Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the university's Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

Sequencing of coursework is important in meeting the four-year plan.

Before the fifth semester begins: SOC:1010 Introduction to Sociology or equivalent, and one sociology elective.

Before the seventh semester begins: SOC:2130 Sociological Theory, a required statistics course, one more sociology elective, and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

Before the eighth semester begins: SOC:2170 Research Methods and one more sociology elective.

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, including a capstone course, SOC:4909 Graduation Portfolio, and the last two sociology electives; all remaining GE CLAS Core courses; and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Sociology, BA

Course Title Hours Academic Career Any Semester
GE CLAS Core: Sustainability a

Hours 0

First Year
Fall
SOC:1010 Introduction to Sociology b 3
ENGL:1200 The Interpretation of Literature 3 - 4
or RHET:1030 or Rhetoric
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level 4 - 5
Proficiency or elective course c
CSI:1600 Success at Iowa 2
Elective course d 3

Hours 15-17

Spring
Major: sociology elective/track course e 3
ENGL:1200 The Interpretation of Literature 3 - 4
or RHET:1030 or Rhetoric
GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion f 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level 4 - 5
Proficiency or elective course c
Elective course d 2

Hours 15-17

Second Year
Fall
SOC:2130 Sociological Theory 3
Major: sociology elective/track course e 3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab f 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Third Level 4 - 5
Proficiency or elective course c
Elective course d 2

Hours 16-17

Spring
Major: introductory statistics course - STAT:1020 Elementary Statistics and Inference recommended b 3
Major: sociology elective/track course e 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level 4 - 5
Proficiency or elective course c
Elective course d 3
Elective course d 1

Hours 14-15

Third Year
Fall
SOC:2170 Research Methods 3
Major: upper-level sociology elective/track course g 3
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture f 3
Elective course d 3
Elective course d 3

Hours 15

Spring
Major: capstone course h 3
Major: upper-level sociology elective/track course g 3
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts f 3
Elective course d 3
Elective course d 3

Hours 15

Fourth Year
Fall
Major: upper-level sociology elective/track course g 3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab f 3
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives f 3
Elective course d 3
Elective course d 3

Hours 15

Spring
SOC:4909 Graduation Portfolio 0
Major: upper-level sociology elective/track course g 3
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues f 3
Elective course d 3
Elective course d 3
Elective course d 3

Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall) i

Hours 15

Total Hours 120-126

a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative and Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives;
International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Culture.
b Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
c Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
d Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
e Students have the option to choose one of two tracks in the major: family and health services, or human relations and business.
f GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
g Upper-level sociology courses (prefix SOC) are numbered 3000 or above. Two of the upper-level electives must be taken after (and not concurrent with) the completion of SOC:2130, SOC:2170, and an approved introductory statistics course.
h May be taken as early as spring of the junior year, as long as students have completed SOC:2130, SOC:2170, and one of the approved statistics courses.
i Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Graduation Services.