




*Handbook  
for  
Majors in Sociology*

*General Information  
Advising  
Requirements  
Areas of Concentration  
Career Information*



## **WELCOME TO THE SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

Sociology majors seek insight on how the world works around them and their place in it, and they strive to understand their potential for shaping that world. While we may study large social structures such as institutions, social classes, societies, and world systems, we also explore the more localized structures that shape the individuals' place and experience in the world, including roles, statuses, and groups. We encourage students to examine the major organizing principles that contribute to shaping our social identities, including "race" and ethnicity, class, gender, age, and sexual orientation. We invite students to investigate how people may challenge, resist, alter, or preserve and protect their world and their place in it. And while we may not provide students with a handbook of easy solutions to social problems, we do teach students how to ask the difficult questions, to dig beneath the obvious, and to search for the multiple layers of social meaning.

Sociology majors find their skills sought after in fields as diverse as social and human services (both in for-profit and non-profit organizations), criminal justice agencies, health care administration, marketing, advertising, management, government, public policy, urban planning, teaching, and law.

### **The Department Office; Declaring a Major**

For students who are interested in majoring in Sociology, the first person to see is Katherine Covey, in room 114 of Manchester Hall (the Sociology Department office). She will be able to: provide information, help you fill out paperwork, declare your major, assign you to an advisor, and prepare your folder so that you and your advisor can work out a PLAN OF STUDY. She can also help students with double major applications, independent study forms, add-drop forms and other related matters. She is usually in the office between 8:00 – 4:00 (closed 12:00-1:00 p.m.) and no appointment is necessary.

### **HuskyCT**

The department now has a Sociology site that has helpful information, upcoming events and deadlines. When you declare your major, you will be given access to this site.

### **Undergraduate Advising Assistant**

Rachel Leventhal-Weiner and Gretchen Marin serve as the Undergraduate Advising Assistants in the department (Room 112). They are responsible primarily for assisting sociology majors with their general education requirements and making recommendations for plans of study. The Undergraduate Advising Assistants are also available for support with identifying plans for post-secondary study and employment. Good advising helps students focus their goals and use their degree to its fullest potential. Rachel and Gretchen holds office hours during regularly scheduled times in the fall and spring semesters and by appointment during academic and summer breaks. Office hours are posted outside of room 112 or you can contact them by email [rachel.leventhal@uconn.edu](mailto:rachel.leventhal@uconn.edu) or [gretchen.marin@uconn.edu](mailto:gretchen.marin@uconn.edu).

### **Your Faculty Advisor**

Majors in sociology are assigned to a faculty advisor in the department of Sociology. Students are free to request a particular faculty advisor or to request a change of advisor. We meet these requests insofar as professors' advisory loads allow. In addition to making suggestions of courses during each registration period and meeting with you to talk about your academic and career goals, your sociology advisor is the one who approves the "related courses" necessary for your major and the only one who may sign your final PLAN OF STUDY. Although you may continue to get course advice from others (e.g., your prior advisor or a counseling program), these helpful people are **not** your formal academic advisor, and CANNOT sign your final PLAN OF STUDY for a major in sociology. You need to

get to know your advisor. Before going to see your advisor, it is always a good idea to make an appointment. E-mail or phone your advisor or stop by to set up an appointment. Your faculty advisor will meet and talk with you about such things as:

- Making your academic and vocational plans
- Selecting courses appropriate to your plans
- Helping with various academic problems
- Suggesting suitable graduate schools and programs

See your advisor every semester. **At registration time your advisor must raise your advising bar.**

Your PLAN OF STUDY should be worked out with your faculty advisor at preregistration for the fifth semester. The eight courses to complete your major and the four related courses are on this form. PLANS OF STUDY can be changed, as your plans develop. The FINAL PLAN OF STUDY must be filed with the Registrar no later than the end of the fourth week of the semester in which you expect to graduate. The PLAN OF STUDY form is available outside the departmental office. If you are not sure which PLAN OF STUDY is correct for you, ask Katherine Covey.

### **Permission Numbers**

Requests for permission numbers are centralized through the Sociology department (except for Field Experience and Independent Study). We want to guarantee that those students (especially Sociology majors) who need our classes are able to enroll. Each semester we work to improve our central permission number system to make it efficient and fair. Please consult our Website, postings in the departments, and emails to majors to learn what we are doing for the next registration period.

### **Requirements for Sociology Majors**

All sociology majors must complete **Sociology 1001 (107), 1251 (115) or 1501 (125)** before Sociology 3201 (205), 3211Q (207Q) and 3251 (270). We strongly recommend taking one of these 1000 level courses before your Junior year. In addition to the 1000 level course, students must complete **24 credits in 2000-4000 level sociology courses** including the three courses noted below. Students must have a grade point average of 2.0 or better in these 24 credits. Only credits earned at UCONN may be used to meet these requirements, save where the dean of the college grants an exception.

In addition to the 24 credits in 2000-4000 level sociology courses, you must have **12 credits in “related” courses** in other departments. **Your advisor must approve these courses.** Typically, most courses in the following departments are approved as related courses: Anthropology, Economics, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Women’s Studies, LAMS, and Urban Studies. Additionally certain courses (to be approved by your faculty advisor) in Communication Sciences, English, Foreign Languages and Literature, Geography, Statistics, Human Development and Family Relations, Linguistics, and other programs may be acceptable as related courses.

The sociology courses you are required to take depend on the PLAN OF STUDY that applies to you. *Your PLAN OF STUDY is determined by your date of entry to UCONN’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences*

**If you entered in Catalog Year 2005 or after, you must complete:**

1. *Three required courses:*

Soci 3201 (205)	Research Methods
Soci 3211QC (207QC)	Quantitative Methods in Social Research
Soci 3251 (270 or 270W)	Social Theory

2. *One Course from this list of inequality, diversity and change courses:*

Soci 2827 (227), Soci 3221 (221), Soci 3222 (222), Soci 3421 (268), Soci 3429 (249), Soci 3501 (240), Soci 3503 (243), Soci 3505 (236), Soci 3511 (242), Soci 3601 (252), Soci 3621 (245), Soci 3701 (258), Soci 3703 (226), Soci 3801 (269), Soci 3821 (290), Soci 3825 (235), Soci 3905 (282).

3. *Four additional 2000- 4000 level Sociology courses, i.e., 12 credits (no more than 3 credits from Soci 3990/3991).*

**If you entered in catalog year 2001-2004 , please see Katherine Covey in room 114**

**Honors Program**

The department has a strong and supportive Honors Program for juniors and seniors. The Honors Program allows students more individualized contact with faculty and greater academic challenge. Students must take four honors courses during their last two years, and must write an honors thesis. Sophomores (Juniors can sometimes be included) with a 3.2 grade point average who are not currently in the Honors Program should speak with Prof. Lynne Goodstein, the Honors Advisor in Sociology.

**Suggested Areas of Concentration**

In addition to the required sociology courses, you must choose 2000-4000 level courses in sociology to make up the 24 credits to complete your major. You may choose these additional courses freely from any of the courses offered. Or you may choose courses from an Area of Concentration. A concentration in your sociology major gives you a head start on advanced training in your chosen area and is a concrete talking point in job interviews.

We advise students anticipating a major in sociology to consider taking one course in their sophomore year. Then you can take more courses and more advanced courses in a Concentration in the junior and senior year, or just take a wider selection of sociology courses in connection with your major.

**I. Careers in Social Services: Health, Social Work, and Teaching**

2301 (216)	Criminology (Open to Sophomores)
3311 (217)	Deviant Behavior
3421 (268)	Class, Power, and Inequality
3425 (285)	Social Welfare and Social Work
3429 (249)	Sociological Perspectives on Poverty
3451 (247)	Sociology of Health
3453 (241)	Women and Health
3459 (248)	Aging in American Society
3471 (288)	Sociology of Education
3501 (240)	Ethnicity and Race
3601 (252)	Sociology of Gender
3651 (250)	The Family (Open to Sophomores)
3703 (236)	White Racism
3903 (281)	Urban Problems

3990/3991 (296) Field Experience

**II. Careers in Public Policy, Law Degree, Public Administration**

2301 (216) Criminology (Open to Sophomores)  
3311 (217) Deviant Behavior  
3407 (259) Energy, Environment, and Society  
3421 (268) Class, Power, and Inequality  
3429 (249) Sociological Perspectives on Poverty  
3471 (288) Sociology of Education  
3503 (243) Prejudice and Discrimination  
3505 (236) White Racism  
3601 (252) Sociology of Gender  
3651 (250) The Family (Open to Sophomores)  
3841 (267) Public Opinion and Mass Communication  
3801 (269) Political Sociology  
3903 (281) Urban Problems  
3990/3991 (296) Field Experience

**III. Careers in Urban Affairs, Planning and Community Development**

2301 (216) Criminology (Open to Sophomores)  
3825 (235) African Americans and Social Protest  
3651 (250) The Family (Open to Sophomores)  
3971 (255) Population  
3701 (258) Third World Development  
3841 (267) Public Opinion in Mass Communication  
3901 (280) Urban Sociology (Open to Sophomores)  
3903 (281) Urban Problems  
3905 (282) Urbanization  
3471 (288) Sociology of Education  
3990/3991 (296) Field Experience

**IV. Careers in Criminal Justice**

2301 (216) Criminology (Open to Sophomores)  
3311 (217) Deviant Behavior  
3315 (218) Juvenile Delinquency  
3307 (219) Drugs and Society  
3503 (243) Prejudice and Discrimination  
3428 (285) Social Welfare and Social Work  
3990/3991 (296) Field Experience

Criminal Justice is also offered as a minor. Contact Prof. Bradley Wright.

**V. Careers in Human Rights**

3831 (215) Human Rights in the United States  
3221 (221) Sociological Perspectives on Asian American Women  
3222 (222) Asian Indian Women: Activism and Social Change  
3825 (235) African Americans and Social Protest  
3505 (236) White Racism  
3503 (243) Prejudice and Discrimination  
3429 (249) Sociological Perspectives on Poverty  
3701 (258) The Developing World  
3421 (268) Class, Power, and Inequality  
3601 (252) Sociology of Gender  
3801 (269) Political Sociology  
3990/3991 (296) Field Experience

Human Rights is also offered as a minor. Contact Prof. Richard Hiskes in Political Science.

## **Special Instructions for Majors Who Plan to Pursue Graduate Degrees in Sociology & Related Areas**

Sociology majors who plan to pursue graduate study are strongly encouraged to substitute a corresponding graduate-level course for at least one of the four 2000-4000 level courses required of all majors. Or you may take a corresponding graduate course after completing the required undergraduate course. The acceptable course substitutions and pairings are:

Soc 5201 (321); after taking Soc 3201 (205) (Methods of Social Research)  
Soc 5251 (308); instead of, or in addition to, Soc 3251 (270) (Social Theory)  
Soc 5401 (360); instead of, or in addition to, Soc 3401 (260) (Social Organization)  
Soc 5801 (364); instead of, or in addition to, Soc 3801 (269) (Political Sociology)  
Soc 5351 (337); instead of, or in addition to, Soc 3351 (230) (Individual and Society)

You should also consider taking at least one graduate seminar among your sociology electives. Graduate schools often look favorably upon the successful completion of a graduate course as evidence of your ability to perform graduate-level work. Participation in these seminars also gives you close academic contact with a graduate faculty member, who is then in a better position to write letters of recommendation for you.

You will not be allowed to take graduate seminars unless the faculty member teaching the seminar has given you a permission number.

### **Janet M. Fierberg Scholarship**

Sociology majors are encouraged to apply for the Fierberg Scholarship. Scholarships of at least \$1000 are awarded annually to outstanding students planning further study in sociology or a career in social work. Selection is based on academic standing, future professional promise, and financial need. Ask Katherine Covey for details on how to apply, or see the Sociology web site. The scholarship application process is announced in March/April.

### **Library Resources**

For a complete overview of the resources provided by the library system at UCONN for sociology students, go to the following web site: <http://www.lib.uconn.edu/online/research/bysubject/socio.html>

In addition to the web site, there is a liaison at Babbidge Library for the sociology department. If you have any questions, contact Peter Allison, [peter.allison@uconn.edu](mailto:peter.allison@uconn.edu).

### **Career Services**

The career consultant in Career Services who works with sociology majors is Nancy Bilmes. She is the Associate Director of the Department of Career Services. If you would like to schedule an appointment with Nancy, call the receptionist at 486-3013. The Career Services Office is located in the CUE Building. For more information for sociology majors, go to: <http://www.career.uconn.edu/majors/sociology.html>. For a list of possible internships please go to <http://www.internship.uconn.edu>.

## **BA in Sociology Entry Level Jobs**

The following is a partial listing of positions sociology graduates actually hold. At the BA level, job titles for sociology degree recipients typically will not include the word “sociology.” Also, most classified listings will not have employment entries under “sociologist.” However, the positions listed below are open to and appropriate for sociology graduates; they require skills and the theoretical perspective secured through sociological training.

### **Business/Industry**

Administrative Assistant, Banker, Computer Analyst, Insurance Agent, Market Analyst, Real Estate Agent, Recruiter, Technical Writer, Telemarketer, Trainer, Training Assistant.

### **Community/Social Services**

Community Organizer, Child Care Worker, Community Aide, Environmental Organizer, Family Planning Worker, Group Home Worker, Housing Coordinator, Hospital Administration, Substance Abuse Counselor

### **Education**

Admissions Counselor, Affirmative Action, College Placement, Public Health Education, Teacher, Student Personnel Worker

### **Government**

Affirmative Action Worker, Employee Specialist, Foreign Service, Human Rights Officer, Information Officer, Legislative Aide, Peace Corp Volunteer, Special Agent, Urban Planner

### **Justice System**

Correctional Counselor, Corrections Staffer, Corrections Officer, Criminal Investigator, Juvenile Court Worker, Parole Officer, Police Dept. Staffer, Police Officer, Rehabilitation Counselor, State Trooper

### **Research**

Census Assistant, Consumer Researcher, Criminology Assistant, Data Analyst, Demographer Assistant, Market Researcher, Public Survey Worker, Statistician, Survey Research Technician

## **Department of Sociology Faculty and Their Areas of Interest**

Maya Beasley	Racial and Ethnicity, Social Movements, and Stratification
Claudio Benzecry	Social Theory and Sociology of Culture
Mary Bernstein	Social Movements, Sexuality, Gender
Robert Broadhead	Medical Sociology, Deviance, Qualitative Methods
Noel Cazenave*	Poverty & Inequality, Social Movements
Simon Cheng	Race and Ethnicity, Education, Family, Quantitative
Arnold Dashefsky	Judaic Studies, Social Psychology, Ethnicity
Andrew Deener	Urban Sociology, Sociology of Culture, Ethnography
Susan Eisenhandler*	Stratification (at Waterbury Campus)
Mary Fischer	Race, Demography, Quantitative Methods
Davita Silfen Glasberg*	Political Sociology, Economic Sociology
Lynne Goodstein*	Women and Crime, Women's Studies and Education
Ralph McNeal, Jr.	Education, Quantitative Methods, Adolescence
Nancy Naples	Gender, Inequality in the State, Public Policy
Kim Price*	Qualitative Methods, Gender, Family, Sexuality, Health (at Hartford Campus)
Bandana Purkayastha	Gender/Race, Transnational Processes
Kathryn Strother Ratcliff	Sociology of Health, Women & Health
Richard Rockwell	Urban Sociology, Demography
Clinton Sanders	Deviance, Cultural Production
Ronald Taylor*	Social Structure & Personality, Ethnicity
Lisa Troyer*	Group Processes, Social Psychology, Organizational Behavior, Theory
Gaye Tuchman	Sociology of Culture, Sociology of Mass Media
Michael Wallace	Political Economy, Work & Labor Markets
David Weakliem	Political Sociology, Quantitative Methods
Bradley Wright	Social Problems, Criminology, Deviance
Wes Younts	Deviance, Criminology, Social Psychology

\* Not accepting advisees from Storrs at this time

NOTE: Faculty e-mails can be found on UCONN's web site by entering the faculty name into the Phone Directory search box.

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