



Undergraduate Studies

Phone: (216) 368-2700
Mather Memorial, Room 226

B.A. IN SOCIOLOGY

Sociology is a dynamic and exciting discipline with opportunities for a variety of career pathways. A major in sociology provides a strong background for students considering careers in a broad array of fields including the **health and social service professions, criminal and juvenile justice agencies, social research, public administration and program development, journalism, market research, social work, communications, teaching and business.** A sociology major also provides excellent preparation for **law school, medical school** and graduate study in **sociology, social work, education** and many other fields of graduate study. Sociology minor course work offers excellent preparation to students majoring in other social and behavioral sciences, natural sciences, or humanities.

Undergraduate majors in Sociology are encouraged to experience firsthand the excitement of discovering and creating new knowledge through individualized research projects or other research experiences, either as part of a regular class, an independent study or an Honors project. As an undergraduate Sociology student, you have the option of taking upper-level classes alongside graduate students in Sociology's internationally recognized graduate program, which may provide added opportunities for research experience. Sociology majors have the option of choosing either a general Sociology curriculum or one of the four available concentrations: 1) *Crime and Delinquency*, 2) *Health and Aging*, 3) *Gender, Work and Family* and 4) *Social Inequality*. Concentrations are intended to guide you in the selection of courses relevant to your interests and future goals, as well as to provide a solid grounding in Sociology as one of the liberal arts sciences. Students may thus connect their concentration to topics of interests, to possible employment opportunities, or to specific graduate and professional programs that you intend to pursue.

CONCENTRATIONS IN SOCIOLOGY

Concentrations are intended to guide students in the selection of courses relevant to their interests and future goals, as well as to provide them with a solid grounding in Sociology as one of the liberal arts sciences. Students may thus connect their concentration to their interests, to possible employment opportunities, or to specific graduate and professional school programs that they intend to pursue. The student majoring in Sociology has the option of choosing one of the 4 concentration fields taken in conjunction with the Sociology major, or he/she may choose to obtain the major in Sociology without choosing a concentration. The concentration consists of 12 credit hours.

Students choosing a concentration (only one is permitted), must take 4 of the courses listed for the selected concentration. The Department offers four concentrations: *Crime and Delinquency, Health and Aging, Gender, Work and Family, Social Inequality.*

1. CRIME AND DELINQUENCY CONCENTRATION—SOC 204:
Criminology, SOC 320: Delinquency and Juvenile Justice, SOC 328: Urban Sociology, SOC 333: Deviance, SOC 349 Social Inequality, SOC 360: Sociology of Law

2. HEALTH AND AGING CONCENTRATION—SOC 203:
Human Development-Medical and Social, SOC 311: Health, Illness and Social Behavior, SOC 313: Sociology of Stress and Coping, SOC 319: Sociology of Institutional Care, SOC 361: The Life Course, SOC 365: Health Care Delivery, SOC 369: Aging in American Society

3. GENDER, WORK, AND FAMILY CONCENTRATION—SOC 208:
Dating, Marriage and Family, SOC 222: Gender in U.S. Society, SOC 355: Work and Occupations, SOC 370: Sociology of the Family, SOC 372: Work and Family: U.S. and Abroad

4. SOCIAL INEQUALITY—SOC 203:
Human Development: Medical and Social, SOC 269: Young and Old Face of the 21st Century, SOC 320: Delinquency and Juvenile Justice, SOC 326: Gender, Inequalities and Globalization, SOC 349: Social Inequality, SOC 347: Sociology of Education, SOC 372: Work and Family

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND COURSE OFFERINGS

To fulfill department requirements, 30 hours of coursework must be completed successfully. All majors must complete the following:

SOCI 101 Introduction to Sociology
SOCI 300 Modern Sociological Theory
SOCI 303 Social Research Methods
STAT 201 Statistics OR
PSCL 282 Quantitative Methods
(Recommend prior to SOCI 303)

In addition, they must complete 18 hours of electives, consisting of any 6 courses in sociology. SOCI 375 (Independent Study) is available to selected majors in their junior or senior year.

In addition to the requirements listed above for Sociology major, Case Western Reserve University also requires all undergraduate students to participate in courses through SAGES. These requirements include a First Seminar, two University Seminars, a Department Seminar and finally a Senior Capstone.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- In addition to the B.A. degree, the Department of Sociology offers the M.A. and Ph.D degrees.
- Department faculty have recently been nominated for, or received, noteworthy awards such as the Diekhoff Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching, the Witke Award in Teaching Excellence, the Jackson Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Mentoring, the Outstanding Researcher in gerontology, and the Mortar Board "Top Prof" Award.
- The multidisciplinary program in Gerontological Studies is designed to integrate research and theory about aging and old age. Humanists, scientists, social sci-

tists, and professionals strive to understand the position of the aged in society, the aging process in various contexts, the meaning of aging to individuals, and the physical changes that accompany aging.

- Alpha Kappa Delta, the sociology honors fraternity, welcomes selected juniors and seniors; membership requires a 3.4 GPA in sociology and a 3.0 GPA overall.
- Students may join the Sociology Club to become more involved in the Case experience with students with similar interests.

SPECIAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Departmental Honors

Admission to the Departmental Honors Program is by faculty approval, and the planning of this project must start during the second semester of your junior year. The year-long senior honors thesis program consists of two independent study courses: SOCI 397 and SOCI 398. To be accepted to senior honors courses, students must have demonstrated academic excellence and must earn at least a 3.4 general GPA and a 3.6 Sociology GPA. The project will be structured as a two-semester experience and it calls for research and data collection, which can focus either on primary or secondary data.

Integrated Graduate Studies (IGS)

The Department of Sociology participates in the Integrated Graduate Studies Program. Students in the program are able to obtain B.A. and M.A. degrees simultaneously. Admission to this program actually comprises admission to graduate school, and entails the same rigorous process of admission. Interested students should note the general requirements and the admission procedures in the appropriate section of this bulletin and may consult the department for further information.

Internships, Service Learning, and Study Abroad

Internships and service learning projects are available with organizations such as the AFL-CIO and the criminal justice system. In addition, there are many junior year abroad opportunities available through the University.

RESEARCH PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The Elderly Care Research Center

Funded research projects of the center focus on theory-based and public policy relevant issues in aging and medical sociology. Current projects relate to physical and mental health outcomes of stress, coping, cancer survivorship and adaptation to frailty and life-threatening illness in late life. The center is recipient of an NIA Merit Award for a long-term study of very old residents of a retirement community. This research seeks to understand health promotion, proactive adaptation, and maintenance of well-

ness in late life. Major research projects focusing on medical Sociology deal with life-threatening illness, caregiver burden, and physician-patient interactions. The center serves as a laboratory for student research. Collaborative and cross-national research involves colleges from other disciplines and universities in Israel, Hungary, Britain, and Germany.

Cancer Survivor Research Program

Conducted at the Department of Sociology at Case Western Reserve University, the Cancer Survivors Research Program (CSRP) investigates important research issues in psychological oncology. Formally started in September 1998, the CSRP had been funded for 10 years by the National Cancer Institute. Dr. Gary Deimling serves as the CSRP's director and principle investigator and is assisted by colleagues in the Department of Sociology and the Case School of Medicine. As with many other research programs within the department and the university at large, the CSRP also serves as a teaching facility by training graduate students in the many methodological and theoretical aspects of sociomedical research. The project allows students in the Sociology Ph.D. program to gain hands-on experience in a formal research setting while putting their coursework into practices.

Health Aging in Neighborhoods of Diversity Across the Life Span

Jessica Kelley-Moore studies how the community environment influences health over the life course. She is co-investigator on the National Institute on Aging intramural study "Healthy Aging in Neighborhoods of Diversity across the Life Span" [HANDLS]. This area probability study draws Black and White respondents from 12 neighborhoods in Baltimore, MD between the ages of 30-64. These subjects represent both high and low socioeconomic statuses in the city. In the HANDLS study, Dr. Kelley-Moore designed and conducts the ecological (environmental, city, and neighborhood) levels of the project, overseeing teams of trained researchers who code the physical and social characteristics of the area and conduct a full inventory of the businesses and services of the area. These teams also assess the type and cost of available food in the local grocery stores and markets. She is collaborating with researchers at CWRU and local public officials to extend this study to Cleveland, focusing on food availability in disadvantaged and underserved neighborhoods.

FACULTY

Dale Dannefer, Ph.D.

(Rutgers University)
Selah Chamberlain Professor of Sociology
Department Chair
Theory, life course, aging, sociology of work, sociology of education

Gary Deimling, Ph.D.

(Bowling Green State University)
Professor
Sociology of aging, medical sociology, family sociology, research methods

Brian Gran, Ph.D.

(Northwestern University)
Assistant Professor
Comparative sociology, sociology of health policy, sociology of law

Susan Hinze, Ph.D.

(Vanderbilt University)
Associate Professor
Medical sociology; social inequality, sex and gender, work and family

Eva Kahana, Ph.D.

(University of Chicago)
Robson Professor of Sociology, Humanities
Nursing and Medicine
Sociology of aging, medical sociology, social factors in stress and coping

Jessica Kelley-Moore, Ph.D.

(Perdue University)
Associate Professor
Health disparities, sociology of disability, sociology of the life course, and race/ethnicity

Emilia McGucken, Ph. D.

(University of Akron)
Senior Instructor
Criminology; theory, delinquency; deviance; urban studies

David Warner, Ph.D.

(Pennsylvania State University)
Assistant Professor
Demography of work and retirement; health inequalities; gender and the life course; marriage and marital quality; event history and multistate life table methods

RECENT GRADUATES

A recent survey of post graduation plans among graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences found that 62% went on to graduate or professional school and the remainder pursued other plans. Each year, approximately 28 students graduate with a B.A. in sociology. The majority of those students proceed to graduate or professional school. In recent years, graduates were accepted to Ph.D. programs at Case, the Univ. of Washington, Univ. of California, Univ. of Maryland, Duke Univ., Penn State Univ., Columbia Univ. and the Univ. of Pennsylvania. Other students enrolled in medical and law schools.

For More Information and complete list of courses with descriptions offered by the Department of Sociology please view the General Bulletin at:
<http://www.case.edu/bulletin/>

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