

## Course Descriptions

### Sociology (SSOC)

*Note: Sociology 101 is prerequisite to all other sociology courses. Sociology 101, 301, 302 and 499 are core courses.*

**SSOC 101. Introduction to Sociology (3)** Introduction to the major theoretical and methodological perspectives used to explain, investigate and analyze social life.

**SSOC 201. Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences (3)** Fundamental principles of descriptive and inferential statistics as used in the social sciences, including measures of central tendency and variation, the normal approximation, probability, chance variability, estimation, hypothesis testing, and correlation.

**SSOC 301. Sociological Theory (3)** Roots and historical development of various sociological lenses as tools for examining the social world.

**SSOC 302. Sociological Research Methods (3)** Quantitative, qualitative and comparative methods used in social science research, focusing on research design, data collection and analysis, and ethical issues. Prerequisite or corequisite: SSOC 301 or consent of instructor.

**SSOC 310. Individual and Society (3)** Selected theoretical orientations, methodological procedures, and research findings pertaining to the relations between the individual and society.

**SSOC 311. Social Problems (3)** Content selected for contemporary importance and sociological relevance.

**SSOC 320. Sociology of Aging (3)** Processes of aging as a form of socialization and demographic reality, including institutional effects. The status of the elderly and the sources of prejudice and discrimination they experience are emphasized.

**SSOC 321. Animals and Society (3)** Sociological perspectives on human-animal interaction and the role of animals in society.

**SSOC 323. Urban Sociology (3)** Characteristics, causes, and impacts of city life. Different types of urban areas and current issues are examined from comparative, historical, and global perspectives.

**SSOC 325. Social Movements (3)** Characteristics, causes, and impacts of social and political movements in the modern world. Different types of movements, including the American civil rights movement, are examined from comparative, historical, and global perspectives.

**SSOC 327. Population Dynamics (3) (=SGEG 340)** Issues in measurement of the distribution and development of human population. Applies the analytical methods used in accounting for the effects of births, deaths and migrations.

**SSOC 328. Social Demography (3)** Selected theoretical orientations, methodological procedures and historical perspectives related to the social analysis and context of demographic change.

**SSOC 329. Social Change (3)** Applies sociological lenses to current major social, cultural, economic, political, and global transformations, emphasizing their interrelationships.

**SSOC 330. Social Inequality (3)** Theoretical perspectives and research on the unequal distribution of wealth power, and prestige in social life on a global, national, and local scale. Attention is given to the impact of globalization on social stratification.

**SSOC 333. Race and Ethnic Relations (3)** Examines the basic concepts of race and ethnicity, relevant sociological theories, and their application to critical issues.

**SSOC 335. Sociology of Women (3)** Theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of women in societies. The importance of gender in defining women's roles is emphasized, along with the role of social institutions in contributing to the subordination of women as a group.

**SSOC 337. Gender and Society (3).** A sociological investigation of gender as a fundamental principle of social life. The interdependence of gender constructions and of societies' inequality structures across social institutions is explored.

**SSOC 339. Women and Armed Conflict (3)** Women's lives in the context of armed conflict examined from comparative, historical and global perspectives.

**SSOC 341. Sociology of Families (3)** Methods and theories used in the examination of intimate human relationships, including parenting, violence and abuse, and divorce and remarriage. Emphasizes the social factors that bring about change in family-related behaviors and create diversity in family forms.

**SSOC 343. Political Sociology (3)** The societal conditions affecting political ideas, institutions, and practices. The role of politics in society is examined from comparative, historical, and global perspectives.

**SSOC 345. Sociology of Religion (3)** The societal conditions affecting religious beliefs, institutions, and practices. The role of religion in society is examined from comparative, historical, and global perspectives.

**SSOC 347. Sociology of Organizations and Work (3)** Sociological investigation of how post-industrial society and globalization impact the workplace, jobs, workers, gender, families and communities. The role of leadership in organizations is also examined.

**SSOC 351. Social Deviance (3) (=SCRJ 423)** Theories, methods and substantive issues in the creation, involvement, recognition and control of deviance. Sociological theories and pertinent research data are integrated in the context of contemporary societal issues.

**SSOC 353. Sociology of Crime (3)** Social factors in the development, identification, and treatment of crime and criminals.

**SSOC 355. Juvenile Delinquency (3) (=SCRJ 351)** Social factors in the development, identification and treatment of delinquents and juvenile delinquency in the context of juvenile justice systems.

**SSOC 357. Sociology of Mental Health and Mental Illness (3)** Social factors in the development, identification, and treatment of mental illness.

**SSOC 391. Special Topics (3)** Emerging issues in contemporary sociology. Selected topics organized around faculty and student areas of special interest. This course can be taken more than once if the topic is different.

**SSOC 395. Internship (3)** Supervised work experience in a community agency based on an individualized, contracted program planned in conjunction with the relevant sociology faculty member. Ten hours per week in the field placement, at least three class meetings, and a formal, written sociological analysis of the field experience are required. The course may be taken more than once, but may be applied toward major credit in sociology only once. Normally offered every spring semester.

**SSOC 399. Independent Study (1-6)** An individualized, contracted program of study planned in conjunction with a sociology faculty member.

**SSOC 499. Senior Seminar (3)** A capstone course designed around topics selected by faculty. Emphasis is on research with written and oral presentations. Prerequisites: SSOC 301, 302, and 12 additional hours of upper level sociology with a C or better and statistics.