Explore the Science of Human Relationships

The sociology program at National University engages you in the study of social life, social change, and the causes and consequences of human behavior. By applying research, theory, and knowledge about social relationships, you’ll learn to understand the structure of groups, organizations, and societies. You’ll explore human relationships from those as close as the intimate family to those as broad as global interactions between nations. Sociology addresses many of the most challenging issues of our time. It’s a rapidly expanding field whose potential is often tapped by those who craft policies and create programs. Sociologists can assist in positive change by sharing their understanding of social inequality, patterns of behavior, forces for social change, and resistance and how social systems work.

A background in sociology can enhance human interactions in just about any business or profession and provides excellent training for professions such as law enforcement, education, medicine, social work, and any field that involves investigative skills and working with diverse groups.

Program highlights:

- Entire program can be completed online
- Learn to think abstractly, formulate solutions, ask the right questions, search for answers, and analyze social situations
- Develop strong analytical skills and the ability to understand issues from different perspectives
- Explore a range of research techniques to apply to various aspects of social life
- Understand the roles of individuals and groups within complex social constructions
- Apply major sociological theories to real-world situations, offering support and solutions for persistent social problems
- Identify the roles of gender, race, ethnicity, and class in social change at every level
MAJOR IN SOCIOLOGY

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The Bachelor of Arts in Sociology program engages students in the study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Students will investigate the structure of groups, organizations, and societies, and how people interact within these contexts. Since all human behavior is social, the subject matter of sociology ranges from the intimate family to global warfare; from organized crime to religious cults; from the divisions of social class, race, and gender to the shared beliefs of a common culture; and from the sociology of work to the sociology of beauty. In fact, few fields have such broad scope and relevance for research, theory, and application of knowledge.

Sociology majors develop analytical skills and the ability to understand issues within many distinctive perspectives. Sociology offers a range of research techniques that can be applied to virtually any aspect of social life: street crime and delinquency, corporate growth or downsizing, how people express emotions, welfare or education reform, health/HIV AIDS, how families differ and flourish, or problems of peace, war, and terrorism. Because sociology addresses the most challenging issues of our time, it is a rapidly expanding field whose potential is increasingly tapped by those who craft policies and create programs. Sociologists understand social inequality, patterns of behavior, forces for social change and resistance, and, how social systems work.

The program's stimulating curriculum in social theory, research methods, and key sociological concepts provides a solid base for students to learn to think abstractly, formulate problems, ask appropriate questions, search for answers, analyze situations and data, organize material, write well, and make oral presentations. Sociological training helps students bring breadth and depth of understanding to the global workplace and graduates frequently enter a variety of jobs in business, the health professions, criminal justice, social services, and government. Sociology provides training for professions such as law enforcement, education, medicine, social work, and counseling. Furthermore, sociology offers valuable preparation for careers in journalism, politics and policy analysis, public relations, business, or public administration, and program evaluation fields that involve investigative skills and working with diverse groups.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Identify and distinguish between sociological research methods.
- Describe the roles of individuals and groups in the social construction of reality.
- Apply major sociological theories to real-world situations.
- Identify the roles of gender, race, ethnicity and social class in social change at the micro social and macro social levels.

Degree Requirements

To be awarded a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, students must complete at least 180 quarter units as articulated below, 45 of which must be completed in residence at National University, 76.5 of which must be completed at the upper-division level, and a minimum 70.5 units of the University General Education requirements. In the absence of transfer credit, additional general electives may be necessary to satisfy total units for the degree.

The following courses are specific degree requirements. Students are required to complete a capstone project as part of the degree program. It is strongly suggested that students save all graded work. Students should refer to the section on undergraduate admission procedures for specific information regarding admission and evaluation. All students receiving an undergraduate degree in Nevada are required by state law to complete a course in Nevada Constitution.

Prerequisites for the Major

(2 courses; 9 quarter units)

SOC 100* Principles of Sociology
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

MTH 210* Probability and Statistics
Prerequisite: Accuplacer test placement evaluation or MTH 12A and MTH 12B

* May be used to satisfy a General Education requirement.

Requirements for the Major

(9 courses; 40.5 quarter units)

SOC 344 Marriage, Sex and the Family
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

SOC 443 Sociology of Deviance
Prerequisite: ENG 100, ENG 101 and SOC 100

SOC 385 Methods of Social Inquiry
Prerequisite: ENG 100, ENG 101 and SOC 100

SOC 455 Organizational Sociology
Prerequisite: ENG 100, ENG 101 and SOC 100

SOC 365 Classical Social Theory
Prerequisite: SOC 100 and IIR 260

SOC 500 Cultural Pluralism in the USA
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

SOC 375 Contemporary Social Theory
Prerequisite: ENG 100, ENG 101 and SOC 100

SOC 540 Power and Social Change
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

SOC 499** Sociology Senior Project
Prerequisite: SOC 100 and ENG 240 or equivalent

** SOC 499 is taken toward the end of the program after completion of the 40.5 units of required courses for the major, and after completion of six or more electives.

Upper-Division Electives

(7 courses; 31.5 quarter units)

Students must complete a minimum of seven courses of electives from the list below.

*Students wishing to complete a minor in any field may substitute the minor-required courses to fulfill the elective requirements in Sociology. Suggested areas of minor are: Criminal Justice, Global Studies, and History.

CHD 440 Drugs, Values and Society

CJA 448 Violence and Society

GLS 310 Global Communications
Prerequisite: ENG 240

GLS 330 Film in a Global Context
Prerequisite: ENG 240

GLS 410 Gender and Global Society
Prerequisite: ENG 240

GLS 420 Ecological Revolutions
Prerequisite: ENG 240

GLS 430 The Global Economy
Prerequisite: ENG 240

GLS 440 Study Abroad
Prerequisite: HIS 320

HUM 501 Global Civic Culture
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

MTH 412 History of Mathematics
Prerequisite: MTH 215 or MTH 301 or MTH 216A and MTH 216B

PHL 320 World Religions
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

PHL 375 Environmental Ethics
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

POL 320 Politics of Social Movements
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

POL 360 Public Policy
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

SCI 300 Geography

SOC 325 Popular Culture
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

SOC 328 Intercultural Thinking
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

SOC 331 Sociology of Health & Illness
Prerequisite: ENG 100, ENG 101 and SOC 100

SOC 336 American Film and Society
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

SOC 350 Cultural Diversity
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

SOC 430 Culture, Technology & Society
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

SOC 445 Contemporary Social Problems
Prerequisite: ENG 100 and ENG 101

SOC 449 Sociology of Law
Prerequisite: ENG 100, ENG 101 and SOC 100

SOC 460 The Individual and Society
Prerequisite: ENG 100, ENG 101 and SOC 100

SOC 490 Guided Study (variable units)

For complete program information, see the National University Catalog 82, effective 10/2018.