

Sociology, BA

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in sociology requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including at least 36 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They must also complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core. Transfer students must earn at least 18 s.h. in sociology coursework at the University of Iowa; transfer courses must be approved by a sociology advisor.

The major offers two optional tracks for students with an interest in one of the following concentrations: family and health services, or human relations and business.

Students who earn the major in sociology can earn the major in criminology, law, and justice. No more than 9 s.h. of major coursework can be applied to both of the majors. Students who earn both majors may not complete a minor in either area.

Students may count up to 56 s.h. of coursework from the Department of Sociology and Criminology toward credit required for the Bachelor of Arts degree. BA students who are graduating with a double major in the department (sociology and criminology, law, and justice) may apply more than 56 s.h. from the department toward their degree, but they must earn at least 56 s.h. of credit in courses outside the department in order to graduate.

Students who earn the major in sociology may earn a minor in criminology, law, and justice. No more than 3 s.h. can count toward both the major and minor.

Students who earn the major in sociology may not earn the sociology minor.

In planning to complete the major, students must take courses in the proper sequence. Introduction to Sociology (SOC:1010) is a prerequisite for all required core theory and methods courses. Statistics is a prerequisite for the more advanced methods course. These introductory courses lay the foundation for all other work in the major. The recommended sequence for the major's core requirements is SOC:1010, SOC:2130 Sociological Theory, an approved statistics course, and SOC:2170 Research Methods. See the Four-Year Graduation Plan under Academic Plans [p.] in this section of the catalog.

The BA with a major in sociology requires the following work.

Requirements	Hours
Foundational Coursework	6-7
Research Coursework	6-7
Elective Coursework	21
Capstone Coursework	3
Graduation Portfolio	0

Foundational Coursework

Course #	Title	Hours
Both of these:		
SOC:1010	Introduction to Sociology	3-4
SOC:2130	Sociological Theory	3

Research Coursework

Course #	Title	Hours
This course:		
SOC:2170	Research Methods	3
One of these:		
SOC:2160	Applied Statistics for Social Scientists	3
STAT:1020/ PSQF:1020	Elementary Statistics and Inference	3
STAT:1030	Statistics for Business	4
STAT:2010	Statistical Methods and Computing	3
STAT:3510/ IGPI:3510	Biostatistics	3
STAT:4143/ PSQF:4143	Introduction to Statistical Methods	3

Students with an additional major in psychology may be able to count PSY:2811 Research Methods and Data Analysis in Psychology I as the research methods course; consult an advisor for more information.

Electives

Students complete 21 s.h. of elective coursework in sociology (prefix SOC). Four of the required electives must be advanced, chosen from sociology courses numbered 3000-4903, SOC:4920 Social Services Organization Internship, or SOC:4998 Honors Research. Two of the four advanced required electives must be taken after (and not concurrent with) the completion of SOC:2130 Sociological Theory, SOC:2170 Research Methods, and an additional approved course from the "Research Coursework" list. Students can use a maximum of two criminology, law, and justice courses (prefix CRIM) toward the electives requirement. With permission, students may use graduate courses in sociology numbered 5000 or above to satisfy the electives requirement.

The following courses may not be used as major electives.

Course #	Title	Hours
SOC:1000	First-Year Seminar	1-2
SOC:4800	Research Practicum in Sociology	3
SOC:4910	Capstone Course in Sociology and Criminology	3
SOC:4930	Teaching Internship	3
SOC:4990	Directed Individual Study	arr.
SOC:4997	Honors Seminar	1

Capstone Coursework

All students complete a capstone course, which illustrates their accomplishments and includes assembling a portfolio. Students may take it as early as spring of their junior year, as long as they have completed SOC:2130 Sociological Theory, SOC:2170 Research Methods, and an additional approved course from the "Research Coursework" list.

Course #	Title	Hours
One of these:		
SOC:4800	Research Practicum in Sociology	3
SOC:4910	Capstone Course in Sociology and Criminology	3

SOC:4920	Social Services Organization Internship	3
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Graduation Portfolio

During their last semester, all students enroll in the following course, in which they submit the portfolio they assembled in the capstone course.

Course #	Title	Hours
SOC:4909	Graduation Portfolio	0

Optional Tracks

Family and Health Services Track

The family and health services track requires a minimum of 15 s.h. of credit, including 12 s.h. of coursework taken at the University of Iowa. It is open to sociology majors who are interested in understanding family structures and practices, differences between and within families, and those social institutions and forces that shape families or are shaped by them. Additionally, the track cultivates students' understanding of the social context of health, illness, and health care. It is especially well-suited for students who are interested in pursuing careers in the fields of social service and health.

Students must satisfy all requirements for the sociology major. They may count courses taken for the track as sociology electives for the major.

The family and health services track requires the following coursework.

Course #	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
6 s.h. from these:		
SOC:1310	Gender and Society	3
SOC:2710	The American Family	3
SOC:3510	Medical Sociology	3
Electives		
9 s.h. from these:		
SOC:2064	African American Families: Urban and Suburban	3
SOC:2810	Social Inequality	3
SOC:3171	Drugs and Society	3
SOC:3220	Sociology of Mental Health	3
SOC:3750	Born in the USA: Fertility and Reproduction	3
SOC:4230	Sociology of Self-Improvement	3
SOC:4820	Sociology of Sexuality	3
CRIM:3420	Juvenile Delinquency	3
CRIM:4430	Interpersonal Violence in Society	3
Or select electives from these graduate courses, with approval of instructor:		
SOC:6220	Seminar: Selected Topics in Social Psychology (when topic is life course)	3
SOC:6310	Gender Stratification Seminar	3

Students may also choose the remaining required course as an elective

Human Relations and Business Track

The human relations and business track requires a minimum of 15 s.h. of credit, including 12 s.h. of coursework taken at the University of Iowa. It is open to sociology majors who are interested in understanding the macro- and micro-level processes that affect the ability to understand and manage organizations, as well as the groups and individuals that compose them. The track provides intensive training in both theoretical and empirical approaches to organizations and combines micro-level insights into work groups with macro-level perspectives on the influence of organizations' environments. It is especially well suited for students who are interested in pursuing careers in various services-providing sectors such as business services, educational services, social assistance, or government.

Students must satisfy all requirements for the sociology major. They may count courses taken for the track as sociology electives for the major.

The human relations and business track requires the following coursework.

Course #	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
6 s.h. from these:		
SOC:3610	Organizations and Modern Society	3
SOC:3880	The Sociology of Networks	3
SOC:4225	The Social Psychology of Leadership	3
Electives		
9 s.h. from these:		
SOC:2810	Social Inequality	3
SOC:3110	Race, Organizations, and Workplace	3
SOC:3215	Digital Footprints: Sociology in the Age of Social Media	3
SOC:3530	Social Psychology of Small Groups	3
SOC:3650	Education, Schools, and Society	3
SOC:4230	Sociology of Self-Improvement	3
SOC:4540	Political Sociology and Social Movements	3
CRIM:4440	Sociology of White-Collar Crime	3
Or select electives from these graduate courses, with approval of instructor:		
SOC:6610	Complex Organizations	3
SOC:7620	Social Networks: Theory and Sociological Applications	3
SOC:7820	Seminar: Selected Topics in Social Stratification (when topic is social capital)	3

Emphasis Areas

The following elective courses are grouped by emphasis for students who may want to cluster their electives according to one of the following areas of interest. The emphasis areas are not tracks. See Courses in this section of the catalog for a complete list of sociology courses.

Social Psychology

Course #	Title	Hours
SOC:1220	Principles of Social Psychology	3
SOC:3220	Sociology of Mental Health	3
SOC:3530	Social Psychology of Small Groups	3
SOC:4225	The Social Psychology of Leadership	3
SOC:4230	Sociology of Self-Improvement	3

Social and Political Organization

Course #	Title	Hours
SOC:2810	Social Inequality	3
SOC:2830	Race and Ethnicity	3
SOC:3610	Organizations and Modern Society	3
SOC:3650	Education, Schools, and Society	3
SOC:3880	The Sociology of Networks	3
SOC:4820	Sociology of Sexuality	3

Teacher Licensure

Students interested in teaching in elementary and/or secondary schools should seek admission to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) in the College of Education.

To qualify for licensure in secondary teaching, students in the TEP complete a degree in education as well as a related College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree. See Apply on the College of Education website for details on requirements and deadlines for applying to the College of Education and about TEP choices of majors leading to licensure.