Criminology, Law, and Deviance Minor

The Minor in Criminology, Law, and Deviance in Department of Sociology is designed for students who wish to develop an in-depth understanding of a sociological perspective on criminal, delinquent, and deviant behaviors; aggression and violence; forms of punishment; systems of social control; workings of the criminal legal system; and the process and consequences of victimization.

Requirements:
• A minimum of 18 semester credit hours
• 1 required course (3 hours)
• 5 electives (15 hours)

Population Health Minor

The Department of Sociology also offers the interdisciplinary Minor in Population Health that provides students with a critical perspective on the full range of factors which impact the health and well-being of populations.

Requirements:
• A minimum of 15 semester credit hours
• 2 required courses (6 hours)
• 3 electives (9 hours)

Career Opportunities

The UH Undergraduate Program in Sociology is ranked 18th in nation for income earning potential by the 2020 GradReports Best Colleges List.

The Department of Sociology prepares undergraduate students for various career paths in many areas, including social services, education, business, social science research, and clerical/administrative support.

Sociology majors can also pursue advanced degrees in sociology, business administration, education, health communication, human resources, public administration, public policy, public relations, social work, etc.

Resources for Undergraduate Students

The Department of Sociology provides several additional resources for undergraduate students:
• Scholarships for Sociology Majors
• Undergraduate student paper awards
• Undergraduate thesis research grants
• Conference travel grants
• Undergraduate computer lab
• UH Sociology Students Association
• Sociology in Action Lecture Series
• Faculty-student luncheons

Advising

Sociology Majors and Minors or students interested in becoming a Sociology Major or Minor are strongly encouraged to meet with Mr. Landis Odoms, Undergraduate Studies Advisor (lodoms@uh.edu).

Contact us:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
uh.edu/class/sociology/undergraduate-program
What is Sociology?

Sociology is the study of human life within group contexts, varying from small, intimate groups to large, complex organizations and societies. Sociologists examine factors that shape human behavior, investigate causes and consequences of social change and inequality, and strive to find solutions to social issues.

Why Major in Sociology?

The Department of Sociology at the University of Houston provides undergraduate students with knowledge and skills that serve as a solid foundation for various occupations and professions.

- The Department places particular emphasis on helping students develop effective oral and written communication, analytical, organizational, and critical thinking skills.
- The Department also provides a rigorous grounding in theory, statistics, and research methodology, including qualitative and quantitative methods, that are relevant to the study of concrete social problems.
- Courses in the Department emphasize an understanding of a broad range of subjects, including family; gender and sexuality; work and occupations; crime and deviance; race and ethnicity; social stratification and education; population trends and immigration; sport, art, and culture; and health disparities and aging.
- The Department offers three concentrations: 1) Health and Medicine, 2) Workplace Diversity; and 3) Criminology, Law and Deviance.
- The Careers in Sociology course in the Department explores career paths available to students with a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology.
- The Sociology Internship course in the Department provides the opportunity for undergraduate students to use sociological perspectives and skills in a real-world setting and can facilitate career development and access to job opportunities.

Requirements for Majors in Sociology

Any student interested in majoring in Sociology must apply first as a Sociology pre-major.

After completion of SOCI 1301 “Introduction to Sociology” and SOC 3300 “Introduction to Sociological Theory” or SOC 3400 “Introduction to Social Statistics” with a minimum grade of C in each course, a student may petition the Department of Sociology to declare a major in Sociology. The Department offers both a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Science in Sociology.

Minor in Sociology

Sociology Minors are required to complete 18 hours in Sociology:

- SOCI 1301 “Introduction to Sociology” (3 hours)
- 4 advanced courses (3000/4000 level; 12 hours)
- One course (any level; 3 hours)

Concentrations

Sociology Majors and Minors may elect to complete a concentration in one of the following three areas:

- Health and Medicine
- Workplace Diversity
- Criminology, Law, and Deviance

Requirements for each concentration include one of the two required courses plus three additional courses from the approved lists.

These concentrations provide undergraduate students with a unique opportunity to gain specialized knowledge as well as relevant skills which they can develop further in graduate studies and/or which can make them more competitive to future or current employers.

Health and Medicine Concentration

The Health and Medicine concentration is specifically designed for students who wish to:

- Learn about sociological aspects of health, illness, and health care in the United States and globally;
- Develop a critical perspective on the implications of different factors, with a central focus on social ones, for health outcomes; and
- Expand their knowledge of social determinants of health disparities and behaviors, advantages and disadvantages of various health care systems, and different types of health care professions, occupations, and settings.

Workplace Diversity Concentration

The Workplace Diversity concentration is intended to offer students the opportunity to:

- Gain a deeper understanding of ever-increasing diversity in contemporary society and particularly in the workplace;
- Become aware of various aspects of workplace diversity and its importance, benefits, and challenges; and
- Acquire necessary knowledge and skills in order to successfully interact and work with people from different backgrounds shaped by their gender, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, social class, etc.

Criminology, Law, and Deviance Concentration

Students pursuing the Criminology, Law, and Deviance concentration will:

- Cultivate a critical perspective on a variety of current challenges related to criminal, delinquent, and deviant behaviors, aggression and violence, forms of punishment, systems of social control, workings of the criminal legal system, and the process and consequences of victimization;
- Become knowledgeable about the types, origins, causes, and explanations for these issues, their impact on society and individuals, as well as solutions to these problems from a sociological perspective; and
- Gain a strong foundation for graduate studies in various fields (e.g., sociology, law, criminal justice, public policy, and social work) and for relevant careers and occupations.