Sociology
at Arcadia University

Global Perspectives…Personal Attention…Real-World Integrative Learning Experiences

Faculty

Professor Emeritus
Dr. Norman Johnston

Associate Professors
Dr. Jonathan Church
Dr. Ana Maria García (Chair)
Dr. John Noakes

Assistant Professors
Dr. Doreen Loury
Dr. Dina Pinsky

Instructor
Alex Otieno

Degrees/Concentrations

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice (See separate listing.)

Bachelor of Arts in Cultural Anthropology (See separate listing.)

Minors
Anthropology
Criminal Justice
Sociology
Women's Studies (See separate listing in Interdisciplinary Programs and Courses.)

Options
Secondary Education Certification (in Social Studies)
Minor in International Studies
Minors in other departments, such as Business Administration

Pathways to Study Abroad in Sociology

Sociology majors are encouraged to study abroad, and many opportunities can complement studies in sociology. Because of the flexibility and breadth in the Sociology program, study abroad can fit into the program and the Undergraduate Curriculum requirements.

Students are encouraged to meet with their advisers to discuss their career interests and goals. It is important to have this discussion and formulate a plan early so that the international program is integrated with required and elective courses for the major. Many students use their study abroad courses to explore international perspectives on sociological and cultural issues.

Sociology majors typically study abroad during their sophomore or junior years because of the senior-year focus on research and thesis. Depending on which semester a student is abroad, he or she will select a course that substitutes for a major requirement, an elective in Sociology or a course in Anthropology or Women's Studies. Studying abroad can provide students with the opportunity to take a course that is not available at Arcadia University.

Visit the University's Web site for Pathways to Study Abroad (www.arcadia.edu/pathways) and suggested course sequences. Since it is important that students plan ahead for study abroad, they should consult with their advisers as soon as possible and make their intentions known to the Department Chair and the Associate Dean of International Affairs.

About the B.A. in Sociology

- Preparation for graduate school
- Preparation for careers in social services, business, law, healthcare
- Minors in Anthropology, Criminal Justice, Sociology and Women's Studies
- Internship and practicum opportunities
- Senior research project
- Opportunities to study abroad at some of the top universities in the world

The Sociology major offers a broad base for understanding different cultures, classes, religions and ethnic backgrounds. Students acquire a global view and the ability to work with people of diverse cultures. At the core of the curriculum is the study of social inequalities and social justice. The breadth, adaptability and utility of sociology lead to many employment opportunities for graduates.

The liberal arts background serves as a foundation for careers in business, law, allied health (such as physical therapy) research, and graduate study.

The program helps students develop specific skills, such as analytic proficiency, evaluative assessment and polished writing. Minors are available in Anthropology, Criminal Justice, Sociology and Women's Studies.

All Sociology majors take a group of core courses and then choose Sociology electives based on individual career goals.

Internships and Practicum: Career emphasis is expanded through an optional internship experience during the junior or senior year. Recent practicum settings have included nursing homes, human resource departments, child welfare agencies, police departments, schools, and hospital research departments.

Senior Capstone Experience: During the senior year, all students engage in an independent research project that integrates their unique areas of interest and focus with their knowledge and application of sociological perspectives and ideas.

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

Sociology and Anthropology, with their emphasis on understanding human culture and behavior, provide a strong background in liberal arts. A major in Sociology enhances those qualities developed in liberal arts graduates, such as being able to think critically, to write well and to make oral presentations.

Sociologists with B.A. degrees enter a wide variety of occupations. In business and industry, jobs most frequently held are in marketing, sales, human resources and management. The Sociology program at Arcadia University offers students the opportunity to learn a range of research techniques that can be applied in a variety of employment settings—universities; public agencies at the federal, state or local level, businesses or industrial firms, or research institutes in the non-profit or advocacy sector.

Undergraduate Sociology majors frequently pursue graduate work in areas other than sociology, such as social work, education, public health, business administration, urban planning, law and medicine. For a career in academic sociology beyond the secondary school level, graduate training in sociology is necessary.

Sociology is one of the majors recommended by the Physical Therapy Department for students who plan to pursue a career in physical therapy. A Sociology major provides the well-rounded background in liberal arts advocated by the American Physical Therapy Association, while allowing ample time for the student to complete the requirements for admission to the Doctor of Physical Therapy program. The major can be designed with an emphasis on health and healthcare systems to strengthen the foundation for a career in physical therapy.

Minor in International Studies

A major in Sociology can be combined with a minor in International Studies for those students who are interested in acquiring practical experience in international affairs and who want a more global understanding of the world. The program is supplementary to the major and can readily mesh with the student's individually tailored curriculum in Sociology.

The International Studies minor combines study abroad with international courses here at Arcadia University and modern language preparation. (See the International Studies section of the Undergraduate Catalog for minor requirements.)

Minor in Anthropology

The minor in Anthropology offers students the opportunity to explore the rich diversity of cultures around the world. Students majoring in fields such as Art, Business, Communications, Education, History, Political Science, Philosophy, Pre-Law, Pre-Physical Therapy, Pre-Medicine or Psychology will find that anthropological theory and method both complement and challenge their understanding of the world.

Minor in Criminal Justice

The Criminal Justice minor provides students with the conceptual and research knowledge necessary to think critically about issues in criminal justice. Further, the program creates and instills a set of values respecting human individuality and dignity that will guide the manner in which criminal justice tasks and responsibilities are carried out. The criminal justice minor, in conjunction with a student's major, also builds a base of knowledge and constructs a process of evaluation and critical inquiry upon which criminal justice professional

training and/or graduate-level education can readily take place. See the Criminal Justice section in the Undergraduate Catalog for more information.

Minor in Sociology

The minor in Sociology provides an opportunity for students majoring in fields such as Business, Communications, Education, Political Science, Pre-Law, Pre-Physical Therapy and Psychology to select courses that will provide them with sociological and anthropological theory and research findings useful to their careers and enriching to their lives in the liberal arts tradition.

Minor in Women's Studies

A minor in Women's Studies offers an in-depth study of women and women's issues from the perspective of different disciplines. Informed by varied feminist paradigms, the minor provides the opportunity to analyze and integrate knowledge from the unique vantage point of gender. Along with core courses in the social sciences and humanities, students can concentrate on critical aspects of women's lives, such as the intersection of race, class and gender.

See specific course listings for all minors under respective disciplines: Women's Studies (Interdisciplinary Programs), Cultural Anthropology and Criminal Justice.

Requirements for the B.A. in Sociology

(44–48 credits as listed below, plus University-wide requirements and electives to total 128)

Common Curriculum for All Majors

(23–24 credits as listed below)

1. Five courses in Sociology

SO	101	Introductory Sociology
SO	330	Research Methods (spring semester Junior year)
SO	385	Social Theory (fall semester Junior year)
SO	490	Senior Seminar I (fall semester, Senior year)
SO	491	Senior Seminar II (spring semester Senior year)

2. One course in Mathematics

MA	141	Elementary Statistics

3. Additional Requirements (21–24 credits)
   In addition to the common curriculum, students select six of the following courses, one of which must be a course in Anthropology. The courses are selected by the student in conjunction with the adviser and are chosen on the basis of the student's future career goals

AN	120	Cultural Anthropology
AN	150	The Family
AN	220	Social Issues (Anthropology)
AN	262	Myth, Magic and Religion
AN	272	Cultures, Conflict and Power
SO	150	Contemporary Social Problems
PY	153	Social Psychology
CJ	160	Crime and Punishment
SO	207	Introduction to Social Welfare
SO	220	Social Issues (Sociology)
SO	222	Sociology of Cyberspace
SO	229	Women in Society
SO	230	Racism: Myths and Realities
SO	240	African American Images in the Media
SO	245	Gays and Lesbians in American Society
SO	250	Sex and Society
SO	260	Sociology of Health Care
SO	265	Social Inequalities
SO	270	Feminist Theories
SO	280	The Sociology of AIDS and HIV
SO	310	Social Movements
SO	362/363	Internship in Sociology

Requirements for the Minor in Sociology

(17–20 credits as listed below)

Two courses in Sociology

SO	101	Introductory Sociology
SO	385	Social Theory

Three electives in Sociology or two electives in Sociology and one in Anthropology, chosen in consultation with the Department and based on the individual's interests and needs.

Requirements for the Minor in Anthropology

(18–20 credits as listed below)

Students will be required to take (for 7–8 credits) AN 120 Cultural Anthropology and LB/SO 385 Social Theory. In addition to these two required courses, students must choose two Anthropology topic courses (for 7–8 credits) among those listed. Furthermore, students will choose to take either AN 220 Social Issues or SO 265 Inequality for 4 credits. No more than two courses can jointly fulfill the requirements for the Sociology major or minor and the Anthropology minor. A minimum of eight courses must be taken to receive a double minor in Sociology and Anthropology. For details see separate listings under Cultural Anthropology.

Common Curriculum

Required (7–8 credits)

AN	120	Cultural Anthropology
SO	385	Social Theory

Electives

Topics (Two of the following) (7–8 credits)

AN	150	The Family
AN	262	Myth, Magic and Religion
AN	272	Cultures, Conflict and Power
AN	361	Social Change: Globalization and Culture

Diversity (One of the following) (4 credits)

SO	265	Social Inequalities
AN/SO	220	Social Issues

Sociology Courses (SO)

101
Introductory Sociology
(4 credits; Fall, Spring)

An overview of the discipline of sociology is presented. The focus is on social groups and their effects on individuals. Content areas cover culture, social structure and social change as well as an introduction to social research. Additionally, special emphasis is placed on stratification in society in terms of social class, race, gender and age. Includes class discussion and group assignments.

150
Contemporary Social Problems
(4 credits; Fall)

This course is a study of contemporary social problems from a global perspective. It examines population, environmental depletion and destruction, violence and war, racial and ethnic conflict, migration, gender inequality and other problems that occur internationally and that are interrelated. It analyzes assumptions underlying popular and theoretical explanations of social problems, as well as programs and policies aimed at alleviating them.

201
Writing for Sociology
(4 credits, Fall)

This course explores the differences between social scientific writing and other forms of writing (e.g., novels, essays, non-fiction). What makes sociological arguments unique? What forms do they usually take and what are the features that make them most effective? Students are asked to analyze different sociological forms or argumentation and writing (e.g., quantitative vs. ethnographic, inductive vs. deductive, interpretive vs. casual), explore their varying degree of efficacy and to produce one end-of-term research paper. Although the end goal of this course is a single paper, the structure of the course is writing intensive with a series of short writing assignments and paper drafts that build up to the final paper.
Prerequisite: Sociology or Criminal Justice majors.

207
Introduction to Social Welfare
(4 credits; Fall)

This overview of the social welfare system in this country includes its historical development. Understanding and evaluating social welfare programs such as family and children's services, healthcare, community mental health and work with the aging are the goal. The course includes visits to selected community agencies.
Prerequisite: SO 101 or AN 120.

220
Social Issues
(4 credits; Fall, Spring)

This course provides in-depth analysis, from a social science perspective, of a substantive social issue confronting modern societies. It emphasizes pertinent social structures, values and attitudes, and the effects on the individual. Topics vary from year-to-year. May be repeated for credit.

222
Sociology of Cyberspace
(4 credits; Spring, alternate years)

This course explores the social implications of the Internet with a focus on interaction, communities and community mobilization, factors affecting group and individual participation on "virtual communities" and social control.

229
Women in Society
(4credits; Fall)

This course surveys the effects of cultural values, social institutions and sex roles on women's lives. It analyzes sources of gender inequality, especially in terms of the social construction of gender and sexuality. It examines the intersections of race, class, and sexuality for women. The course draws heavily on student participation to integrate personal gender experiences with a base of knowledge about women.

230
Racism: Myths and Realities
(4 credits, day; Fall)

This course provides a critical examination of how racism is operationalized in American society and its impact on the historical, social, psychological and spiritual relationship between Black and White Americans. Students have an opportunity to investigate both past and present racist practices and events and analyze how the practice of racism and culture interface and the effects of racism on Black and White America.

240
African American Images in the Media
(4 credits; Spring)

This course provides a critical examination of the role and effects mass media have on the African American community. Students have the opportunity to explore the genres of television and film not only as mediums of entertainment, but as dynamic forces in the presentation and perpetuation of certain cultural values, ideals, philosophies and beliefs. Students examine the cultural prism of race in assessing mass media's creation of images and attitudes about the African American community.

245
Gays and Lesbians in American Society
(4 credits; Spring)

This course introduces students to the gay and lesbian experience in American society from pre-Stonewall to present day life. Using a sociological approach, students explore the development of diverse gay and lesbian identities and communities during the past 30 years and examine their social, political and cultural implications, both inside and outside the gay and lesbian community. Students examine and discuss the ways in which the gay and lesbian culture has impacted American society, as well as identify the cultural and political struggles within the gay and lesbian community, and between the gay and straight communities. Intersections of race and class also are explored. Offered in even years.
Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above.

247
Aging in Modern Society
Not regularly scheduled.

250
Sex and Society
(4 credits; Fall)

This course explores the multiple ways that social processes and culture construct and channel male and female sexual behavior. Students study social science research on human sexuality, the meanings of sex and gender from a sociological perspective and the cultural mythologies that shape and inform our emotions, behaviors and attitudes.

260
Sociology of Health Care
(4 credits; Fall)

This course explores definitions of health and illness in the United States and other cultures. It analyzes the social, economic, political and cultural factors bearing on healthcare with emphasis on social structure, formal organization, professionalism and historic development. It enables students to apply the knowledge gained, both professionally and personally.

265
Social Inequalities
(4 credits; Spring)

This course examines important empirical findings and theories for the analysis of systems of social stratification. It reviews the contributions of Marx, Weber and other early scholars. It includes caste, estate and class as alternative stratification systems; the interrelations of class, status and power; and the behavioral and attitudinal consequences of class differences in Modern America.
Prerequisite: SO101 or AN120.

270
Feminist Theory
(4 credits; Spring)

This course closely examines feminist theories from an analytic and sociological viewpoint, including how feminist thinkers have conceptualized how and why women are positioned as they are in society and how these

ideas have evolved over time and within particular sociopolitical contexts. Students examine the definitional and political issues inherent in “feminism” and what it has come to mean in society. The theories studied include liberal, Marxist, psychoanalytic and radical feminism. Throughout the course, these theories are evaluated along the intersections of race, class, and sexual orientation. Offered in even years.
Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above.

280
The Sociology of AIDS and HIV
(4 credits; Fall)

This course examines social issues surrounding AIDS and HIV: discrimination and homophobia, risk reduction strategies, social factors in transmission, media treatment, legal and political dilemmas, and international efforts in HIV reduction. Students get firsthand experience through service learning in AIDS organizations within the Delaware Valley. Offered in odd years.

286
Health and Human Rights
(4 credits; Fall)

This course explores the relationship between health and human rights through prevailing definitions and understandings of international human rights, and the relevance, scope and depth of issues relevant to health and human rights scholars, practitioners, and advocates. Sociological and interdisciplinary approaches are used to explore the intersection between health and human rights. Key international declarations and conventions are examined, the meanings of “human rights” and “health” explored, specific case studies analyzed, and the intersection between historical and contemporary social issues considered. Potential methods for promoting health by protecting human rights at various levels, and the contemporary human rights issues of university/cultural relativity and accountability are addressed as a way of illuminating possibilities and avenues for improving individual and community health through considering primary, secondary and tertiary prevention in various contexts.
Prerequisite: Sophomore or above.

310
Social Movements
(4 credits; alternate years, Spring)

Social movements are instrumental in creating social change and thus fundamental to understanding how social systems operate. This course is an upper-level seminar in the social scientific study of social movements, with a focus on social movements of the 20th century, such as the civil rights movement, women’s liberation movement, and abortion movements. Topics include mobilization strategies, processes of movement formation, outcomes of social movements, and reasons for decline. Case studies of particular social movements are examined using sociological theory. Students create a portfolio of work about a social movement of interest to them.

320
Homes, Housing and Homelessness
(4 credits, Spring)

This course examines lack of affordable homes, urban homelessness and extreme impoverishment from a comparative historical perspective. Cases to be examined will include the United States, United Kingdom, Kenya and India. A third of the class will devote to service learning (volunteering with residents of one of Project HOME’s housing programs).

330
Research Methods
(4 credits; Spring)

This course examines the notion of paradigms, the relationship of theory to empirical work, the formulation of hypotheses, questionnaire construction and multi-method research. The introduction to the major quantitative and qualitative research methods includes survey research, ethnography, interviewing and content analysis. A class project gives the student hands-on experience to aid in the development of the required individual research projects.
Prerequisites: SO101, one additional SO or AN course, and MA 141.

355
The Child in America
Not regularly scheduled.

362
Internship in Sociology
(6 credits; Fall)

Students get fieldwork experience in a social welfare or similar agency for 10 hours each week for the semester. Choice of setting is based on the interests and needs of individual students. The course includes weekly seminars focusing on workplace skills.
Prerequisites: SO 207. Admission only by pre-registration in the preceding semester. Open to senior Sociology majors and others with permission of the instructor.

363
Internship in Sociology
(6 credits; Spring)

Students get fieldwork experience in a social welfare or similar agency for 10 hours each week for the semester. Choice of setting is based on the interests and needs of individual students.

The course includes weekly seminars focusing on workplace skills.
Prerequisites: SO 207. Admission only by pre-registration in the preceding semester. Open to senior Sociology majors and others with permission of the instructor.

385
Social Theory
(4 credits; Fall)

This survey of the contributions of major classical, modern and post-modern theorists is presented within their social and historic context. It considers works of Marx, Weber, Durkheim, Freud, Parsons, Mead and Goffman, Habermas, Bourdieu as well as Appadurai, Butler, Hooks, Foucault, Baudrillard and Haraway and other theorists. The course reviews critiques and elaborations of the theories and assesses their influences on contemporary thought in the social sciences and humanities.
Prerequisite: SO 101.

389
Independent Study
Individual research or directed in-depth reading at an advanced level is devoted to specific topics in sociology, anthropology, or social welfare.
Prerequisites: Approval of the Chair and instructor concerned.

490
Senior Seminar I
(4 credits, Fall)

The Senior Capstone course includes two components: the seminar and preparation for independent thesis research. The seminar includes reading and discussion of original research and literature on selected topics in sociology, and reflection and discussion of the student as a professional sociologist. Students have the opportunity to read and discuss a number of different approaches researching questions in the field and to use these approaches to create their own process for their independent research (the thesis). Instructors in the course utilize multiple methods of inquiry and research to highlight disciplinary research strategies. The course is an intensive reading and writing course that culminates in a comprehensive proposal for the independent thesis project to be completed in the Spring semester.

491
Senior Seminar II
(Spring)

This seminar focuses on the completion of the senior thesis and on career preparation issues and skills. Students integrate the material learned through the undergraduate years, uncover the meanings associated with becoming a professional, and explore career opportunities through a series of guest speakers. Students also prepare for their thesis presentation.
Prerequisite: Open to senior Sociology majors and others by permission of the instructor. A GPA of 2.0 or higher in the major, or permission of the Department is required.