

Gender, Work and Family Concentration

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

Concentrations in Sociology

Students majoring in Sociology have the option of either selecting one of 4 concentrations areas, or majoring in Sociology without choosing a concentration. The concentration consists of a minimum of 12 credit hours, or 4 courses. The 4 concentrations are:

- Crime and Delinquency
- Health and Aging
- Gender, Work and Family
- Social Inequality

Gender, Work and Family Concentration

Traditionally, work and family were considered separate spheres, with individuals maintaining a distinction between responsibilities to their employees and to family members. During the past several decades, however, changes in both families and the economy have encouraged sociologists to address the permeable boundaries between these two institutions. This concentration provides an opportunity for students to explore these changes and understand their consequences for women and for men. How have downsizing, declining wages and increasing work hours impacted the increasing number of one-parent and dual-earner families? How does location in the occupational structure affect the strategies available to families providing care to young, elderly or disabled family members? How do couples negotiate the division of household labor? The courses in this concentration challenge assumptions that balancing work and family obligations are individual responsibilities. Instead, attention is directed to the hidden assumptions in paid work and to the imbalance between market and nonmarket activities. Students will also explore the ways in which gender structures our experience of work and family in different ways depending on our racial or ethnic background, our social class, our age and our sexual orientation.

Required Core Courses:

12 credit hours

- SOCI 101: Introduction to Sociology:
SOCI 300: Modern Sociological Thought
SOCI 303: Social Research Methods
STAT 201 or PSCL 282 Statistics

***Gender, Work and Family Concentration* requires four (4) of the following courses (12 credit hours)**

- SOCI 208: Dating, Marriage and Family
SOCI 222: Gender in U.S. Society
SOCI 355: Work and Occupations
SOCI 370: Sociology of the Family
SOCI 372: Work and Family: US and Abroad

Approved Sociology Elective: 6 credit hours

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 First Seminar (first year), two University Seminars (by the end of the second year), a Department Seminar (third year) and finally a Senior Capstone.

Concentration Coordinator

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