

Sociology Undergraduate Course Descriptions

SOCI 1101/1101H/1101S INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY The discipline of sociology and the sociological perspective as a tool for understanding society and culture, including the interpersonal, intergroup, and international dimensions of social life.

SOCI 2232 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL SERVICES This course is designed to introduce students to the field of social services, including the history of the profession and its knowledge, skill, and value base. Students will gain an understanding of various careers within social services and the settings in which they are practiced. They will gain an understanding of micro, mezzo, and macro type agencies.

SOCI 3231 PRACTICE SKILLS An examination of the knowledge, skill and value base for working in the social services. The emphasis is on preparation for practice in social services settings.

SOCI 3331 CRIMINOLOGY The study of crime as a social phenomenon. Topics include the sociology of law, theories of crime causation, the statistics of crime, and discussion of selected types of criminal behavior.

SOCI 3333 DEVIANT BEHAVIOR A study of deviant behavior as a social phenomenon. Includes the issues of definition of deviance, theoretical approaches to deviance causation, and substantive examination of forms of deviant behavior with special attention to corporate and governmental deviance.

SOCI 3334 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY A survey of the history of childhood and delinquency and major theories of causation. The student will also become familiar with the Juvenile Proceedings Code of Georgia.

SOCI 3335 SOCIAL CHANGE A discussion of theories and causes of social change in contemporary or historical perspective.

SOCI 3336 SOCIAL PROBLEMS A general introduction to the study of social problems in areas such as deviance, social inequality, social change and American institutions.

SOCI 3434 METHODS OF SOCIAL RESEARCH A review of social research methods with emphasis on design, data collection, measurement, survey and analysis.

SOCI 4231 CHILD WELFARE AND FAMILY SERVICES A comprehensive study of current philosophy and practice in the various fields of child welfare, including family income maintenance programs, child protective service, adoption, foster care, institutional placement of children, home based services, family preservation, early childbearing, guardianship and custody, the family and the courts, and child advocacy.

SOCI 4232 SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND SERVICES An analysis of American social welfare policy. Covers programs and policies under public, voluntary, and proprietary auspices in the areas of income maintenance, mental health and substance abuse, health care, child welfare, nutrition, housing, and employment.

SOCI 4332 SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER An exploration of gender identity, gender roles, and gendered social structures using the sociological perspective.

SOCI 4334 ORGANIZATIONS An exploration of what it means to live in an organizational society and world. Theory, metaphor, and research findings provide insight and tools for understanding and, possibly, affecting our organizational world. Organizational and leadership effectiveness will be ongoing themes.

SOCI 4335 SELF AND SOCIETY An exploration of the relationship between the self and society (the individual and the social milieu) using social psychological and/or symbolic interactionist perspectives. Content includes origins of the self and how it is shaped by society, formation of norms, identity management, socialization, interpersonal influence and role behavior.

SOCI 4431 INEQUALITY An examination of the sociological approaches and theories of stratification and structured inequality, and an analysis of the causes and consequences of economic, political, and social inequality.

SOCI 4630 SENIOR SEMINAR A capstone course which will enhance students' knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the discipline. Key theoretical, methodological, and substantive issues in the discipline will be discussed.

SOCI 4790 FIELD INSTRUCTION Designed as an educational placement to give practical experience in a sociologically and vocationally appropriate setting to students in the B.S. program in Sociology.

SOCI 5132 SOCIOLOGY OF COMMUNITY A focus on community life in the United States. Community is viewed as a social entity and an arena of social interaction. Urban, rural, and alternative communities in the United States are investigated to uncover their patterns of interaction and organization.

SOCI 5133 SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION A sociological study of religion focusing on the human (especially social) aspects of religious belief and practice. Various religious groups will be examined to identify how they organize their collective religious expressions. Theories and research methods used by sociologists to study religious beliefs and practices and religious institutions will be reviewed.

SOCI 5135 AGING An examination of the impact of an aging population upon society and the effects of the socially defined experience of aging upon the individual. Special attention is given to economic factors, retirement, life-style options, health, death, and widowhood.

SOCI 5136 SOCIOLOGY OF EDUCATION A study of the social conditions that influence the organization and process of education, the course focuses on the effects of social class, race, and gender inside and outside the classroom. Major theoretical and methodological approaches to the sociology of education are reviewed.

SOCI 5137 COLLECTIVE BEHAVIOR A sociological study of social movements and such forms of collective behavior as mobs, crowds, rumors, riots, and mass hysteria. Key theories and research methods used by sociologists and other social scientists to study collective behavior will be reviewed.

SOCI 5138 SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY A sociological study of the social forces that impinge on families, affecting the behaviors of family members and the forms that family units take. Key theories and research methods used by sociologists and other social scientists to study families will be reviewed.

SOCI 5139 SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH CARE An analysis of health and illness from a sociological perspective. Attention will be given to health care institutions, roles, beliefs, and practices, as well as newly emerging roles.

SOCI 5140 GROUP DYNAMICS This course will provide students with a knowledge base in group work. They will study the structure, organization, and function of groups and learn to identify stages of group development, roles group members play, and skills used by the group facilitator.

SOCI 5231 SOCIOLOGY OF POLITICS Contributions of sociology to the study of politics, including analysis of political aspects of social systems, social context of action, and social basis of power.

SOCI 5332 DEATH AND DYING An examination of the sociocultural dimensions of death, dying, bereavement, grief and mourning, including cross-cultural comparisons and social patterns in historical perspective.

SOCI 5333 RACE AND ETHNICITY A survey of the major concepts and theories in the study of racial and ethnic relations in the United States. The situations and experiences of various racial and ethnic groups are considered.

SOCI 5431 SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY An overview of the major classical sociological theorists, linking their contributions to contemporary issues and concerns. Covers key theorists and basic tenets of structural functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interactionism and introduces the process of theory construction.

SOCI 5433 PROGRAM EVALUATION An exploration of what it means to live in a society in which accountability is a thematic issue and an exploration of policy and program benefits which accrue from well-designed evaluations and proposals. Evaluation of research and grant development issues, including basic design and use considerations, are discussed.

SOCI 5435 THE RURAL SOUTH An examination of the lifeways and social organization of rural society with emphasis on the South. Examines social institutions, community dynamics, social change and the cultural distinctions of the region.