major.

**SOC 4800 Capstone in Sociology (3 credits)**

Students choose to complete either a thesis or an internship. Because guidelines differ between the options, students should meet with Sociology faculty teaching the course for proper advisement. Prerequisites: Senior standing and Sociology major.

**All-University Courses**

The course numbers listed below, not always included in the semester class schedule, may be registered for by consent of the advisor, instructor, or department chair, or may be assigned by the department when warranted. Individual registration requires previous arrangement by the student and the completion of any required form or planning outline as well as any prerequisites.

1910, 2910, 3910, 4910 DIRECTED INDEPENDENT STUDY  
1920, 2920, 3920, 4920 DIRECTED GROUP STUDY  
1930, 2930, 3930, 4930 EXPERIMENTAL COURSE  
1940, 2940, 3940, 4940 IN-SERVICE COURSE  
1950, 2950, 3950, 4950 WORKSHOP, INSTITUTE, TOUR  
1960, 2960, 3960, 4960 SPECIAL PURPOSE INSTRUCTION  
1970, 2970, 3970, 4970 INTERNSHIP  
1980, 2980, 3980, 4980 RESEARCH  
1990, 2990, 3990, 4990 THESIS