NEW/CHANGE PROGRAM REQUEST
Undergraduate Programs

UUPC Approval 9-14-2026
UFS Approval _____
Banner _____
Catalog _____

Department Sociology

College Arts & Letters

Program Name
Sociology BA

☐ **New Program***
☑ **Change Program***

Effective Date
(TERM & YEAR)
Spring 2027

Please explain the requested change(s) and offer rationale below or on an attachment.

The Department of Sociology is submitting two updates to the Sociology BA program.

(1) Removing blanket prerequisites from our 4000-level courses. Several years ago, we made SYA 3010 Sociological Theory and SYA 3300 Research Methods prerequisites for all 4000-level courses. This change has not had the originally intended effect and students have sometimes had difficulty completing the 6 credits of 4000-level courses required to graduate in a timely fashion. We would like to remove the blanket SYA 3010/3300 prerequisites to reintroduce flexibility for when/how students complete their 4000-level courses. Prerequisites will be handled course-by-course as necessary moving forward.

(2) The course catalog description for the Sociology BA program has become out-of-date with our current offerings and sometimes inconsistent with the course descriptions page. In addition to removing the 4000-level prerequisites, we are submitting minor housekeeping changes to update and clean up the program description and course description pages for accuracy and consistency.

*All new programs and changes to existing programs must be accompanied by a catalog entry showing the new or proposed changes.

Faculty Contact/Email/Phone

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Consult and list departments that may be affected by the change(s) and attach documentation

None applicable

Approved by	***Date***
Department Chair	8/17/26
College Curriculum Chair	08/30/2026
College Dean	08/31/2026
UUPC Chair Korey Sorge	9-14-2026
Undergraduate Studies Dean Dan Mecroff	9-14-2026
UFS President	
Provost	

Email this form and attachments to mjenning@fau.edu seven business days before the UUPC meeting.

PROPOSED PROGRAM CATALOG DESCRIPTION CHANGES

SOCIOLOGY

Faculty:
Backstrom, L., Chair; ~~Auguste, D.; Araghi, F.;~~ Branaman, A.; ~~Harvey, M.;~~ Hough, P.; ~~Koppelman, C.;~~ Kim, Y.; Lewin, P.; Lichtenstein, M.; McConnell, W.; ~~Ortiz, S.;~~ Seeley, J. L.; Widener, P.

FAU's Sociology major is distinctive as a flexible "skills based" major. The major lets students choose a plan of study that suits their career interests, focuses on topics that intrigue and challenge them, and helps them to build their own "sociological tool chest" for addressing personal and social problems. Every course includes coverage of core skills and basic knowledge of the discipline in addition to material that is distinctive to the topics. Because of how the major is designed, students who major in Sociology will have many opportunities to develop the skills necessary to ask and answer questions about social behavior, social structure and change, and social trends as well as to read skillfully, write and speak clearly and conduct effective presentations.

Sociology is growing in popularity as a major in the U.S. and across the world. This 21st century major gives students a firm foundation for a broad range of careers and, as importantly, for shaping a life in the face of the challenges and chaos of the current era. Sociology gives students the insights, knowledge and analytic tools to create an individual path and to contribute to shaping the direction of social and political change.

Link to Master's Program

SOCIOLOGY
BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.)

Health, Health Care and Social Services Concentration

(Minimum of 120 credits required)

The program in Sociology leads to a B.A. degree and is available in person or fully online. To earn a B.A. degree in Sociology, students must complete the following coursework with a minimum grade of "C" (33 total credits in the major):*

1. SYG 1000 (Sociological Perspectives) or SYD 3792 (Race, Class, Gender and Sexuality), 3 credits;
2. SYA (Sociological Theory), 3 credits;
3. SYA (Sociological Analysis: Survey of Methods), 3 credits;
4. Six 3000-level electives in Sociology, 18 credits;**
5. Two 4000-level electives in Sociology, 6 credits;
6. A minimum of 120 credits, 60 of which must be from a senior institution.

* While the total number of credits for the major is 33 (including SYG 1000), the major will be granted with only 30 credits in Sociology if students opt to take SYD 3792 as a substitute for SYG 1000.

** Students may substitute 4000-level courses for 3000-level courses.

Sociology majors are strongly encouraged to take more than 33 credits in Sociology and/or to pursue a second major, minor or certificate program in another field. As long as all university and college requirements are met, the Sociology major allows students to reach their required number of credits in any way they choose. Students often combine the study of Sociology with other liberal arts or professional fields to acquire double majors. A concentration in Health, Health Care and Social Services is available for Sociology majors. The Sociology department also offers honors in the major, a distinction for high-performing students.

Students entering FAU as freshmen must meet the University's General Education/four-year degree program requirements as listed in the Degree Requirements section of this catalog and the College's requirements as set forth under Undergraduate Programs in the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters.

FAU has a foreign language requirement that all students pursuing majors within the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters must fulfill for the B.A. degree. Students have met this requirement if they have passed or received credit for two semesters of one foreign language at one of Florida's state colleges or at another college or university. Students who have not completed two semesters of foreign language at a college or university must use 8 of their out-of-discipline credits to meet FAU's foreign language requirement, or pass the CLEP exam prior to graduation. For additional information, refer to the foreign language requirement policy.

Prerequisite Coursework for Transfer Students
Students transferring to Florida Atlantic University must complete both lower-

division requirements (including the requirements of the General Education Curriculum) and requirements for the College and major. Lower-division requirements may be completed through the A.A. degree from any Florida public college, university or community college or through equivalent coursework at another regionally accredited institution. Before transferring and to ensure timely progress toward the baccalaureate degree, students must also complete the prerequisite courses for their major as outlined in the *Transition Guides.*

All courses not approved by the Florida Statewide Course Numbering System that will be used to satisfy requirements will be evaluated individually on the basis of content and will require a catalog course description and a copy of the syllabus for assessment.

Degree Requirements
The following course sequence will lead to a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a Major in Sociology.

I. Introductory Sociology, 3 credits (choose one)

Course Title	Course Number	Credits
Sociological Perspectives	SYG 1000	3
Race, Class, Gender and Sexuality	SYD 3792	3

II. Theory and Research Methods, 6 credits

Course Title	Course Number	Credits
Sociological Theory	SYA 3010	3
Sociological Analysis: A Survey of Methods	SYA 3300	3

III. 3000-Level Electives, 18 credits

Course Title	Course Number	Credits

~~Contemporary Social Theory~~	~~SYA 3120~~	~~3~~
~~Social Conflict~~	~~SYA 3150~~	~~3~~
~~Special Topics~~	~~SYA 3930~~	~~3~~
~~Environmental Sociology~~	~~SYD 3510~~	~~3~~
~~Cities and Society~~	~~SYD 3602~~	~~3~~
~~Race in Global Context~~	~~SYD 4702~~	~~3~~
~~Sociology of the Body~~	~~SYD 3804~~	~~3~~
~~Sociology of Food~~	~~SYG 3244~~	~~3~~
~~Sociology of Religion~~	~~SYO 3200~~	~~3~~
~~Sociology of Education~~	~~SYO 3250~~	~~3~~
~~Class, Status and Power~~	~~SYO 3530~~	~~3~~
~~Poverty and Society~~	~~SYO 3534~~	~~3~~
~~Gender and Work~~	~~SYO 3370~~	~~3~~
~~Labor and Globalization~~	~~SYO 3377~~	~~3~~
~~Sociology of Mental Health~~	~~SYO 3410~~	~~3~~
~~Animals and Society~~	~~SYO 3448~~	~~3~~
~~Sociology of Happiness~~	~~SYP 3014~~	~~3~~
~~Sociology of Everyday Life~~	~~SYP 3112~~	~~3~~
~~Social Movements~~	~~SYP 3304~~	~~3~~
~~Social Change~~	~~SYP 3400~~	~~3~~
~~Sociology of Consumption~~	~~SYP 3420~~	~~3~~

~~Globalization and Social Movements~~	~~SYP 3454~~	~~3~~
~~Adolescence and Delinquency~~	~~SYP 3530~~	~~3~~
~~Drugs and Society~~	~~SYP 3550~~	~~3~~
~~Human Sexuality and Social Change~~	~~SYP 3060~~	~~3~~
~~Self and Society~~	~~SYP 3110~~	~~3~~
~~Social Control and Deviance~~	~~SYP 3570~~	~~3~~
~~The Sociology of Sport~~	~~SYP 3650~~	~~3~~
~~Sociology of Youth~~	~~SYP 3714~~	~~3~~
~~Sociology of Aging and Dying~~	~~SYP 3740~~	~~3~~
~~Youth Subcultures~~	~~SYP 3774~~	~~3~~
Contemporary Social Theory	SYA 3120	3
Social Conflict	SYA 3150	3
Special Topics	SYA 3930	3
Environmental Sociology	SYD 3510	3
Cities and Society	SYD 3602	3
Race and Ethnic Relations	SYD 3700	3
Gender and Society	SYD 3800	3
Sociology of the Body	SYD 3804	3
Sociology Study Abroad	SYG 2952	1-6
Career Paths in Sociology	SYG 3090	3
Sociology of Food	SYG 3244	3
Family and Society	SYO 3100	3
Family Politics: American Families and the Welfare State	SYO 3151	3
Sociology of Religion	SYO 3200	3

Sociology of Education	SYO 3250	3
Economy and Society	SYO 3353	3
Gender and Work	SYO 3370	3
Labor and Globalization	SYO 3377	3
Sociology of Mental Health	SYO 3410	3
Animals and Society	SYO 3448	3
Class, Status and Power	SYO 3530	3
Poverty and Society	SYO 3534	3
Organizational Sociology	SYO 3570	3
Human Sexuality and Social Change	SYP 3060	3
Sociology of Everyday Life	SYP 3112	3
Self and Society	SYP 3110	3
Social Movements	SYP 3304	3
Social Change	SYP 3400	3
Sociology of Consumption	SYP 3420	3
Globalization and Social Movements	SYP 3454	3
Adolescence and Delinquency	SYP 3530	3
Drugs and Society	SYP 3550	3
Social Control and Deviance	SYP 3570	3
Sociology of Popular Culture	SYP 3630	3
The Sociology of Sport	SYP 3650	3
Sociology of Youth	SYP 3714	3
Sociology of Aging and Dying	SYP 3740	3
Youth Subcultures	SYP 3774	3

IV. 4000-Level Electives, 6 credits*

Course Title	Course Number	Credits
Sociology of Happiness: Research Capstone	SYA 4303	3

Qualitative Research Methods	SYA 4310	3
Sociological Analysis: Quantitative Methods	SYA 4400	3
Directed Independent Study	SYA 4905	1-3
Special Topics	SYA 4930	1-3
Sociology Internship	SYG 4941	3
Sociology Study Abroad	SYG 4957	1-6
Sociology of Housing	SYD 4606	3
Race in Global Context	SYD 4702	3
~~Economy and Society~~	~~SYO 3353~~	~~3~~
~~Organizational Sociology~~	~~SYO 3570~~	~~3~~
Constructing Sexuality	SYP 4063	3
Technology and Society	SYP 4421	3
Globalization and Inequality	SYP 4453	3
Sociology of Climate and Disaster	SYP 4464	3
Sociology of Culture	SYP 4610	3
~~Sociology of Popular Culture~~	~~SYP 3630~~	~~3~~

~~*The prerequisite for entrance into 4000-level courses in Sociology is the completion of SYA 3010 and SYA 3300.~~

Health, Health Care and Social Services Concentration

The Health, Health Care and Social Services concentration prepares students for careers in health and social services-related fields through developing relevant background knowledge and analytical skills. The concentration includes courses from subfields in Sociology focused on health and illness, mental health, aging, disability, the health care industry and related social policy issues such as poverty and housing. Students in this program take courses that include topics relevant to a wide variety of health and social services professions and develop the skills to pursue educational and career opportunities in those areas.

For this concentration, students take at least 12 credits from the list of courses below. All courses must be completed with a minimum of "C+" to count toward the concentration.

Course Title	Course Number	Credits
~~Special Topics (with departmental permission)~~	~~SYA 4930~~	~~1-3~~
~~Sociology Internship (with departmental permission)~~	~~SYG 4941~~	~~3~~
Sociology of the Body	SYD 3804	3
Sociology of Housing	SYD 4606	3
Sociology of Health, Medicine and Illness	SYO 3400	3
Sociology of Mental Health	SYO 3410	3
Poverty and Society	SYO 3534	3
Human Sexuality and Social Change	SYP 3060	3
Drugs and Society	SYP 3550	3
Sociology of Aging and Dying	SYP 3740	3
Special Topics (with departmental permission)	SYA 4930	1-3
Sociology Internship (with departmental permission)	SYG 4941	3

HONORS PROGRAM IN SOCIOLOGY

The mission of the Sociology Honors Program is to provide a highly performing group of sociology majors the opportunity to enhance their academic writing abilities and acquire research skills under the guidance of sociology faculty.

Through writing and research intensive coursework and participation in an original research project, Sociology Honors students will have firsthand experience with all aspects of the research process including working collaboratively with fellow students and faculty, writing and revising a journal article length piece and presenting findings in a professional setting.

Entry Requirements
Students apply after completing a minimum of 12 credit hours in sociology. After grades are processed, applications are reviewed. Qualified students are invited for an informational interview with the Honors Program Director and a representative from the Research Team faculty.

Application Requirements

1. Minimum overall GPA of 3.5 and a GPA of 3.7 or above in sociology courses (minimum of 12 credits completed);
2. No more than 10% of sociology majors are admitted to the Honors program.

Program Standards

1. Students must maintain a cumulative 3.5 GPA throughout the program to progress.
2. If less than a B is earned in any sociology course or the student's cumulative GPA falls below 3.5, the student will be dismissed from the Honors in Sociology program.
3. Students admitted to the Honors Program must maintain high academic and ethical standards.

Honors Level Enrichment
Students must complete at least three of the following 3-credit courses:

1. A graduate-level methods course (Research Methods, Qualitative Methods, or Quantitative Methods) or an undergraduate methods course with an Honors compact;
2. A graduate-level substantive course;
3. A Research-Intensive 4000-level sociology course; or
4. A 3-credit Directed Independent Study (DIS) or Directed Independent Research (DIR) with a faculty member.

Capstone Experience (students must complete one of the following)
Thesis Requirement:

1. A senior-level thesis must be produced by honors students;
2. Length of senior thesis must be at least 30 double-spaced pages;
3. The capstone experience is overseen by two qualified research faculty members; and, Students present their thesis at a department workshop.

Research Team:

1. Honors students work on a research team directed by two or more qualified research faculty members;
2. The research team collectively gathers data, writes a literature review and analyzes results; and
3. Students will present their findings at a department workshop.

Graduation Eligibility

1. Students maintain an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher;
2. Students maintain a GPA of 3.7 or higher in sociology courses;
3. Students have completed three of the following: a graduate-level methods courses (Research Methods, Qualitative Methods, or Quantitative Methods) or an undergraduate methods course with an Honors compact, a graduate-level substantive course, a Research-Intensive 4000-level sociology course, a 3-credit Directed Independent Study (DIS) or Directed Independent Research (DIR) with a faculty member; and
4. Students have completed the capstone project.

Benefits to students include gaining research skills required for graduate school and careers; improving writing skills; increasing interaction with faculty members in the sociology department, and completing the undergraduate degree with honors distinction. Students with honors distinction receive honors cords at commencement.

SOCIOLOGY
UNDERGRADUATE MINOR

(Minimum of 12 credits required)

Students seeking a minor in Sociology are required to take a minimum of four courses (12 credits) of upper-division (3000- and 4000-level) courses in sociology. Of the 12 credits, at least 9 must be earned from FAU. Students are

required to earn a grade of "C" or better in each sociology course for it to count toward the minor.

PROPOSED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS PAGE CHANGES

SOCIOLOGY

Undergraduate Courses/ Link to Graduate Courses

Sociological Theory (SYA 3010) 3 credits
Prerequisite: ~~SYD 3792 or~~ SYG 1000 or SYD 3792
This course provides an introduction and overview of some of the major theoretical traditions in sociology. Students learn about the development of sociology as a discipline, as well as how to use different sociological theories to make sense of social structures, social action and social change in the contemporary world.

Contemporary Social Theory (SYA 3120) 3 credits
Prerequisite: SYG 1000 or SYD 3792
This course introduces students to the major contemporary theoretical traditions in sociology, ranging from symbolic interactionism to postmodernism. Students learn about the continued development of sociology after the classical period, as well as how to use different sociological theories to make sense of contemporary social life and current events.

Social Conflict (SYA 3150) 3 credits
An analysis of conflict and conflict resolution and their sources in human society.

Sociological Analysis: A Survey of Methods (SYA 3300) 3 credits
Prerequisite: ~~SYD 3792 or~~ SYG 1000 or SYD 3792
This course introduces students to social science research methods used to study and understand human societies. Students learn the fundamentals of research design, measurement, sampling, data collection, data analysis and presentation using both quantitative and qualitative methods. Students in this course gain hands-on research experience by designing, executing and presenting a pilot research project based on human subjects.

Special Topics (SYA 3930) 3 credits
This course features an in-depth analysis of a current issue in society. Topics vary from semester to semester.

Sociology of Happiness: Research Capstone (SYA 4303) 3 credits
~~Prerequisites: SYA 3010, SYA 3300 with minimum grade of "C"~~
In this course, students learn how to conduct sociological research on the topic of happiness. The skills learned about sociological research can be applied to any

topic having to do with people and societies. But in this course the topic is happiness. Students complete a final term paper based on individual sociological research on the topic of happiness.

Qualitative Research Methods (SYA 4310) 3 credits
~~*Prerequisites: SYA 3010 and SYA 3300*~~
This course focuses on qualitative and/or comparative-historical methods of social research. Specifically this course addresses issues involved in designing and conducting field and comparative-historical research, and explores techniques, including interviewing, participant observation, and archival research.

Sociological Analysis: Quantitative Methods (SYA 4400) 3 credits
~~*Prerequisites: SYA 3010 and SYA 3300*~~
Design and execution of original research on social class, race, ethnicity, gender, and other issues central to contemporary sociology. Students explore various quantitative techniques using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and national survey and census data.

Directed Independent Study (SYA 4905) 1-3 credits
Prerequisite: Permission of department

Special Topics (SYA 4930) 1-3 credits
~~*Prerequisites: SYA 3010 and SYA 3300*~~
An in-depth analysis of current social problems. Topics vary from semester to semester.

Environmental Sociology (SYD 3510) 3 credits
This course exposes students to the sociological study of the relationship between society and the environment. Students gain an understanding of how global economic and political forces shape environmental change, how the environment is socially constructed, the connections between environment and social inequalities, and the emergence and effects of environmental movements.

Cities and Society (SYD 3602) 3 credits
This course explores core questions of urban sociology including, what makes a place “urban,” how urban space affects social relations among individuals, groups and institutions, and how social forces shape cities. It examines various cities and urban experiences, surveys major theories in urban sociology and provides tools for analyzing local urban spaces and for linking them to broader national and global forces.

Race and Ethnic Relations (SYD 3700) 3 credits
This course surveys sociological perspectives of intergroup relations. It examines the evolution of race, the construction of racial and ethnic distinctions and the roles and experiences of racial and ethnic groups in the United States from a historical perspective.

Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality (SYD 3792) 3 credits
This course examines the roles played by race, class, gender and sexuality in identity and group formation as well as societal differentiation. It shows how inequalities along those lines shape and are shaped by social institutions including the media, education, the economy and family.

Gender and Society (SYD 3800) 3 credits
~~*Prerequisites: Nine credits of coursework in Sociology at the 1000, 2000 and/or 3000 levels*~~
This course surveys the subfield of the sociology of gender. It examines competing theoretical explanations of gender from a sociological perspective. Topics include gender difference, socialization, stratification and gendered social institutions such as families, work and the media.

Sociology of the Body (SYD 3804) 3 credits
This course examines social and cultural factors and processes connected to prejudice, discrimination, oppression, social stratification and social/cultural change in connection to bodies. An overview of the connection between the body and personal identity is presented with an emphasis on stigma management and how identity is enacted through body projects.

Sociology of Housing (SYD 4606) 3 credits
~~*Prerequisites: SYA 3010 and SYA 3300 and SYD 3792 or SYG 1000*~~
This course explores the causes and consequences of affordable housing crises in the United States. Students learn about the relationship between housing and social inequalities, how government policies shape housing access and affordability, and the research methods sociologists employ to study housing conditions and outcomes. These themes are explored through historical and contemporary case studies, such as foreclosure and homelessness during the Great Depression, redlining and urban renewal in the post-WWII era, the 2008 Subprime Mortgage Crisis and widespread affordability crises following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Race in Global Context (SYD 4702) 3 credits
~~*Prerequisites: SYA 3010 and SYA 3300, or permission of instructor*~~
This course presents an examination of race and ethnic relations from a

contemporary global perspective. Three broad questions are explored: What does "race" mean? How do global processes and local contexts produce the meaning of race? In what ways has globalization changed the use of race classifications? This is a research-oriented course that requires students to complete an original research project on race/ethnicity and give a presentation of their work to the class.

Sociological Perspectives (SYG 1000) 3 credits
In this course, students will gain an understanding of the basic sociological concepts and vocabulary, including the methodological tools, sociological perspectives and scientific procedures used by social scientists to collect data and conduct research. Topics generally include: society and culture, institutions, socialization, influences, crime, change, groups, sex, race and ethnicity, family, class, and population.

University Honors Seminar in Sociology (SYG 1930) 3 credits
Writing Across Curriculum (College-Level Communication Skills, formerly Gordon Rule)
A seminar in the University Honors Program on topics in sociology.

Social Problems (SYG 2010) 3 credits
This course focuses on the development, analysis and treatment of social problems: crime, poverty, prejudice and discrimination, pollution and environmental despoliation, and drug abuse and mental illness. Emphasizes factors in U.S. society that cause social problems.

Sociology Study Abroad (SYG 2952) 1-6 credits
Prerequisite: Sophomore standing
Credit for enrollment in approved study abroad programs.

Career Paths in Sociology (SYG 3090) 3 credits
Prerequisite: For Sociology major or minor
In this course, students are exposed to various marketable skills that will assist them in preparing for a career after graduation or for graduate school through "real-world" exposure using micro internships and supervised experience related to various career interests in Sociology. Like in any major, Sociology majors end up working in many different jobs. This course provides the most common career paths for Sociology majors. A portion of the course will be spent investigating what one can do with a Sociology degree. An introduction of possible levels of employment in the private or public sectors will be reviewed. Ultimately, this course begins to assist students in developing a plan for professional employment.

Sociology of Food (SYG 3244) 3 credits
This course examines the relationship between our individual food choices and the larger social, cultural, economic and political forces that shape the global food system.

Directed Independent Research in Sociology (SYG 4915) 1-3 credits
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor
Students work with research mentors to conduct research and inquiry in sociology. Requirements for the course and the criteria for evaluation are agreed upon by the mentor and student.

Sociology Internship (SYG 4941) 3 credits
Prerequisites: ~~SYA 3010 and SYA 3300~~ ~~SYG 3090~~
This internship opportunity allows sociology majors to gain community experience by working with a local organization or agency in the tri-county region. Students gain firsthand experience and practical knowledge and will be able to apply their studies to real world situations. This internship may serve multiple purposes, including community-centered learning, networking, skills and interest development, and assistance in determining future careers or career opportunities.

Sociology Study Abroad (SYG 4957) 1-6 credits
Prerequisite: Sophomore standing
Credit for enrollment in approved study abroad programs.

Honors Thesis in Sociology (SYG 4972) 3 credits
Prerequisite: Good standing in Sociology Honors Program
The senior thesis is an independent study that leads to an original piece of research. The thesis should develop a theoretical argument, situate the research in contemporary sociological literature and provide empirical findings. Students work closely with two qualified faculty members to develop the project. Students must present their findings at a Sociology Department workshop. The senior thesis is available only to students accepted into the Sociology Honors Program.

Families in the United States (SYO 2101) 3 credits
In this course, students will explore the family as a fundamental social unit in American society. Students will examine the macro historical processes that have shaped families over time within the context of American culture. As they do so, students will develop an understanding of basic social and behavioral concepts and well-established scientific methods used by social scientists to investigate social phenomena. This is a General Education course.

Family and Society (SYO 3100) 3 credits
This course examines the family as a socially constructed institution with deep importance for the structuring of society. Students explore how family forms and activities are shaped by broader social, cultural, political and economic forces. Focusing on marriage and family over the life course, course topics include dating and love, the formation of partnerships and marriages, parenting choices, divorce and remarriage, work-family balance and intergenerational relationships.

Family Politics: American Families and the Welfare State (SYO 3151) 3 credits
This course examines how social and economic forces have shaped the American family, from reform movements and charitable organizations in the colonial and industrial era, to state-run welfare services in the Progressive Era, culminating in the policies of recent decades. Students track how social institutions, socioeconomic trends, regulatory frameworks, and political shifts have influenced American values and norms linked to marriage, reproduction and child raising. Students consider how those policies may differently affect families of varying backgrounds.

Sociology of Religion (SYO 3200) 3 credits
For millennia, religion has remained a powerful force of social cohesion, meaning, order and disruption in society. This course examines how religious ideas and practices shape politics, social norms and social institutions, including schools and families. The course uses sociological tools to examine changing forms of American religious identity, analyze the difference between religious beliefs and religious practices, and show how religion is embedded in some of the most heated current debates in society.

Sociology of Education (SYO 3250) 3 credits
This course examines our education system from a sociological perspective, with an emphasis on the causes and consequences of educational inequality. It explores the relationship between social characteristics such as residential location and socio-economic status and quality, content of schooling received, how long students stay in school and their later trajectories in adulthood.

Economy and Society (SYO 3353) 3 credits
This course introduces students to the sociological study of the economy. It emphasizes the social, political and cultural dimensions of markets and economic actions. Specifically, it examines how markets and economic actions are socially constructed and how they are shaped by different historical and cultural contexts.

Gender and Work (SYO 3370) 3 credits
This course examines how gender structures the division of labor, including labor markets and domestic labor. Students explore how gender shapes paid and unpaid work as well as how that work produces gender and related inequalities at the individual and social levels.

Sociology of Work (SYO 3372) 3 credits
This course provides students with an introduction to the sociology of work. Topics include the role that workplaces and labor markets play in creating and reproducing social inequality; the social dynamics of labor unions, labor movements and class conflict in the workplace; the relationship between work and self-identity; how individuals select and are sorted into jobs; how recent changes in the workplace have impacted families, relationships and the process of becoming an adult; and how the cultural meaning and significance of work has changed over time.

Labor and Globalization (SYO 3377) 3 credits
Exposes undergraduate students to the substantive debates in the sociological literature on globalization and the fate of labor movements, drawing from a world-historical approach that helps elucidate global as well as local patterns of labor movement activity.

Sociology of Health, Medicine and Illness (SYO 3400) 3 credits
This course introduces students to the sociological perspective on the social determinants of health and illness. Students study how social factors like race, gender, and class shape individual health outcomes, and how patients and medical providers experience the healthcare system. This course examines the economic structures that distinguish American healthcare from other countries' healthcare systems.

Sociology of Mental Health (SYO 3410) 3 credits
This course introduces students to the scientific study of mental health from an interdisciplinary perspective with an emphasis on the social, cultural and political meanings of mental health. Students examine contemporary and historical issues in the field of mental health including how to define and treat mental disorders, mental health stigma, the pharmaceutical industry, access to mental health services, social inequalities in mental health and stress.

Animals and Society (SYO 3448) 3 credits
This course introduces students to the sociological study of the complex and changing relationship between animals and society. Topics include the human use of animals in science, entertainment and food; the role of animals in assisting

humans; the experiences of humans who work with animals; the social dynamics of pet ownership; and the development and effects of the Animal Rights Movement.

Class, Status, and Power (SYO 3530) 3 credits
A comparative analysis of the causes and consequences of social inequality. Concentration on the individual and societal effects of differential access to power and privilege in plural societies.

Poverty and Society (SYO 3534) 3 credits
This course introduces students to the sociological study of poverty from a historical and global perspective, with a focus on structural sources of poverty. It explores how changes in the economy, public policies and social norms and practices affect the incidence and experience of poverty. Students also examine the link between globalization and poverty in the United States and beyond.

RI: Poverty and Society (SYO 3534) 3 credits
This course introduces students to the sociological study of poverty. Students learn how social structural factors determine the extent of poverty in a society, the variation in the character of poverty across space and time, and the uneven extent to which specific social groups experience poverty (e.g., women, children, racial and ethnic minorities). This is a research-intensive (RI) course that requires students to complete an original research project on poverty and give a formal presentation of their work to the class.

Organizational Sociology (SYO 3570) 3 credits
~~*Prerequisites: Nine credits of coursework in Sociology at the 1000, 2000 and/or 3000 levels*~~
Course explores one of the key social forms structuring modern life: the organization. Examining the origins, persistence and death of organizations, this course provides an overview of sociological approaches to understanding how social life shapes the forms organizations take and how organizations' actions impact social life. Topics covered include bureaucracy, inequality, social change and economic development.

International Sociology (SYP 2450) 3 credits
This introductory course explores social, political, and economic dimensions of issues such as the international market, worldwide spread of infectious diseases, and environmental change and development. The course evaluates how sociology transcends national boundaries and affects daily lives and human behaviors.

Sociology of Emotions (SYP 3011) 3 credits
This course provides an overview of the subfield of sociology of emotions with a focus on the social construction of emotion. Students explore different sociological explanations for emotions and how they contrast with non-sociological theories of emotion as psychological or biological. Topics covered include emotion work, emotion management, feeling rules, emotions and inequality, and emotions at home, at work and in popular culture.

Sociology of Happiness (SYP 3014) 3 credits
Addresses classical and contemporary sociologists' views of what happiness is, what promotes it and what limits it. Also considered are current national and cross-national social movements aiming to increase happiness.

Human Sexuality and Social Change (SYP 3060) 3 credits
This course provides a sociological perspective on human sexuality, examining how sexual attitudes, identities and behaviors are shaped by broader cultural, social and historical contexts. Special attention is given to the causes and consequences of society's beliefs about and organization of human sexuality as well as how those beliefs and structures have changed over time.

Self and Society (SYP 3110) 3 credits
This course provides an overview of sociological social psychology with a focus on the social construction of emotions, the self, and social interaction. In this course, students examine the social dimensions of the self and emotions including how they are socially learned, regulated and distributed in the population.

Sociology of Everyday Life (SYP 3112) 3 credits
This course explores how everyday interactions produce social life as well as individual identities and selves; it also examines how everyday social life is shaped by broader societal patterns. Special attention is upon microsociological theories of categorical identities including race, gender and class.

Social Movements (SYP 3304) 3 credits
This course explores how forms of social protest may create social change. Through careful analysis of major social movements such as civil rights, labor, feminist/women's, ecological/environmental movements, and others, the course explores why and how social movements emerge, decline, and change social institutions and relationships.

Social Change (SYP 3400) 3 credits
This course exposes students to classical and contemporary sociological theories

and their implication for social change. By engaging with topics such as modernization, social movements, revolutions and post-industrial society, students learn how to identify historical and contemporary mechanisms of social change, evaluate theories of social change and use these to analyze current social trends.

Sociology of Consumption (SYP 3420) 3 credits
This course introduces students to the sociological study of life in consumer society from the perspective of both labor and leisure. Students examine the making and consumption of diverse products and services, including clothes, toys, food and dining, music, tourism and weddings, as well as issues related to spectator sports, celebrities and influencer cultures.

Globalization and Cities (SYP 3451) 3 credits
Course focuses on understanding the relationship of the city and urban phenomena to global economic processes. Students are introduced to several traditional sociological theories of urban development. Course also considers gender and race dynamics in urban and global contexts.

Globalization and Social Movements (SYP 3454) 3 credits
This course explores the relationship between social movements and globalization and focuses on social movements in different national and historical contexts.

Adolescence and Delinquency (SYP 3530) 3 credits
An analysis of sociological issues in defining delinquency in changing society; the nature of adolescence; current theories of delinquent behavior; modes of social control applied to juvenile delinquency.

Drugs and Society (SYP 3550) 3 credits
This course explores issues of drug consumption, production and marketing from a sociological perspective. Students examine how drugs and drug use are socially defined, as well as how social contexts shape patterns of drug use. Students also learn about how legal drug use is shaped by the pharmaceutical industry, including the influence of companies on doctors, what drugs are sold in the market and how drugs are regulated by government agencies.

Social Control and Deviance (SYP 3570) 3 credits
This course examines sociological theories of deviance (non-conformity to social norms) and social control, emphasizing types and causes of deviant behavior and the means of enforcing conformity.

Sociology of Popular Culture (SYP 3630) 3 credits
This course examines different forms of popular culture, including art, music, literature, fashion and mass media from a sociological perspective. It also explores various meanings of popular culture and its complex relations with folk culture, elite culture, subcultures, countercultures, mass media and social media.

The Sociology of Sport (SYP 3650) 3 credits
This course is an introduction to the sociology of sports. It emphasizes the history and nature of sports, as well as the role that sports play in society, as well as interrelations between sports and other social institutions, including government, markets, the family, religion, education and the media.

Sociology of Youth (SYP 3714) 3 credits
This course examines how young people's lives are shaped by social forces and how the youth, in turn, help to construct their social contexts. Topics include the social construction of childhood and youth as parts of the life course, the roles of media, schooling, family and peers in shaping youth identities, and the impact of the youth on their societies through music, subcultures and student movements.

Sociology of Aging and Dying (SYP 3740) 3 credits
This course examines how aging and dying are defined, experienced and managed in contemporary society. Moving beyond purely biological understandings of aging and dying, this course explores how cultural values and norms, social psychological processes, demographic trends and social institutions shape these stages of the life course.

Youth Subcultures (SYP 3774) 3 credits
This course examines young people who use music, fashion, slang and unique lifestyles to differentiate themselves from mainstream society. Drawing from case studies of b-boys, punks, skinheads, satanists, incels, ravers and other historical and contemporary subcultures, the course examines the causes and consequences of youth deviance; how youth employ deviance to express unmet needs, construct new identities and critique deficiencies they perceive in mainstream society; and why authority figures sometimes employ social control to suppress youth subcultures.

Constructing Sexuality (SYP 4063) 3 credits
~~*Prerequisites: SYA 3010 and SYA 3300*~~
This course explores how social, cultural and political forces shape human sexuality. Specifically, it examines how sexual identity, behavior and desire are shaped by larger social and historical forces. Students explore the social

construction of sexuality, how sexuality is perceived, defined and experienced in society.

Technology and Society (SYP 4421) 3 credits
Psychological, sociological and economic aspects of technological developments on social life, with a primary emphasis on the impact of computing.

Globalization and Inequality (SYP 4453) 3 credits
~~*Prerequisites: SYA 3010 and SYA 3300*~~
This course examines how markets, politics, technology and culture shape both global social inequalities and efforts to reduce them. Students learn different approaches to the study of globalization and apply them to analyze connections between local social issues and broader global forces.

Sociology of Climate and Disaster (SYP 4464) 3 credits
~~*Prerequisites: SYA 3010 and SYA 3300*~~
This course provides a critical examination of climate change and natural and technological disasters by exploring the social causes, impacts, perceptions and/or consequences of disaster and climate change from a sociological perspective.

Sociology of Culture (SYP 4610) 3 credits
~~*Prerequisites: SYA 3010 and SYA 3300*~~
This course examines the influence of mass media and culture industry on society, assessing how popular culture serves as an arena for political struggle. It also explores the role cultural beliefs and practices play in perpetuating social inequalities. Topics include the shaping of public consciousness by advertising, mass media and social media; the use of popular culture and propaganda to consolidate political power; the significance of lifestyle choices in the acquisition of social status; and cultural conflicts surrounding religion, sexuality, collective memory and social change.