
Sociology (major and minor)

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Major: (28 hours in the major)

General Information

Sociology provides an understanding of the social and cultural influences on human action. The major in sociology includes coursework in anthropology, environmental and development issues, and other topics related to contemporary society. It provides a critical dimension to a liberal arts education and tools for addressing social and ecological problems facing local, national, and global communities. The program offers two directions: 1) obtain a second major in Biology, Communication, Education, Intercultural Studies, Political Science, Psychology, Recreation, or another field; OR 2) deeply explore environment, development, marriage and family-related issues, or the sociology discipline. Studying sociology offers excellent preparation for students anticipating careers in community and international development, environmental and natural resource conservation, social work and health services, politics and law, business and human resource management, recreation and tourism, urban planning, and other related areas.

Principles of Sociology (SOC 101) is not required for upper level sociology or anthropology coursework.

Required courses:

SOC 226	Culture, Faith, and Creation.....	4
SOC 309	Statistics.....	4
SOC 312	Social Science Research Methods.....	4
SOC 480	Senior Capstone: Sociology Seminar	2
	Elective sociology courses.....	14

Minor: 12 hours above SOC 101, except SOC 309 Statistics.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SOC 101 Principles of Sociology (4, F&S)
Introduction to the sociological perspective and sociology program emphasis. Explore environment, development, social work, and marriage-family topics and issues. Understand social and cultural influences on human action, relationship between our personal lifestyles and society, and how to address challenges facing communities. Community: Sociology.

SOC 218 Social Psychology (4, F)
Introduction to social behavior from a sociological and psychological perspective. Individual behavior as it affects and is affected by the behavior of others. Topics: prejudice, group processes, leadership, conformity, attitude change.

SOC 222 Social Problems (4, F12)
Survey of contemporary local, national, and international social and environmental conditions labeled as problems in U.S. and global society. Introduces students to sociological explanations for how observed conditions are perceived and constructed as social problems in human societies. Community: Sociology.

SOC 225 Environmental Sociology (2, S)
Introduction to how theory and research methods are applied to: attitudes and behavior of environmental concern; pro- and anti-environmental social movements; political economy of development and environmental regulation; and risk, health, gender, and environment. Community: Sociology.

SOC 226 Culture, Faith, and Creation (4, F)
Investigate how societies sociologically construct the human-environment relationship. Examine empirical

research about how Christians think and act toward the environment in modern societies. Explore the connections between your faith and creation and apply them to everyday life. Community: Sociology.

SOC 237 Introduction to Marriage and Family Studies (CDRP, see Foreign Languages) (4, F12)
The changing structure and functions of marriage and the family in modern society; emphasis on dating patterns, marriage selection, sex roles, childbearing patterns, and family life cycles. Community: Sociology.

SOC/ANTH/INCL 243 Cultural Anthropology (CDRP, see Foreign Languages) (4, F)
Cultural and social aspects of human behavior; comparison of cultures. Community: Anthropology.

SOC 277 Crime and Society: Environmental Crime (2, OD)
Examines sociological explanations for how the ecological impacts of various kinds of human actions become categorized as 'environmental crime' in society. Introduces students to the social process for how they are labeled deviant and prohibited through law, monitored and policed by regulation and enforcement, prosecuted and deterred through the criminal justice system, and influenced by globalization and transnational corporations.

SOC 285 Sociology of Development (2, OD)
Introduces students to the global context and dimensions of development and social change within and among human societies. Examines sociological explanations for why different nations follow different paths of industrialization and vary in their form of economic production and organization or associated political decision-making processes. Explores why some nations become wealthy while others remain poor with reference to social theories of development and the costs and benefits of different development trajectories.

SOC/ANTH 293 East African Cultures (3 or 4, S)
(See course description in Off-Campus Programs — Tanzania section.)

SOC 295/395 Special Topics in Sociology (2 or 4, OD)
Topics offered according to interest and demand.

SOC/ANTH 296 Special Topics in Anthropology (2 or 4, OD)
Topics offered according to interest and demand.

SOC 297 Special Topics in Family Studies (2 or 4, OD)
Topics offered according to interest and demand.

SOC 309 Statistics (4, F&S, 3, M)
Descriptive and inferential statistics: Measures of central tendency and variability, discrete and continuous probability functions, sampling, estimation, hypothesis testing, correlation, regression, Chi Squared, ANOVA. (Also listed in BADM, ECON, PSY) Quantitative Literacy Competency: Math.

SOC 312 Social Science Research Methods (4, S12)
Basic scientific method, application to social phenomena; procedures and methodological problems in various types of social research; methods of data analysis. Recommended for junior year, after completion of SOC 309.

SOC/ANTH 315 Human Ecology (4, F)
Human communities and human populations will be viewed as part of the ecosystem in which they reside. Integrates knowledge from several disciplines and acts as a hybrid of the social and natural sciences.

SOC 322 Social Stratification (2, OD)
Major theories and evidence relating to the origin, nature, and social consequences of stratification systems of social inequality in contemporary United States.

SOC 325 Life in the City (3)
(See Off Campus Programs – Houghton College City Semester for description.)

SOC/INCL/MIN/MISS/PSY/ URMN 328 Community and Society in Australia and New Zealand (4, F)
Examines social institutions in urban Australia and New Zealand. Analyzes social problems and institutional and community responses by churches and faith-based organizations, and compares them with those of governments, non-government organizations and prosocial community organizations. Community: Psychology or Sociology.

SOC /PSY/INCL 329 Australia and New Zealand Culture through Film (4, F)

Since creating the first feature-length film in the world, Australian film-makers have examined themselves, their culture, their environment, and their interactions with the rest of the world in varied and distinctive ways, often with a gloss of revealing humor. Through the films studied in this class, students will be introduced to the diversity of Australia and New Zealand culture, from pre-historical aboriginal and Maori to post-modern. Community: Psychology or Sociology.

SOC 330 Culture and Family (CDRP, see Foreign Languages) (4, OD)

A multicultural and cross-cultural exploration of family environments, history, processes, and structures in various types of societies throughout the world, relying on sociological and anthropological principles.

SOC 338 Sociology of Religion (2, OD)

Introduces students to the sociological perspective on religion and religious behavior in modern and developing societies. Examines the relationship of religion to other major social institutions (family, economy), its role in social conflicts (genocide, terrorism), and the influence of religious sub-cultures (US Evangelicals) on contemporary issues (environmentalism, politics).

SOC/ANTH/INCL 350 Culture Change and Its Effects on Traditional Societies (4, F)

Globalization is spreading rapidly around the world, and this is causing significant culture change to traditional societies. With a strong focus on history and case studies, this course will make students aware of what is happening and give them the theoretical knowledge to understand, empathize with, and assist people who are wrestling with change. Pre- or Co-requisite: Cultural Anthropology.

SOC 351 The Individual and Society (2, OD)

Examines the major dilemmas that profoundly affect life in post-industrial Western society: dilemmas between individual freedom and social equality and between rational organization and community. (Recommended for students planning to attend graduate school.)

SOC 361 Race, Gender and Environment (4, OD)

Introduces race and gender as social characteristics affecting individuals' experience of the environmental benefits and costs of development and industrialization in developed and developing countries. Examines the social conflict between dominant (majority) and subordinate (minority) racial/ethnic groups in defining 'environmental racism' and the evidence for it. Analyzes how gender structures the life experience of females in accessing natural resources and participating in management decision-making processes. Includes multicultural perspectives on race and gender relations with respect to local, national, and global examples of the environmental justice movement.

SOC 362 Gender Relations (2, OD)

Introduction to gender relations; focus on gender roles over life cycle. Includes multicultural perspectives on gender relations.

SOC 390 Practicum in Family Studies (1, 2, 3, 4 F&S)

Supervised experience in a family services setting integrating theory with professional practice. Requires junior or senior standing, the completion of at least nine hours in the Family Studies minor, and permission of the department. Contact: Professor Richard Stegen.

SOC 394 Internship in Family Studies (4 or 6, OD)

(Sometimes in cooperation with the Office for Urban Connections at the Houghton College @ Buffalo program) An optional supervised experience in a family studies setting integrating theory with professional practice. By application only through the department. Contact: Professor Richard Stegen.

SOC 410 Practicum in Sociology (1, 2, 3, F&S)

Supervised experience in a sociological setting integrating theory with professional practice. Requires permission of the department. Contact: Professor Richard Stegen.

SOC 415 Internship in Sociology (4 or 6, F&S)

An optional supervised experience in a sociological setting integrating theory with professional practice. By application only through department. (Sometimes in cooperation with the Office for Urban Connections at the Houghton College @ Buffalo program) Contact: Professor Richard Stegen.

SOC 480 Senior Capstone: Sociology Seminar (2, S)

Capstone course of the major which will include preparing a resume for graduate school or a career, conduct-

ing an academic seminar over a primary reading in Sociology, preparing for & taking the Sociology Major Field Test, teaching a sociology class, & completing a major paper or project that reflects your personal, spiritual, and intellectual development.

SOC 191, -2; 291, -2; 391, -2; 491, -2 **Independent Study** (1, 2, 3 or 4, F or S)

SOC 496 **Honors in Sociology** (4, S)

Spanish (see Foreign Languages)

Sports Ministry (minor)

Department of Physical and Health Education and Department of Theology

Faculty: Jonathan P. Case, David B. Lewis, Paul W. Shea, Robert Smalley, Matthew T. Webb

Web site: www.houghton.edu/academics/programs/physical_education/sports_min2.htm

Phone: 585.567.9645

Sports ministry is a culturally relevant relational tool that helps connect the Christian faith to the sport-minded. The minor is particularly helpful for students interested in academic and vocational pursuits within local church ministries, missions, education, coaching, camping, recreation, equestrian studies, church planting and intercultural studies.

Sports Ministry Minor: (minimum 16 hours, interdisciplinary)

Required (8 hours)

CRFM 325	Bible Study and Teaching Methods.....	2
PHED/CRFM 227	Sports Ministry: The Integration of Faith and Sport.....	4
PHED/CRFM 275	Methods of Administration of Sports Ministry.....	2

Select one of the following (4 hours):

CRFM 341/342	Theological Explorations in Youth Cultures and Ministry I, II+2	4
THEL 313	Systematic Theology	4
*Select at least two from the following (4-8 hours):		
INCL XXX	Intercultural course recommended by dept	1-4
MISS 242	The Contemporary Church in Missions.....	4
PHED 305	Sports Ministry Field Practicum**	2
PHED 306	Principles of Coaching & Sport Management.....	4
REC 227	Outdoor Leadership Training.....	4
REC 240	Administration of Organized Camps.....	4

May also use either CRFM 341/342 or THEL 313 whichever

was not used in category two

*For other options, see the Director of the program.

** with approval the practicum can be fulfilled through one of the following provided the course has a sufficient sports ministry component:

CRFM 442	Internship in Christian Formation	4
MISS 311	Cross Cultural Field Experience	(3-4)
INCL/INTR 311	Intercultural Experience	(0-4)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

See Christian formation, physical education, recreation, and theology sections.