

SOCIOLOGY MINOR

Program Overview

Sociology is the systematic and empirically-based study of human social interaction ranging from the most simple exchanges between people to complex, multi-layered and multi-scaled global processes and structures. It also examines the central place of language, a shared and dynamic set of symbols and meanings, in human lives. Students learn both about the worlds in which they and others live and how to understand and explain how these worlds work and sometimes do not. And they consider, based on these understandings, what sorts of interventions, through policy or practice, might serve to change aspects of those worlds for the better for those living in them. The department offers students literacy and training in multiple theories and methods of social inquiry, giving special attention to qualitative and historical analysis.

Students in the program enjoy frequent collaboration with the Des Moines community through research assignments, service learning, and internships. Recent graduates have gone to graduate school in social work, business, law, paralegal studies, sociology, criminology, and anthropology. They also have found jobs in government agencies, businesses, and social service organizations according to their interests and past experiences.

Code	Title	Hours
SOC 001	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3
SOC 042	SOCIOLOGICAL INQUIRY	3
Select 12 additional sociology credits		12
Total Hours		18

A maximum of 6 hours in anthropology (ANTH) courses may be used for the sociology minor. No more than 9 hours of transfer credit are allowed.

Students who wish to count courses as electives from related areas outside of SCS programs (no more than 3 credits) must petition their advisor and the department. To receive approval for the major, a non-SCS course must use or examine a method, theory, or substantive problem of historical importance and/or complementary to sociology.