SOCIOLOGY (SOC)

SOC 1010  INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY (3 credits)
An introduction to the study of human societies. The course presents the fundamental concepts and theories that make up the sociological perspective. These serve as tools for the analysis of social inequality, social institutions and social change.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Not open to non-degree graduate students.
Distribution: Social Science General Education course

SOC 2100  SOCIAL PROBLEMS (3 credits)
An analysis of the origins of social problems in American society. Attention is given to the nature, consequences and solutions of selected social problems.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Not open to non-degree graduate students.
Distribution: Social Science General Education course

SOC 2120  SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY (3 credits)
SOC 2120 is an intellectual history of sociology as an academic discipline surveying outstanding contributions to its body of theory. The social contexts in which a variety of classical and contemporary theoretical traditions have arisen will be considered. Stress is placed on understanding and applying different approaches to sociological analysis through detailed textual interpretation of theoretical writings.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and Sociology major or permission of instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.

SOC 2130  SOCIAL STATISTICS (3 credits)
An introduction to the fundamental statistical techniques used in the analysis of social data, including descriptive and inferential statistics. The focus is on the production and interpretation of statistical information in the study of social life.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): MATH 1120, MATH 1130, MATH 1220, MATH 1310, or MATH 1530 or permission of instructor.

SOC 2134  SOCIAL STATISTICS LAB (1 credit)
A computer-based laboratory course to be taken in conjunction with SOC 2130. The focus is on using computer software to produce and interpret statistical information in the study of social life.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): MATH 1120, MATH 1130, MATH 1220, MATH 1310, or MATH 1530 and SOC 2130 (taken previously or concurrently) or permission of instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.

SOC 2150  SOCIOLOGY OF FAMILIES (3 credits)
This course provides a description and analysis of contemporary families from a sociological perspective. A life course perspective traces the development of family life, with special attention to change, choice, and diversity. Topics such as family structure, the functions of the family as an institution, family comparisons across culture and time, and difficulties faced by families in contemporary society will also be explored.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Not open to non-degree graduate students.
Distribution: U.S. Diversity General Education course and Social Science General Education course

SOC 2190  THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST (3 credits)
An interdisciplinary study of the social, religious and historical dimensions of contemporary issues and events which make the Middle East cultural and geographic region a crucible of global tensions. (Cross-listed with RELI 2190, SOC 2190)
Distribution: Global Diversity General Education course and Humanities and Fine Arts General Education course

SOC 2510  RESEARCH METHODS (3 credits)
A basic introduction to the principles, methods and techniques of empirical social research.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 or permission of instructor.

SOC 2800  MAJOR SOCIAL ISSUES (3 credits)
The course examines a major social issue with readings and required materials designed for non-majors. The specific topic will vary from semester to semester. Students may take the course more than once.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 or permission of instructor.

SOC 3100  SOCIAL ASPECTS OF SPORT AND LEISURE (3 credits)
A critical examination of the function and significance of sport within the overall leisure behavior patterns of Western society. Recreational sport, sport spectatorship, and competitive athletics are considered from the dominant theoretical perspectives within sociology. (Cross-listed with RLS 3100)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Sophomore or above.

SOC 3140  AMERICAN SOCIETY (3 credits)
The origins of American behavior patterns and institutions and their influence on values, thinking and social character are stressed. A sociological perspective of contemporary American life styles and social organization is developed from a variety of sources. The influences of contemporary social change and diversity in American society are unifying themes.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Not open to non-degree graduate students.

SOC 3180  OCCUPATIONS AND CAREERS (3 credits)
Examines changing job market, meaning of work and job satisfaction, career stages from aspirations to retirement, the effects of occupational discrimination and segregation, and the impact of work on family and leisure.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010.

SOC 3200  SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER (3 credits)
This course critically examines the meaning, purpose, and consequences of gender, by using sociological methods and theories to explore the institutions that structure gender relationships and identities, and form the contexts that shape social life in the United States. Particular attention will be given to how social institutions like the state, the economy, family and the mass media shape the definitions of femininity and masculinity, as well as how the gender system intersects with other structures of inequality - race, class, and sexual orientation.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and junior standing, or permission of instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.
Distribution: U.S. Diversity General Education course

SOC 3450  SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY (3 credits)
Social interaction studied in situations of (1) social influences on individuals, (2) dyads or face-to-face groups, and (3) larger social systems. The concepts, theories, data, research methods, and applications of varied substantive topics are examined. (Cross-listed with PSYC 3450)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 or PSYC 1010

SOC 3510  RESEARCH METHODS (3 credits)
This course is a basic introduction to the principles, methods and techniques of empirical social research. The common methods used by sociologists and anthropologists are addressed such as surveys, interviews, and observation.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and junior standing; or permission of instructor

SOC 3514  RESEARCH METHODS LAB (1 credit)
This is a laboratory course to be taken in conjunction with SOC 3510. The focus is on applying methodology and basic data analysis learned in SOC 3510 and the development of a sociological research proposal.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 or permission of instructor; SOC 3510 (taken previously or concurrently); and junior or senior standing.

SOC 3610  SOCIAL ORGANIZATION (3 credits)
An overview of organizations using sociological insights to introduce students to the study of organizations with emphasis on selected forms of organizations, organizational structure, members' behaviors, organizational environments and social change.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and sophomore.
SOC 3520 COMPARATIVE SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS (3 credits)
An examination of the interlocking network of institutions in society with
particular stress on social institutions not covered in other department
of sociology courses, e.g., political, economic, religious institutions, and
science as an institution. A comparison among societies with differing
institutional arrangements.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and ANTH 1050 and
sophomore or permission of instructor.

SOC 3590 SOCIAL STRATIFICATION (3 credits)
Considers the inequalities of social class, power and status and their
relationships to race, ethnicity and gender in order to determine who gets
what and why. The consequences of social stratification for life chances,
consumption and social mobility are examined.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and sophomore.

SOC 3700 INTRODUCTION TO LGBTQ STUDIES (3 credits)
Introduces key themes and critical frameworks in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,
Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Studies. This course examines scholarly
contributions from a range of academic disciplines and traces some of
the ways that LGBTQ Studies has influenced cultural and social theory more
broadly. Topics include LGBTQ histories and social movements; forms
of oppression including heterosexism, homophobia, and transphobia;
resistance to oppression; queer activism; intersecting identities; and
representations in literature, art, and popular media.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 or WGST 2010 or WGST 2020;
or permission of the instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.
Distribution: U.S. Diversity General Education course

SOC 3800 WORK AND SOCIETY (3 credits)
Examines work in the societal context. Focuses on major changes in the
quality of working life and the labor force, and the power and influence of
professions, bureaucracies and unions. Examines the impact of technology,
education and government in producing and coping with these changes.
Historical and cross-cultural comparisons will be made.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and sophomore.

SOC 3810 SOCIOLOGY OF EDUCATION (3 credits)
An examination of education from a sociological perspective. Particular
attention is given to educational attainment and its consequences for
occupation and income; enhancing access to educational opportunities;
student subcultures, teacher recruitment; alternatives and changes in
education; relationships of sociology and education.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and sophomore or permission.

SOC 3820 MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY (3 credits)
The study of the social patterning of health and illness, including
inequalities in health by stratifying elements such as race, class, and
gender. Examines the social definition of health, illness, and the social
position of being a sick person in society. Also examines the interaction
individuals have with health care providers and the structure of medicine
in the U.S. and around the world. Offers a critical examination of the social
institutions of medicine.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and Junior standing; or
permission of the instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.
Distribution: U.S. Diversity General Education course

SOC 3840 WORLD POPULATION AND SOCIAL ISSUES (3 credits)
Basic knowledge of demographic methods and U.S. and world population
data. Includes census and other data sources; demographic theory
and population change; fertility, mortality and migration; age and sex
structure; race, ethnicity, income; marital status and family indicators;
urbanization; and population policies. Connects population dynamics to
world economic development; poverty; refugee and immigration issues;
decisions about childbearing; the status of women; intergenerational
competition; population pressure on food and environment; and urban and
rural life.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Six hours of social science and
sophomore.

SOC 3850 SOCIETY, ENVIRONMENT, AND RESOURCE
CONSERVATION (3 credits)
This course focuses on the sociological analysis of the impacts of economic
activities on the bio-physical environment and the people within it, at
the national and international levels. Topics include the foundations
of environmental sociology, social change, national and international
institutions, monitoring pollution prevention and control, the uses of applied
sociological techniques, etc.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Six hours of social sciences, three of
which must be in sociology or permission.

SOC 3900 RACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS IN THE U.S. (3 credits)
The course explores historical and contemporary meanings of race and
ethnicity and introduces students to the ways sociologists think about ‘race,’
race relations and racism. It views current theoretical issues, and focuses on
the recent histories and the current position of several major racial-ethnic
populations in the U.S.: African Americans, Latino/a Americans, Native
Americans, Asian Americans, and white/European ethnics. Emphasis is on
how race/ethnicity has structured group experiences in relation to social
institutions like health, education, culture and media, the legal system, and
the economy.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and junior standing, or
permission of instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.
Distribution: U.S. Diversity General Education course

SOC 3950 SOCIOLOGY OF LATIN AMERICA (3 credits)
The course reviews the main social, economic, and political forces that
have shaped Latin American societies, and the sociological theories used
to understand Latin American development and underdevelopment. Race,
ethnicity, gender and class in Latin America, as well as the region’s insertion
in the global economy are examined.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Six hours in social sciences, three of
which, at least, must be in Sociology, or by permission of the instructor.
Distribution: Global Diversity General Education course

SOC 4000 DISABILITY & SOCIETY (3 credits)
This course takes a sociologically grounded but interdisciplinary look at the
past, present, and potential future of disability. Along the way competing
models and theories of disability are critically explored while substantive
issues pertaining to the social experiences of people with disability and
social responses to disabled people are discussed.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and junior or senior standing;
or permission of instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.

SOC 4020 COLLECTIVE BEHAVIOR (3 credits)
Group and individual processes of ephemeral social action and institution
formation are studied. The development of transitory groups and ideologies
in new movements and organizations through opinion formation; case
and comparative investigations of the origins and growth of collective
movements are made and relevant social theories are applied. (Cross-listed
with SOC 8026)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Nine hours of sociology, including
SOC 1010, or permission of instructor.

SOC 4100 THE COMMUNITY (3 credits)
A basic course in community sociology. Sociological theory and the
practices of empirical research are applied to published studies of
communities in the United States and elsewhere. The comparative
social scientific method is elaborated as it pertains to data derived from
community investigation. (Cross-listed with SOC 8106)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Nine hours of sociology including
SOC 1010.

SOC 4130 SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANT BEHAVIOR (3 credits)
A theoretical analysis of the relation of deviant group behavior and
subcultures to community standards of conventional behavior as expressed
in law and norms. (Cross-listed with SOC 8136)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Nine hours of sociology, including
SOC 1010, or permission of instructor.
SOC 4140  URBAN SOCIOLOGY (3 credits)
Examines urban theoretical perspectives, urbanization processes, the diversity of metropolitan communities, urban stratification, metropolitan growth, urban neighborhoods, community power and urban policy and planning. (Cross-listed with SOC 8146)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Nine hours of sociology including SOC 1010, or permission of instructor.

SOC 4150  AMERICAN FAMILY PROBLEMS (3 credits)
This course explores the problems and issues faced by contemporary American families, such as racism and sexism; the challenges of childhood and adolescence; divorce and remarriage; work and family conflict; and family violence. The difficulty of defining both "family" and "problems" is addressed throughout the course. (Cross-listed with SOC 8156)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and Junior standing, or permission of instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.
Distribution: U.S. Diversity General Education course

SOC 4170  SOCIOLOGY OF FATHERHOOD (3 credits)
This course examines the existing social science research on fatherhood, exploring topics such as the evolution, history, demography, and politics of fatherhood; father involvement and its relationship to both children's and men's well-being; the effects of diversity and family structure on fatherhood; and public policy surrounding fatherhood. (Cross-listed with SOC 8176)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and junior standing, or permission of instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.

SOC 4200  SOCIOLOGY OF THE BODY (3 credits)
This course offers an overview of contemporary sociological theories of the body and uses these theories to explore substantive issues pertaining to the discourses, practices, and politics of the body in modern societies.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and junior standing; or permission of instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.

SOC 4210  DISABILITY AND SOCIETY (3 credits)
This course takes a sociologically grounded but interdisciplinary look at the past, present, and potential future of disability. Along the way, competing models and theories of disability are critically explored and substantive issues pertaining to the social experiences and social responses to people with disabilities are discussed. (Cross-listed with SOC 8216)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and junior standing; or permission of instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.

SOC 4250  LATINO/A MIGRATION IN THE WORLD ECONOMY (3 credits)
This course covers issues related to: 1) the political-economic and socio-cultural factors that have shaped Latino/a migration streams historically and in today's world economy and, 2) contemporary empirical methodologies and findings related to the causes and multiple socioeconomic costs and benefits of migration streams for immigrants as well as sending and receiving communities. (Cross-listed with SOC 8256)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Enrollment in the sociology program or permission of the instructor.
Distribution: Global Diversity General Education course

SOC 4310  SOCIOLOGY OF SEXUALITIES (3 credits)
This class focuses on the social construction of sexualities - especially heterosexual sexualities, bisexual sexualities, and homosexual sexualities. A primary focus of the class will be LGBT/Queer Studies. The class examines how sexual desires/identities/orientations vary or remain the same in different places and times, and how they interact with other social and cultural phenomenon such as government, family, popular culture, scientific inquiry, and race, gender, and class. (Cross-listed with SOC 8316)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and Junior standing; or permission of the instructor. Not open to non-degree graduate students.
Distribution: U.S. Diversity General Education course

SOC 4350  WORK & FAMILY (3 credits)
This course examines the contemporary problems that individuals, families and communities in the U.S. have in integrating work and family/personal life. (Cross-listed with SOC 8356)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and junior or senior standing; or permission of instructor.

SOC 4500  LAW, THE FAMILY, AND PUBLIC POLICY (3 credits)
This course analyzes law and public policy affecting the family in a variety of areas, which include: family violence; divorce, child custody, and child support; reproductive technology, contraception, and abortion; unmarried couples' and parents' rights; welfare; care and support of the aged; rights of parents to determine education and health care of their children; adoption and foster care, etc. New policy proposals and likely changes in law are considered, as well as the process of policy formation and legal change. The role of the professional in this system, including legal regulation and ethical issues, is considered. (Cross-listed with SOC 8506)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior standing or above and six hours of social sciences or human services or permission.

SOC 4550  SOCIAL DIVERSITY IN ORGANIZATIONS (3 credits)
This course focuses on the sociological understanding, analysis and management of social diversity in the workplace. Major issues and attitudes toward racial and ethnic minorities, older workers and workers with disabilities, as well as strategies for implementing diversity in the workplace are examined. (Cross-listed with SOC 8556)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior or senior standing, plus two of the following: SOC 1010, SOC 3180, SOC 3610, SOC 3800, SOC 3900, or SOC 4620

SOC 4620  SOCIOLOGY OF FORMAL ORGANIZATIONS (3 credits)
Examines organizational theory and research. Analyzes organizational problems such as goals and effectiveness; authority, leadership and control; professionals in organizations; communications; clients; organizational change, and organizations and their environments. Comparative analysis of many types of organizations such as business, industry, schools, prisons, and hospitals with special attention given to human-service organizations. (Cross-listed with SOC 8626)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Nine hours of sociology including SOC 1010

SOC 4700  WOMEN'S HEALTH AND ISSUES OF DIVERSITY (3 credits)
This course provides a critical understanding of the inter-relationship between socio-cultural, economic, and political factors and women's physical and mental health. The aim is to provide an overview of the experience with the health care system. Emphasis will be on critically examining recent scholarship from a sociological, behavioral, health policy perspective. (Cross-listed with SOC 8706, PHHB 4700, PHHB 8706)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior standing or permission of the instructor.
Distribution: U.S. Diversity General Education course

SOC 4710  DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY (3 credits)
An intellectual history of sociology as an academic discipline surveying outstanding contributions to its body of theory. Stress is placed on the development of sociology as a science with illustrative materials drawn from the established works of recent decades although backgrounds to these are traced to their ancient and medieval antecedents where applicable.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Sociology major (seniors only) or permission of instructor.
SOC 4740  SOCIAL JUSTICE AND SOCIAL CHANGE (3 credits)
This course investigates the economic, political and social constraints on equality present in local, national and global arrangements. Students will gain a theoretical understanding of these conditions as well as those that lead to social change, spanning from day-to-day resistance techniques to large scale social movements. Students will participate in a service learning or applied project as they explore contemporary social justice issues and learn both theoretical and practical tools needed to become successful change makers, activists, or community organizers. Examples of social justice movements or campaigns form the basis for understanding injustice at a local, national, and global level. (Cross-listed with SOC 8746)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and junior standing; or permission of instructor.

SOC 4750  SOCIAL CHANGE AND GLOBALIZATION (3 credits)
A historical and comparative review of theories, models, and political ideologies of social change. Topics include the globalization model of social change and the role that governments, transnational corporations, multilateral agencies, and local groups and organizations play today in creating and responding to social change. (Cross-listed with SOC 8756)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and junior or higher.

SOC 4760  ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY (3 credits)
This course is an introduction to environmental sociology, a field of sociology that explores the interaction between the environment and society. Environmental sociologists consider how political, social, and economic factors have come to shape our patterns of interaction with the natural and built environment. Students will be expected to use the sociological perspective to understand the landscape of environmental problems, focusing on such issues as environment and health, disaster, environmental policy, climate change, environmental risk, human and animal interactions, sustainability, environmental justice and social movements. (Cross-listed with SOC 8766).
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and junior standing or permission of instructor.

SOC 4800  CONTEMPORARY TOPICS IN SOCIOLOGY (3 credits)
This course reviews research and writing in an area of current interest in the field of sociology. The specific topic(s) to be covered will be announced at the time the course is being offered. Since the topics will vary, students may elect to take this course more than once. (Cross-listed with SOC 8806)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 and junior standing; or permission of instructor.

SOC 4820  TEAM RESEARCH SEMINAR (3 credits)
Students participate in a semester long class research project. Students will be involved in all stages of research: problem formulation, literature review, research design, measurement construction, data collection, data analysis, report writing and presentation of findings. The project’s focus will vary, but it may often involve issues confronting Omaha, a particular organization or a specific group of people. (Cross-listed with SOC 8826)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior and SOC 2510 and permission of instructor.

SOC 4830  SOCIOLOGY OF MENTAL HEALTH & ILLNESS (3 credits)
This course will apply the sociological perspective to various topics regarding mental health and illness. The course will cover topics such as the social construction of mental illness, the social epidemiology of mental illness, labeling and stigma of those with a mental illness, and mental health policy/treatment. (Cross-listed with SOC 8836)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010, and junior standing or permission of the instructor.

SOC 4850  SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION (3 credits)
Analysis of religious behaviors from a sociological and social-psychological perspective, and utilizing both theoretical and empirical materials. The class is designed as an introductory approach to the sociology of religion, and the first in a two-step sequence, undergraduate and graduate. (Cross-listed with SOC 8856)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010 or permission of instructor.

SOC 4900  SENIOR THESIS (4 credits)
This is a research course designed for sociology majors who are in their senior year. Each student will develop an original thesis project in this course. This course meets the UNO general education requirement for a third, upper division writing course. Students will produce an original 20 page thesis based upon material of special interest to them over the course of their major field of study.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOC 1010, 2120, 2130, 2134, 3510, 3514, and six (6) additional hours of upper division sociology or anthropology courses. Sociology majors and senior standing. Not open to non-degree graduate students.
Distribution: Writing in the Discipline Single Course

SOC 4910  INTERNSHIP IN SOCIOLOGY (1-3 credits)
This course offers students an opportunity to experience sociology and/or anthropology through direct involvement in non-profit, for profit, government, or other organization. The host organization must be approved in advance in consultation with the internship coordinator. This course may be repeated for a maximum of six credit hours.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Senior standing and permission of instructor.

SOC 4990  INDEPENDENT STUDY (1-3 credits)
Guided readings or independent research in special topics under the supervision of a faculty member. A formal contract specifying the nature of the work to be completed must be signed before registering for the course. SOC 4990 may be taken for a maximum of six hours.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Permission of instructor.