

Undergraduate Sociology

Degrees Available at SIUE

- Bachelor of Arts in Sociology
- Bachelor of Science in Sociology

Specializations

- Employment Relations
- Diversity and Social Justice

Sociology at SIUE

Sociology is the study of human groups and relationships. A major purpose of the discipline is to uncover efficient and effective ways to understand and improve society.

Students in the Department of Sociology will investigate human values, customs, leadership, cooperation and conflict in every kind and size of group, including families, schools, religions, corporations, economies, governments, cities and societies. Sociologists use questionnaire surveys, participant observation, government statistics and computer simulations to find patterns and general principles that can help solve problems of group living, ranging from infant mortality and juvenile delinquency to world population growth and migration. Sociologists investigate causes of crime and deviance; racial, gender and ethnic conflict; poverty; social inequality; health care; globalization and workplace change. Applied sociologists use sociological insights to identify and solve practical problems in organizations and workplaces.

Career Opportunities

Industry, government and private service agencies often prefer a major in one of the social sciences. While professional training in sociology is primarily associated with advanced degrees, there are many employment opportunities for those with a liberal arts major in sociology. College of Arts and Sciences graduates who studied sociology work in public relations, management, community activism, college advising, and many other areas. Specializations in employment relations, and diversity and social justice add occupationally relevant training to the liberal arts program in sociology. In addition to providing classroom and experiential training in employment relations, the concentration helps develop marketable research and communication skills. The required internship helps create job opportunities and provides training and research skills that make students more attractive to potential employers.

Admission Requirements

The admission requirements for a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree in sociology include admission to the University and successful completion of high school course-specific requirements.

Students must normally declare a major in sociology no later than halfway through their junior year (i.e. before the completion of 75 semester credits). Students who declare a major later than this explicitly understand and agree that they will not be able to graduate sooner than the end of the third semester of full-time coursework following declaration.

Ordinarily, up to 15 semester hours of transfer credit in sociology may be accepted. No more than nine semester hours from community colleges will be accepted for credit toward the major. Transfer credit will be accepted only if the course grade is C or above. Social work courses do not count toward the 36 semester hours required for the major.

Graduation Requirements

A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or above in sociology courses is required for graduation, and students must achieve at least a grade of C in all required sociology courses.

SIUE

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Sociology



Faculty

Denise Cobb, PhD
2003, Tulane University

Connie Frey-Spurlock, PhD
2007, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Mark Hedley, PhD
1994, University of Arizona

Florence Maatita, PhD
2003, University of Connecticut

Linda Markowitz, PhD
1995, University of Arizona

Darci Schmidgal, MA
2012, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Elizabeth Stygar, MA
2008, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Lisa Martino Taylor, PhD
2011, University of Missouri, Columbia

Ezra Temko, MA
2016, University of New Hampshire

Sandra Weissinger, PhD
2010, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Sample Four-Year Curriculum

Sample curriculum for the Bachelor of Science in general sociology shown below. Students wishing to obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree may do so by adding one year of foreign language, as well as four additional courses in fine and performing arts or humanities.

Fall Semester

Spring Semester

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	SOC 111 Introduction to Sociology (BSS) 3 ANTH 111b Human Culture & Communication (BSS, EGC, EUSC) (Recommended) 3 QR 101, MATH 150 or Higher 3 ENG 101 English Composition I 3 ACS 101 or 103 Oral Expression 3 Total Credits 15	ENG 102 English Composition II 3 RA 101 Reasoning & Argumentation 3 Breadth Fine & Performing Arts (BFPA) 3 Breadth Humanities (BHUM) 3 Breadth Information & Communication in Society (BICS) 3 Total Credits 15
Year 2	SOC Elective 3 Breadth Life Science (BLS) with a lab (EL) 3 Minor Elective 3 Life, Physical or Social Science with a lab (EL) 3 Minor Elective 3 Total Credits 15	SOC Elective (SS) 3 Breadth Physical Science (BPS) 3 Health Experience (EH) 3 Minor Elective 3 Minor Elective 3 Total Credits 15
Year 3	SOC Elective (SS) 3 SOC Elective (SS) 3 Interdisciplinary Studies (IS) 3 Minor Elective 3 Minor Elective 3 Total Credits 15	SOC 301 Survey of Theory 3 SOC 302 Social Research Methods (BSS) 3 SOC Elective 3 Elective 3 Elective 3 Total Credits 15
Year 4	SOC 493 Sociological Research Workshop 3 SOC 303 Stats with Computer Applications 3 SOC Elective 3 Elective 3 Elective 3 Total Credits 15	SOC 495 Senior Assignment Seminar 3 Elective 3 Elective 3 Elective 3 Elective 3 Total Credits 15

Transfer Students To maximize your transfer experience, complete the **bolded** courses/requirements pre-transfer **AND** satisfy either the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) General Ed Core or receive an AA, AS, or AAT (early childhood, special ed or math) degree from an IAI community college. If 'Minor' requirements are shown, discuss careful course selection with the academic advising contact listed. Transfer Credit Equivalency Guides are located at siue.edu/transfer.

Employment Relations Specialization

Broadly-trained professionals who can deal with workplace changes effectively, coordinate people creatively and foster innovation in others are in demand. These new professionals must have the ability to critically analyze work arrangements, develop problem-solving solutions and implement planned actions.

Students pursuing the employment relations specialization take two classes outside the general sociology requirements, Sociology at Work (SOC 338) and Employment and Workplace Change (SOC 431). Students complete their degree with an internship (SOC 433), which helps them relate what they learned in the classroom to the workplace. This specialization is ideal for students wishing to pursue management or human resources, as well as those hoping to get their foot in the door with a company of interest.

Diversity and Social Justice Specialization

Through the diversity and social justice specialization, students study and gain working experience in social movement organizations. In addition to the sociology requirements, students take two classes related to diversity and social justice, Community Action (SOC 325) and Social Movements (SOC 411). Students complete the diversity and social justice specialization with an internship (SOC 433). Through this specialization, students find internships in social movement organizations like, Cool Cities, Black Lives Matter and the Rape Crisis Center. This option is ideal for students who wish to pursue work that focuses on social diversity or those who wish to work in nonprofit organizations upon graduation.

Contact Information

Department of Sociology
 College of Arts and Sciences
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