SOCI 001 Introduction to Sociology
Sociology provides a unique way to look at human behavior and social interaction. Sociology is the systematic study of the groups and societies in which people live. In this introductory course, we analyze how social structures and cultures are created, maintained, and changed, and how they affect the lives of individuals. We will consider what theory and research can tell us about our social world.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Imoagene, Jacobs, Lareau, Wilde, Zuberi
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 002
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 002 Social Problems and Public Policy
This course approaches some of today's important social and political issues from a sociological vantage point. The course begins by asking where social problems come from. The main sociological perspectives of Marx, Weber and Durkheim are developed in connection with the issues of inequality, social conflict and community. We then turn to the social construction of social problems by examining how various issues become defined as social problems. This involves a consideration of the role of the media, social experts and social movements. The last section of the course considers how social problems are addressed. Here we discuss the relative strengths and weaknesses of government programs and regulations versus market-based approached. We also discuss the role of philanthropy and volunteerism. Finally, we consider the risk of unanticipated consequences of reforms. Along the way, we will consider a variety of social issues and social problems, including poverty, immigration, crime, global warming, and education.
Taught by: Bosk, Jacobs
Course not offered every year
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 003 Deviance and Social Control
A sociological analysis of the origins, development, and reactions surrounding deviance in contemporary society. Topics include labeling theory, stigma, social organization, tradition, social power, crime, sexual deviance, drug use, and racism. Theoretical and methodological issues will be discussed and evaluated.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Bosk
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 004 The Family
Family life is deeply personal but at the same time is dramatically impacted by social forces outside of the family. In this course we will examine how families are organized along the lines of gender, sexuality, social class, and race and how these affect family life. We will consider how family life is continually changing while at the same time traditional gender roles persist. For example, how 'greedy' workplaces, which require long work hours, create work-family conflicts for mothers and fathers. We will also examine diverse family forms including single-parent families, blended families, families headed by same-gender parents, and families headed by gender non-conforming parents. The lectures will also examine how economic inequality shapes family life. Students will have the opportunity to apply key concepts to daily life.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Lareau
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: GSWS 004, SOCI 524
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 005 American Society
What is American Society? The literary critic, Leslie Fielder once wrote, "...to be an American...precisely to imagine a destiny rather than to inherit one; since we have always been, insofar as we are Americans at all, inhabitants of myth rather than history..." In this course we will explore the elements of the myth that form the basis of the civil religion as well as the facts on the ground that contradict our conceptions of American Society. Examples of mythic elements and their contradiction that we will explore are: A nation founded to pursue liberty and freedom yet allowed slavery, equality of opportunity and persistent structural inequality, and a welcoming of the Immigrant coupled with a suspicion of the outsider.
For BA Students: Humanities and Social Science S
Taught by: Bosk
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
Notes: Also fulfills General Requirement in Society for Class of 2009 and prior

SOCI 006 Race and Ethnic Relations
The course will focus on race and ethnicity in the United States. We begin with a brief history of racial categorization and immigration to the U.S. The course continues by examining a number of topics including racial and ethnic identity, interracial and interethnic friendships and marriage, racial attitudes, mass media images, residential segregation, educational stratification, and labor market outcomes. The course will include discussions of African Americans, Whites, Hispanics, Asian Americans and multiracials.
Taught by: Charles, Zuberi
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 006, ASAM 006, URBS 160
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 007 Population and Society
The course serves as an introduction to the study of population and demography, including issues pertaining to fertility, mortality, migration, and family formation and structure. Within these broad areas we consider the social, economic, and political implications of current trends, including: population explosion, baby bust, the impact of international migration on receiving societies, population aging, racial classification, growing diversity in household composition and family structure, population and environmental degradation, and the link between population and development/poverty.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Flippen, Kohler, Zuberi
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: GSWS 007
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 010 Social Stratification
In this course we study the current levels and historical trends of inequality in the United States especially in cross-national comparative perspective. We discuss causes and consequences of inequality as well as various policy efforts to deal with inequality. Topics include intergenerational social mobility, income inequality, education, gender, race and ethnicity among others.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Song
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: DEMG 643, SOCI 643
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 011 Urban Sociology
This course is a comprehensive introduction to the sociological study of urban areas. This includes more general topics as the rise of cities and theories urbanism, as well as more specific areas of inquiry, including American urbanism, segregation, urban poverty, suburbanization and sprawl, neighborhoods and crime, and immigrant ghettos. The course will also devote significant attention to globalization and the process of urbanization in less developed counties.
Taught by: Flippen
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRIC 011, URBS 112
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 012 Globalization
This course analyses the current state of globalization and sets it in historical perspective. It applies the concepts and methods of anthropology, history, political economy and sociology to the analysis and interpretation of what is actually happening in the course of the semester that relates to the progress of globalization. We focus on a series of questions not only about what is happening but about the growing awareness of it and the consequences of the increasing awareness. In answering these questions we distinguish between active campaigns to cover the world (e.g. Christian and Muslim proselytism, free-trade agreements, democratization) and the unplanned diffusion of new ways of organizing trade, capital flows, tourism and remote interaction via the Internet. The body of the course deals with particular dimensions of globalization, reviewing both the early and recent history of each. The overall approach is historical and comparative, setting globalization on the larger stage of the economic, political and cultural development of various parts of the modern world. The course is taught collaboratively by an anthropologist, an historian, and a sociologist, offering the opportunity to compare and contrast distinct disciplinary approaches. It seeks to develop a general social-sciences-based theoretical understanding of the various historical dimensions of globalization: economic, political, social and cultural.
For BA Students: Humanities and Social Science S
Taught by: Guillen, Spooner
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: ANTH 012, HIST 012
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 030 Outsider Within: Unpacking Intersectionality in Everyday Life
Who belongs within the fabric of American society? Put another way, who is protected by social and political structures and institutions and who is targeted? In what ways do social categories such as race, class, and gender render or reduce equal access to socio-political structures and institutions? Black feminist scholars have uncovered the ways in which social categories such as race and gender augment one’s social standing in American society, including the provision of equality, opportunity, and outcomes. Legal scholar Kimberle Crenshaw coined the term ‘intersectionality’ to describe the interlocking oppressions that black women uniquely faced as occupants of two social identity categories: ‘black’ and ‘woman’, not one or the other. Since then, critical scholars have greatly expanded the concept to include non-black women and other groups. Further, there has been a call to examine marginalized social groups beyond their oppressed status, but as agents of change. In this course, we will develop theoretical and practical knowledge of intersectionality in contemporary American society that goes beyond the original formulation of the theory. This is a critical speaking seminar with a focus on improving and evaluating oral communication skills. We will discuss the theoretical tenets of intersectionality and its uses for analyzing pressing social problems. Each week, we will analyze a contemporary sociological issue, drawing from popular culture, visual mediums, multi-media, and new media to understand and apply intersectionality theory. There will be written and spoken communication assignments due weekly. In addition to in-class assignments, our work will culminate in two major oral communication projects: an individual and group oral communication project, both with a multitude of creative possibilities. Come prepared to engage yourself as an orator, collaborator, and sociological thinker.
Taught by: Moss
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
**SOCI 033 Technology & Society**
Technology plays an increasing role in our understandings of ourselves, our communities, and our societies, in how we think about politics and war, science and religion, work and play. Humans have made and used technologies, though, for thousands if not millions of years. In this course, we will use this history as a resource to understand how technologies affect social relations, and conversely how the culture of a society shapes the technologies it produces. Do different technologies produce or result from different economic systems like feudalism, capitalism and communism? Can specific technologies promote democratic or authoritarian politics? Do they suggest or enforce different patterns of race, class or gender relations? Among the technologies we'll consider will be large objects like cathedrals, bridges, and airplanes; small ones like guns, clocks and birth control pills; and networks like the electrical grid, the highway system and the internet.

For BA Students: Society Sector
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: HSOC 003, STSC 003
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

**SOCI 041 Freshman Seminars**
Two terms. student may enter either term.
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

Notes: Freshman Seminars. Topics vary from semester to semester. See Freshman Seminar and Sociology websites for current offerings.

**SOCI 100 Sociological Research Methods**
One of the defining characteristics of all the social sciences, including sociology, is a commitment to empirical research as the basis for knowledge. This course is designed to provide you with a basic understanding of research in the social sciences and to enable you to think like a social scientist. Through this course students will learn both the logic of sociological inquiry and the nuts and bolts of doing empirical research. We will focus on such issues as the relationship between theory and research, the logic of research design, issues of conceptualization and measurement, basic methods of data collection, and what social scientists do with data once they have collected them. By the end of the course, students will have completed sociological research projects utilizing different empirical methods, be able to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various research strategies, and read (with understanding) published accounts of social science research.

Taught by: Wilde, Baker, Roth
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: HSOC 100
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

**SOCI 101 Bioethics**
This course will take an historical approach to the development of modern bioethics, which is the study of ethical issues in medicine and the life sciences. The first part of the course will be devoted to an introduction to the standard principles of academic bioethics and the way they have structured the field over the last 35 years. We will then consider topics to which the principles have long been applied, such as the care of gravely ill newborns, death and dying, and the ethics of research involving human subjects. The last part of the course will address more recent life sciences policy areas including genetics, cloning, stem cells, biodefense, and neuroscience in relation to national security. Throughout the course I will emphasize the interplay between the development of bioethics and its cultural context.

Taught by: Moreno
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: HSOC 102
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

**SOCI 103 Asian Americans In Contemporary Society**
This class will introduce you to sociological research of Asian Americans and engage in the 'model minority' stereotype. We begin by a brief introduction to U.S. immigration history and sociological theories about assimilation and racial stratification. The class will also cover research on racial and ethnic identity, educational stratification, mass media images, interracial marriage, multiracials, transracial adoption, and the viability of an Asian American panethnic identity. We will also examine the similarities and differences of Asian Americans relative to other minority groups.

For BA Students: Society Sector
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ASAM 001
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

**SOCI 110 The Rich and The Poor**
Who is rich? Who is poor? This course examines how wealth and income are distributed in the United States, and how its distribution affects individuals, groups, institutions, and society. We will gain a fuller understanding of what social class is and discuss how it affects all aspects of life, including: quality of schooling, access to employment, child rearing, and even tastes, preferences, and identity.

Taught by: Armenta, Lareau, Staff
Course not offered every year
Activity: Lecture
0.0 Course Units
SOCI 111 Health of Populations
This course is designed to introduce students to the quantitative study of factors that influence the health of populations. Topics to be addressed include methods for characterizing levels of health in populations, comparative and historical perspectives on population health, health disparities, health policy issues and the effect of interventions for enhancing the health of populations. These topics will be addressed both for developed and developing world populations. The course will focus on specific areas of health and some of the major issues and conclusions pertaining to those domains. Areas singled out for attention include chronic diseases and their major risk factors, such as smoking, physical activity, dietary factors and obesity. Throughout the course, the focus will be on determining the quality of evidence for health policy and understanding the manner in which it was generated.
Taught by: Elo, Kohler
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: HSOC 111
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 112 Discrimination: Sexual and Racial Conflict
This course is concerned with the structure, the causes and correlates, and the government policies to alleviate discrimination by race and gender in the United States. The central focus of the course is on employment differences by race and gender and the extent to which they arise from labor market discrimination versus other causes, although racial discrimination in housing is also considered. After a comprehensive overview of the structures of labor and housing markets and of nondiscriminatory reasons (that is, the cumulative effects of past discrimination and/or experiences) for the existence of group differentials in employment, wages and residential locations, various theories of the sources of current discrimination are reviewed and evaluated. Actual government policies and alternatives policies are evaluated in light of both the empirical evidence on group differences and the alternative theories of discrimination.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Madden
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 112, GSWS 114
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 113 Economic Inequality, Advantage and the Rich
This class explores key issues of inequality from the perspective of advantage. While social scientists studying inequality have more traditionally focused on poverty and disadvantage, we will read and discuss issues of capital, riches, and economic advantage, paying attention to intersections of economic advantage and riches with gender, 'race' and class. We will address inequalities in the labour as well as capital markets, debate how we can conceptualise and measure those who are 'rich', and look at the relationship between riches, whiteness, masculinity and privilege. Students are encouraged to bring their ideas of riches and advantage to class.
Taught by: Hecht
Course not offered every year
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 117 Work in a Changing World
The material world is shaped and maintained through work, but so is the social world. How work is organized, allocated, and rewarded determines the opportunities people have for developing their own capacities, the kinds of ties they will have with others, and how much control they will have over their own lives. We will consider various sociological perspectives on work and compare alternative ways of organizing work, with a focus on the contemporary United States.
Taught by: Jacobs, Leidner, Shestakofsky
Course not offered every year
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 120 Social Statistics
This course offers a basic introduction to the application/interpretation of statistical analysis in sociology. Upon completion, you should be familiar with a variety of basic statistical techniques that allow examination of interesting social questions. We begin by learning to describe the characteristics of groups, followed by a discussion of how to examine and generalize about relationships between the characteristics of groups. Emphasis is placed on the understanding/interpretation of statistics used to describe and make generalizations about group characteristics. In addition to hand calculations, you will also become familiar with using PCs to run statistical tests.
Taught by: Allison, Charles, Guillot, Koppel, Park, Parrado
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 120
Activity: Recitation
0.0 Course Units

SOCI 122 The Sociology of Gender
Gender is an organizing principle of society, shaping social structures, cultural understandings, processes of interaction, and identities in ways that have profound consequences. It affects every aspect of people's lives, from their intimate relationships to their participation in work, family, government, and other social institutions and their place in the stratification system. Yet gender is such a taken for granted basis for differences among people that it can be hard to see the underlying social structures and cultural forces that reinforce or weaken the social boundaries that define gender. Differences in behavior, power, and experience are often seen as the result of biological imperatives or of individual choice. A sociological view of gender, in contrast, emphasizes how gender is socially constructed and how structural constraints limit choice. This course examines how differences based on gender are created and sustained, with particular attention to how other important bases of personal identity and social inequality–race and class–interact with patterns of gender relations. We will also seek to understand how social change happens and how gender inequality might be reduced.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Leidner
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: GSWS 122
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 125 Classical Sociological Theory
This course will cover the founding classics of the sociological tradition including works of Tocqueville, Marx and Engels, Weber, Durkheim, Mauss, Simmel, and G.H.Mead. We will also examine how the major traditions have continued and transformed into theories of conflict, domination, resistance and social change; social solidarity, ritual and symbolism; symbolic interactionist and phenomenological theory of discourse, self and mind. This course satisfies the theory requirement for sociology majors.
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 126 Contemporary Sociological Theory
This course will explore contemporary social theory with an emphasis on theories and theoretical orientations related to social interaction, identity, culture, and inequality. For example, we will discuss sociological theories from the last half century about race and racism, gender, social class, education, emotion, and violence. Importantly, we will consider theory in the context of its application to empirical social science research and real world concerns. The course fulfills the theory requirement for sociology minors and all sociology majors.
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 128 Basic Demographic Methods
This course provides an introduction to basic demographic concepts, data, indicators, and techniques. The course emphasizes hands-on applications of techniques in the analysis of population dynamics in the U.S. and elsewhere. Students will learn about the main sources of demographic data, including censuses, surveys, and vital statistics, and methods to estimate demographic processes (e.g. mortality, fertility). Students will leave the course with a solid grounding in a) the sources and limitations of demographic data; b) the construction of basic demographic indicators; and c) appropriate use of basic demographic techniques to answer questions about human populations.
Taught by: Guillot
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: SOCI 609
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 135 Law and Society
After introducing students to the major theoretical concepts concerning law and society, significant controversial societal issues that deal with law and the legal systems both domestically and internationally will be examined. Class discussions will focus on issues involving civil liberties, the organization of courts, legislatures, the legal profession and administrative agencies. Although the focus will be on law in the United States, law and society in other countries of Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America will be covered in a comparative context. Readings included research reports, statutes and cases.
Taught by: Bosk, Fetni
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 135
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 137 The Sociology of Media and Popular Culture
This course relies on a variety of sociological perspectives to examine the role of media and popular culture in society, with a particular emphasis on the power of the mass media industry, the relationship between cultural consumption and status, and the social organization of leisure activities from sports to shopping.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Grazian
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: URBS 137
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 143 Modern Social Movements
Throughout modern times groups of people have come together in an attempt to change their social world. Their successes and failures teach us about society, organizations, and individuals. This course will examine case studies of historical and contemporary social movements. Using these case studies, this course will evaluate different approaches to understanding social movements, and investigate what these different approaches suggest about individuals, the society in which they live, and the potential for social change.
Course not offered every year
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 150 Ethnic Economies and Globalization
Topics vary according to the interests and expertise of instructors.
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: ASAM 201, URBS 215
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 152 American Health Policy
This lecture course will introduce students to a broad range of topics that fall under the heading of American health policy. Its main emphasis will be on the history of health care in America from the U.S. Civil War to Obamacare. The primary objective of the course will be to consider why the U.S., until very recently, remained one of the only industrialized nations to have a private, non-nationalized health care system. Some of the themes addressed include: private health insurance(such as Blue Cross/Blue Shield), industrial health and workmen’s compensation, the welfare state (in Europe, Canada, and the U.S.), women’s health, especially maternal and infant care programs, Medicare/Medicaid, the Clinton Health Plan of 1993, injured soldiers and the Veterans Administration.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: HSOC 150
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 154 Afro-Latinos in the U.S.
This course will explore the arrival, establishment and contributions of free and enslaved Africans in Ibero-America, the region presently known as Latin America, and the Spanish Speaking Caribbean. It will look at how these actors and their descendants known today as Afro-Latinos, shaped and built the foun-dations of Latin American society and culture throughout the centuries from colonial period to present. The course will seek to understand Afro-Latinos’ agency and negotiations as intellectual contributors to the ideologies that led to independence and the creation of Latin American nations. Likewise, the course will also explore the accomplishments, controversies and tensions in race dynamics and politics, gender relations, socioeconomic issues, among others factors that took and continue to take place as people of African descent negotiate their identity and struggle to uphold their space in Latin America and the U.S.A. today.
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: AFRC 155, LALS 155
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 159 Population and Public Health in Eastern Europe
Since the collapse of communism in 1989 in Eastern Europe (and 1991 in the Soviet Union), many of the countries in the region have experienced public health crises and demographic catastrophe. Below replacement fertility rates and massive out migration have decimated the populations of these countries even as populations age and place unsustainable strains on pension systems and medical services. The demographic collapse has also been accompanied by falling male life expectancy and the rise of alcoholism, depression, domestic violence, and suicide. The economic exigencies of the transition from communism to capitalism dismantled welfare states at the exact moment when health services were most needed, leaving charities and nongovernmental organization to try to fill in the gaps. Through a combination of readings from the fields of epidemiology, demography, and medical anthropology, this course examines the public health implications of poverty and social dislocation in post-communist states. All readings and assignments are in English.
Taught by: GHODSEE
Also Offered As: ANTH 159, REES 159
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 161 The History of the Information Age
Certain new technologies are greeted with claims that, for good or ill, they must transform our society. The two most recent: the computer and the Internet. But the series of social, economic and technological developments that underlie what is often called the Information Revolution include much more than just the computer. In this course, we explore the history of information technology and its role in contemporary society. We will explore both the technologies themselves--calculating machines, punched card tabulators, telegraph and telephone networks, differential analyzers, digital computers, and many others--and their larger social, economic and political contexts. To understand the roots of these ideas we look at the prehistory of the computer, at the idea of the post-industrial or information society, at parallels with earlier technologies and at broad historical currents in the United States and the world.
For BA Students: Humanities and Social Science S
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: STSC 160
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 175 Medical Sociology
This course will give the student an introduction to the sociological study of medicine. Medical sociology is a broad field, covering topics as diverse as the institution and profession of medicine, the practice of medical care, and the social factors that contribute to sickness and well-being. Although we will not explore everything, we will attempt to cover as much of the field as possible through four thematic units: (1) the organization and development of the profession of medicine, (2) the delivery of health-care, especially doctor-patient interaction, (3) the social and cultural factors that affect how illness is defined, and (4) the social causes of illness. The class will emphasize empirical research especially but not only quantitative research.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Schnittker
Also Offered As: HSOC 275
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 200 Criminal Justice
This course examines how the criminal justice system responds to crime in society. The course reviews the historical development of criminal justice agencies in the United States and Europe and the available scientific evidence on the effect these agencies have on controlling crime. The course places an emphasis on the functional creation of criminal justice agencies and the discretionary role decision makers in these agencies have in deciding how to enforce criminal laws and whom to punish. Evidence on how society measures crime and the role that each major criminal justice agency plays in controlling crime is examined from the perspective of crime victims, police, prosecutors, jurors, judges, prison officials, probation officers and parole board members. Using the model of social policy evaluation, the course asks students to consider how the results of criminal justice could be more effectively delivered to reduce the social and economic costs of crime.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: MacDonald
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: CRIM 200
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 221 Sample Survey Methods
This course provides an introduction to survey data collection. In meeting this objective, we examine the major planning tasks necessary for conducting surveys, including problem formulation, study design, questionnaire and interview design, pretesting, sampling, interviewer training and field management, code development and coding of data, and data cleaning and management. We critically explore the design of surveys and collection of data from epistemological and ethical perspectives. Students will leave the class with a solid understanding of the basic process of survey data collection and a familiarity with its strengths and weaknesses as a method of inquiry into human behavior.
Taught by: Hannum, Parrado
Course not offered every year
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 222 Ethnography
This course is designed to introduce students to field methods in sociological research, with a focus on participant-observation and interviewing. During this course, students will read original research based on field methods and discuss their strengths, limitations, and ethical dilemmas. Most importantly, students will design their own research projects and become ethnographers and interviewers. Students will be guided through the fieldwork process from data collection to analysis, and will turn in multiple assignments and original research paper.
Taught by: Lareau
Course not offered every year
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 233 Criminology
This introductory course examines the multi-disciplinary science of law-making, law-breaking, and law-enforcing. It reviews theories explaining where, when, by whom and against whom crimes happen. Police, courts, prisons, and other institutions are also critically examined. This course meets the general distribution requirement.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Adler
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: CRIM 100
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 235 Law and Social Change
Beginning with discussion of various perspectives on social change and law, this course then examines in detail the interdependent relationship between changes in legal and societal institutions. Emphasis will be placed on (1) how and when law can be an instrument for social change, and (2) how and when social change can cause legal change. In the assessment of this relationship, emphasis will be on the laws of the United States. However, laws of other countries and international law relevant to civil liberties, economic, social and political progress will be studied. Throughout the course, discussions will include legal controversies relevant to social change such as issues of race, gender and the law. Other issues relevant to State-Building and development will discussed. A comparative framework will be used in the analysis of this interdependent relationship between law and social change.
Taught by: Fetni
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 235
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 238 Media Culture & Society in Contemporary China
This course studies contemporary Chinese media, culture, and society in the context of globalization. Major topics include Internet expression and censorship, mass media commercialization, entertainment media, middle class and consumerism, environmental degradation, new forms of inequality, and civil society and popular protest. Taking a sociological approach, this course introduces methods and theories for analyzing media, institutions, inequality, and social change.
Taught by: Yang
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: COMM 203
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 239 Sociology of Religion
How do the many religious institutions in our society differ, and what common qualities do they share? Why do some religious institutions adapt to modernity while others do not? In particular, why are the politics of sex and gender so fundamental to the current organization of the American religious landscape? These questions will be the central motivating questions for the semester. The course will begin with an introduction to current theories in the sociology of religion. We will then apply and critique those theories as we learn more about the histories, members, practices and beliefs of all the major religious groups in the US today, including Mainline, Fundamentalist and Evangelical Protestantism, Roman Catholicism, Judaism, and other groups such as the Seventh Day Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons. Students will pick two religious groups (one liberal and one conservative) to observe over the course of the semester and will write papers comparing and contrasting the two groups.
Taught by: Wilde
Course not offered every year
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 240 Global Health
Combining lectures, discussions and documentaries, the course will help students develop a sociological perspective on global public health (GPH). This will include exploring the relationship between the discipline of sociology and field of public health; difference between sociology in and sociology of global public health; sociological critique of public health interventions and finally, proposing socio-medical model to the understanding global public health movement. It will also familiarize students with the key global public health concepts, patterns and trends of global burden of disease, central actors in global health, and policy interventions and implementation. Of particular importance are health-related millennium and sustainable development goals to address key global health threats and solutions, and recent reformulations for post-2015 health-related agenda. Furthermore, as the focus on the global dimension of public health does not override the concerns and consequences for micro and meso-levels, students will become aware of mechanisms and challenges involved in incorporating World Health Organization's commitment to primary healthcare in 1978 with that of global public health principles that currently dominate the agenda of public health. Selected case studies will serve as illustrative material.
Taught by: Wilde
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 250 Minorities And The Media
This course considers the theory and practice of minority representation in the public domain: film, theater, television, music, advertising and museums. How has ‘minority’ been defined - who is included and why? How have notions of ‘minority’ status been constructed in our public languages and what may be the impact of those images on both minority and non-minority populations? Our focus will be on representation and how it may work to marginalize or empower members of minority populations. While we will concentrate primarily on ethnic minorities, we will also consider how these same issues might affect sexual minorities. Our discussions will be supplemented by film and video examples. While the course will be theoretically situated in film and video examples. While the course will be theoretically situated in film and video examples, it will consider how the perspectives of anthropology, feminism, and literary and ethnic studies have affected our understanding of public representations.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 249
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 254 Cities, Suburbs, Regions
This course will explore the political, economic, social, and demographic forces impacting development patterns in metropolitan areas, with a particular focus on Philadelphia. We will examine the government policies, economic forces, and social attitudes that affect the way a region grows, and the impact of these forces on poverty, equity and segregation. Specific topics to be discussed include the factors that make a region competitive, the city’s changing role in the region, the impact place has on opportunity, and approaches to revitalizing and improving communities.
Taught by: Black
Course offered spring; even-numbered years
Also Offered As: URBS 253
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 258 Global Urban Education
This course examines the demographic, social, and economic trends impacting the growth of global cities—providing the context for global urban education. Through the dual lens of globalization and local urban culture, we explore relationships between urban education and economic development, democratic citizenship, social movements, social inclusion, equity, and quality of urban life. We consider key historical legacies (e.g., Colonialism), informal settlements and ‘slums,’ the rise of the ‘knowledge economy,’ and the role of international aid. Additional topics include: early childhood; gender equity; youth culture; impacts of crisis and war; urban refugees; teacher training and identity; accountability & governance; information & computer technology; religion, indigenous cultures, and language identity, & the role of the private sector and school choice. We focus on cities like Sao Paolo, Mexico City, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Ho Chi Minh City, Johannesburg, Lagos, Nairobi, Jakarta, Mumbai, Lahore, Tehran, and Cairo, and draw comparisons to cities like New York, London, Paris and Tokyo.
Taught by: Gershberg
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: URBS 258
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 259 Social Determinants of Health
Over the last century, we have witnessed dramatic historical change in population incidence and mortality, e.g. rising numbers of women diagnosed with breast cancer and dramatic declines in death from stomach cancer. There has also been a highly visible social patterning of health and disease, such as socio-economic disparities in AIDS, substance abuse, and asthma in the U.S. today or the association of breast cancer with affluence globally. This course will explore the way researchers, activists, politicians and others in different eras have made sense of these changes and patterns and have responded to them. The course is historical and sociological. At the same time that we examine evidence and theories about the way poverty, affluence, and other social factors influence individual and population health, we will try to understand how social and historical forces have shaped how health and disease have been understood and categorized. In examining our current obesity ‘epidemic,’ for example, we will not only consider evidence and claims made about the causal role of market forces and changes in the built environment, but ask why (besides the fact that we are heavier) obesity has become such a visible and important medical and public health issue in the U.S. today.
Taught by: Aronowitz
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: HSOC 260
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 264 Poverty, Race and Health
This course is designed to introduce students to current literature on race/ethnic difference in health and mortality in the United States, covering such topics as explanations for why some race/ethnic groups fare better than others, how inner city poverty and residential segregation may contribute to racial/ethnic differences in health outcomes, and health of immigrants versus native-born populations. Current policy debated and recent policy developments related to health are also briefly discussed. The course is organized as a seminar with a combination of lectures and class discussions.
Taught by: Boen
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: SOCI 564, URBS 264
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 266 Latinos in United States
This course presents a broad overview of the Latino population in the United States that focuses on the economic and sociological aspects of Latino immigration and assimilation. Topics to be covered include: construction of Latino identity, the history of U.S. Latino immigration, Latino family patterns and household structure, Latino educational attainment. Latino incorporation into the U.S. labor force, earnings and economic well-being among Latino-origin groups, assimilation and the second generation. The course will stress the importance of understanding Latinos within the overall system of race and ethnic relations in the U.S., as well as in comparison with previous immigration flows, particularly from Europe. We will pay particular attention to the economic impact of Latino immigration on both the U.S. receiving and Latin American sending communities, and the efficacy and future possibilities of U.S. immigration policy. Within all of these diverse topics, we will stress the heterogeneity of the Latino population according to national origin groups (i.e. Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and other Latinos), as well as generational differences between immigrants and the native born.
Taught by: Parrado, Armenta
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: LALS 235
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 268 Contemporary Issues in African Society
This course will deal with law and society in Africa. After surveying the various legal systems in Africa, the focus will be on how and to what extent the countries of Africa ‘re-Africanized’ their legal systems by reconciling their indigenous law with western law and other legal traditions to create unified legal systems that are used as instruments of social change and development. Toward this end, the experiences of various African countries covering the various legal traditions will be included. Specific focus will be on laws covering both economic and social relations. This emphasis includes laws of contracts and civil wrongs, land law, law of succession, marriage and divorce and Africa’s laws of International Relations, among other laws. Throughout this course a comparative analysis with non-African countries will be stressed.
Taught by: Omoagene, Zuberi
Also Offered As: AFRC 268
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 270 The Immigrant City
This course focuses on immigrant communities in United States cities and suburbs. We survey migration and community experiences among a broad range of ethnic groups in different city and suburban neighborhoods. Class readings, discussions, and visits to Philadelphia neighborhoods explore themes including labor markets, commerce, housing, civil society, racial and ethnic relations, integration, refugee resettlement, and local, state, and national immigration policies. The course introduces students to a variety of social science approaches to studying social groups and neighborhoods, including readings in sociology, geography, anthropology, social history, and political science. Ultimately, the course aims to help students develop: 1) a broad knowledge of immigration and its impacts on U.S. cities and regions; 2) a comparative understanding of diverse migrant and receiving communities; and 3) familiarity with policies and institutions that seek to influence immigration and immigrant communities.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Vitiello, Domenic
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: LALS 273, URBS 270
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 277 Mental Illness
This course is designed to give a general overview of how sociologists study mental illness. We will be concerned with describing the contributions of sociological research and exploring how these contributions differ from those of psychology, psychiatry, and social work. This overview will be done in three parts: we will discuss (i) what ‘mental illness’ is, (ii) precisely how many Americans are mentally ill, (iii) how social factors (e.g. race, gender, class) and social arrangements (e.g. social networks) lead to mental illness, and (iv) how we as a society respond to and treat the mentally ill. Throughout the course, we will be concerned with uncovering the assumptions behind different definitions of mental health and exploring their political, social, and legal implications.
Taught by: Schnittker
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: HSOC 277
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 299 Independent Study
Directed readings and research in areas of sociology. Permission of instructor needed.
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Independent Study
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 300 Thesis Workshop
The purpose of this course is to guide senior sociology majors in writing a research proposal for a senior honors thesis. Students will learn about various research approaches, how to write a focused literature review, and kinds of data necessary to answer a wide variety of research questions, including their own. Throughout the course, students will work on designing a research question, generation researchable hypotheses, and coming up with a design for their proposed study. The final paper for this course will be a research proposal that is the basis for students' independent research project. This course satisfies the research requirement for sociology majors and is designed primarily for seniors who are planning to write an honors thesis.
One-term course offered either term
Prerequisite: SOCI 100
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 301 Thesis Workshop II
This is the second part of the Thesis Workshop course. Prerequisite: SOCI 300. Permission must be granted by the department.
Taught by: Flippin
One-term course offered either term
Prerequisite: SOCI 300
Activity: Seminar
0.5 Course Units

SOCI 303 Social Inequality and Health
Eat well. Exercise regularly. Get 7-9 hours of sleep. We have all been bombarded with this type of advice for achieving and maintaining optimal health. But how are our health behaviors and outcomes shaped, influenced, and constrained by social factors? How does where we live influence how - and how long - we live? And how do racism, gender inequality, and other forms of social exclusion, oppression, and domination impact health and well-being? This course provides an introduction into how social forces, broadly, and social inequality, specifically, impact individual and population health. We will begin by learning about how health is more than the product of individual lifestyle choices and genetic factors by exploring the social determinants of health. We will then examine how social inequality - particularly along lines of race, immigration status, social class, and gender - contributes to population health differences. We will analyze how racism, gender inequality, and other forms of social stratification both shape access to health promoting resources and opportunities such as well-paying jobs and healthy and affordable foods and also pattern exposure to harmful stressors and toxins such as discrimination and violence. Finally, we will discuss and debate policy and programmatic approaches aimed at reducing population health disparities. In this course, we will examine concepts related to social inequality and health through a process called ‘active learning’, which involves activities such as watching and reacting to films, reading about and responding to current events, and active dialogues and debates with classmates.
Taught by: Boen
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 304 The Future of Work
This course draws on sociological and social scientific research and theorizing to conceptualize the complex and dynamic relationship between work and technology. Rather than viewing technology as an immutable force that sweeps across societies and leaves social change in its wake, we will examine how the design, implementation, and outcomes of technological change are imbricated in political, economic, and social forces. We will mostly, though not exclusively, focus on developments in and case studies of work and technology in the United States. We will begin by examining theoretical perspectives on the historical interplay between work and technology. Then, we will consider contemporary issues, building dialogues between our theoretical groundwork and empirical evidence to trace continuities and disjunctures. By the end of the course, you will be equipped to interrogate the role of technology in capitalism's past, understand its relation to our present age of digital disruption, and imagine the possibilities for our uncertain future.
Taught by: Shestakofsky
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 305 Sociology of Immigration
TBD
Taught by: Roth
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 306 Families and Capitalism
Despite highly romanticized and idealized views about family life, families play a crucial role in sustaining and organizing capitalist societies and inequalities by race, gender, and class. This course reviews classic and contemporary social theory to understand how family norms and behaviors shape and are shaped by political and economic structures. Students will learn about capitalism, racism, heteronormativity, and patriarchy, and engage with questions that connect these to family norms and behaviors. This includes questions like: why has gay marriage been outlawed until recently? Why were slaves denied marriage and family life? Why is caring for others disproportionately done by women and often unpaid? Why is poverty related to unstable family lives? Through engaging with this class material students will learn how to sociologically and critically rethink current family issues and the future of family life.
Class structure and goals: This class requires carefully reading social theory texts (many of these texts might be dense, we will learn how to read them efficiently) and active participation in class discussion. Students will prepare short presentations, discussion questions, and write a research paper analyzing one policy related to family life (analyzing its politics and its relation to the social structures covered in class).
Taught by: Gonalons-Pons
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 307 Race, Science & Justice
Taught by: Roberts
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 307
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 338 Exhibiting Black Bodies
This course concerns the exhibiting of Black Bodies in Museums and gallery spaces. We will trace the evolution of public history from the 'Cabinets of Curiosity' in 18th and 19th Century Europe, through to the current institutional confirmation of the vindications traditions represented by Museu Afro Brasil (Sao Paulo, Brazil), National Museum of African American History and Culture (Washington,D.C.), and the Museum of Black Civilization (Dakar, Senegal). We will give particular attention to 'why these representations at these times in these places?'. In the process of addressing these questions we will give voice to the figures who conceived the curatorial content from those with the colonial mentality, to those with the abolitionist and nationalist and Pan-African visions.
Taught by: Zuberi
Also Offered As: AFRC 338, AFRC 620, SOCI 660
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 339 Demography of Race
This course will examine demographic and statistical methods used to capture the impact of racial stratification in society. This course covers the skills and insights used by demographers and social statisticians in the study of racial data. A key challenge facing researchers is the interpretation of the vast amount of racial data generated by society. As these data do not directly answer important social questions, data analysis and statistics must be used to interpret them. The course will examine the logic used to communicate statistical results from racial data in various societies. We will question the scientific claims of social science methodology by extending the critical perspective to biases that may underlie research methods. We will discuss good and bad practices within the context of the historical developments of the methods.
Taught by: Zuberi
Also Offered As: SOCI 632
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 344 Sociology of the Climate Emergency
We're in the midst of a climate emergency, with climate change the most pressing problem. We need to transform our social and economic system to avoid the worst. There's still time to do this, while establishing the conditions for us, and our descendants, to live brilliant, stimulating lives. To move forward, we need to supplement natural science with social science. In the course, will ask, how did we get into this ecological crisis? How does climate figure in contemporary politics? How do the climate and water crises intersect with inequalities around the world? How does an ongoing revolution in the energy sector reflect these tendencies, and what is its promise? What are the big competing paradigms for positive, transformative change today? This seminar will tackle these vast questions by introducing students to a range of novel social perspectives on the contemporary global environmental crisis - a crisis that is usually otherwise represented in coldly scientific terms or according to cliches about environmentalists.
Taught by: Cohen
Also Offered As: SOCI 544
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 377 International Migration
A comprehensive review of theories and research on international migration. The course introduces the basic precepts of neoclassical economics, the new economics of labor migration, segmented labor market theory, world systems theory, social capital theory and the theory of cumulative causation. Readings examine patterns and processes of global migration during the classic age from 1800-1914 as well as during the postwar period from 1945 to the present. The course also covers a history and evaluation of immigration policies around the world, and devotes signification attention to theoretical and empirical perspectives on immigrant adaptation. Within this larger topic, we will also discuss internal migration and urbanization; the relationship between gender and migration; the spatial distribution of immigrants within the United States, immigrant communities, and ethnic enclaves; and the undocumented population in the United States.
Taught by: Flippin
Also Offered As: DEMG 677, SOCI 677
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 398 Senior Research
Senior Research is for senior sociology majors only. Students are assigned Sociology advisors with assistance from Undergraduate Chair.
Taught by: Sociology Faculty
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Independent Study
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 399 Independent Study
Independent study section for senior Sociology majors working on an honors thesis. Students are assigned an advisor by the undergraduate chair.
Taught by: Sociology Faculty
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Independent Study
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 420 Perspectives on Urban Poverty
This course provides an interdisciplinary introduction to 20th century urban poverty, and 20th century urban poverty knowledge. In addition to providing an historical overview of American poverty, the course is primarily concerned with the ways in which historical, cultural, political, racial, social, spatial/geographical, and economic forces have either shaped or been left out of contemporary debates on urban poverty. Of great importance, the course will evaluate competing analytic trends in the social sciences and their respective implications in terms of the question of what can be known about urban poverty in the contexts of social policy and practice, academic research, and the broader social imaginary. We will critically analyze a wide body of literature that theorizes and explains urban poverty. Course readings span the disciplines of sociology, anthropology, urban studies, history, and social welfare. Primacy will be granted to critical analysis and deconstruction of course texts, particularly with regard to the ways in which poverty knowledge creates, sustains, and constricts meaningful channels of action in urban poverty policy and practice interventions.
Taught by: Fairbanks
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: HIST 440, URBS 420
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 424 Latinx Communities and the Role of CBO’s in Social Change
The purpose of this course to create a Latino Studies/Service Learning ABCS course that cultivates dialogue and knowledge about the social, political, cultural and historical complexities of the Latinx experience in the United States (Philadelphia in particular) and the roles Latinx CBO’s play in meeting the needs of Latinx communities and in impacting social change.
Taught by: Irizarry
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: LALS 424
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 434 Designing a Green New Deal: From Concept to Program
This advanced social science and design seminar is about mobilizing expert knowledge to develop transformative policy ideas to make the Green New Deal come alive. We'll look at cutting edge social science and design scholarship on the problems we're trying to solve, and the successes and failures of past efforts at transformative policy. And we'll focus in particular on the built environment. How might a Green New Deal make the physical changes to our infrastructures, homes, energy landscapes, transportation systems, public recreation amenities, care facilities, and more, in ways that slash carbon emissions, increase resiliency, and abolish inequalities of race, class, gender, and nation? That's not a rhetorical question: in this class, we'll assemble knowledge, get into teams, and come up with concrete proposals.
Taught by: Cohen, Fleming
Also Offered As: LARP 734
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 435 Globalization & The City: Global Urbanization
In 2008, the UN estimated that the world’s population had become primarily urban, for the first time in history. According to the OECD, by the end of the century, close to 85% of the projected population will live in cities. The transition towards an urban planet is likely to have far-reaching economic, environmental, social, political, and cultural impacts on our species, many of which we cannot yet predict. But what is urbanization? Will it lead to more inequality, exploitation, conflict, resource consumption, and exposure to natural disasters and climate change, or is it an opportunity to move the world in a more sustainable and equitable direction? Taught by Chandan Deuskar and Patricio Zambrano Barragan, this course aims to explore these questions. In the first half of the semester, we will discuss various challenges associated with global urbanization and its impacts. In the second half, we will focus on responses to these challenges. The assignments will allow students to explore some of the most salient debates around global urbanization. By the end of the semester, students will be better able to understand the context for any future academic research, professional work, or business activities in the cities of the ‘developing world’. The course will help provide a foundation for any students considering graduate studies or professional work in the fields of urban planning or international development.
Taught by: Chandan Deuskar and Patricio Zambrano Barragan
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: URBS 457
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 453 Metropolitan Growth and Poverty
This course analyzes the role of metropolitan regions in the U.S. and global economies, including the sources of metropolitan productivity, the ways that metropolitan structures affect residents, and analyses of public policy in metropolitan areas. The economic, political, and social forces that have shaped World War II urban and regional development are explored, including technology, demography, and government. Special attention is paid to how metropolitan change affects residents by income and race. Topics include: gentrification, schools, suburbanization, sprawl, metropolitan fragmentation, concentration of poverty, race, and various economic revitalization initiatives.
Taught by: Madden
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: URBS 453
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 460 Advanced Topics in Africana Studies
Topics vary. See the Africana Studies Department’s course list at https://africana.sas.upenn.edu for a description of the current offering. After an examination of the philosophical, legal, and political perspectives on Human Rights, this course will focus on US policies and practices relevant to Human Rights. Toward that end, emphasis will be placed on both the domestic and the international aspects of Human Rights as reflected in US policies and practices. Domestically, the course will discuss (1) the process of incorporating the International Bill of Human Rights into the American legal system and (2) the US position on and practices regarding the political, civil, economic, social, and cultural rights of minorities and various other groups within the US. Internationally, the course will examine US Human Rights policies toward Africa. Specific cases of Rwanda, Kenya, South Africa and Egypt, as well as other cases from the continent, will be presented in the assessment of US successes and failures in the pursuit of its Human Rights strategy in Africa. Readings will include research papers, reports, statutes, treaties, and cases.
Taught by: Charles, Hanchard, Fetni, Zuberi
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 420, LALS 420
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 473 The History & Theory of Community Organizing

‘Power concedes nothing without a demand’:–Frederick Douglass. ‘Workers of the world, unite!’–Karl Marx. ‘Don’t mourn. Organize’:–Joe Hill. ‘Strong people do not need strong leaders’:–Ella Baker. ‘Freedom is a constant struggle’:–Angela Davis. We will review the history and theory of critique, resistance, and solidarity, as we consider old and new social movements and freedom struggles around the world (Africa, the Americas, Europe, Asia)–from encampments for indigenous sovereignty of tribal lands to demonstrations by poor and working people seeking ‘the right to the city,’ from sit-ins and strikes to occupations and takeovers, from uprisings and insurrections to revolutions and counterrevolutions, from anti-capitalist, anti-colonial, anti-caste, and anti-racist insurgencies to mobilizations for racial and gender justice and solidarity economy; from civil rights, labor rights, student rights, human rights, animal rights, and environmental organizing to movements for peace, democracy, equality, and liberation–and more (based on student interests and commitments). Strategies and techniques will be reviewed. Successes and failures will be registered. Limitations and possibilities will be debated. Source material will be drawn from mainstream and radical traditions within popular praxis and numerous fields, including urban studies, philosophy and critical theory, religion, history, art and culture, anthropology, politics, development economics, social psychology, sociology, organizational development, and law. Note: Attendance at the first class is mandatory (for those already enrolled and for those considering enrollment in the course). Enrolled students who miss the first class must drop the course. Those who were not able to enroll but who attend the first class will be permitted to enroll.

Taught by: Lamas
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: URBS 473
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 488 Topics: Culture, Sexuality and Global Health

What, if anything, is global in ‘global health’? Whatever this field might be, it is more often than not actively produced through a range of conflicting ethical commitments of multiple expert cultures, social movements and laypersons. This course explores critical themes in the historical and sociocultural study of global health. Students will engage a number of disciplinary perspectives within the social sciences including the history, sociology, and anthropology of science, and we will pay particular attention to feminist, queer, and postcolonial science studies perspectives. Throughout, we will consider how both global and local cultural transformations have shaped the emergence of this multidisciplinary field of study. To understand the complexity of global health, students will engage with a number of theoretical and ethnographic texts while questioning its stability and coherence as a self-same object given its interdisciplinary character. In doing so, we will explore the ways in which diverse sets of interests converge to constitute as well as contest the ever-shifting boundaries of global health.

Taught by: Fiereck
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: AFRC 488, ANTH 488, GWS 488
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 524 The Family

Family life is deeply personal but at the same time is dramatically impacted by social forces outside of the family. In this course we will examine how families are organized along the lines of gender, sexuality, social class, and race and how these affect family life. We will consider how family life is continually changing while at the same time traditional gender roles persist. For example, how ‘greedy’ workplaces, which require long work hours, create work-family conflicts for mothers and fathers. We will also examine diverse family forms including single-parent families, blended families, families headed by same-gender parents, and families headed by gender non-conforming parents. The lectures will also examine how economic inequality shapes family life. Students will have the opportunity to apply key concepts to daily life.

Taught by: Lareau
Also Offered As: GWS 044, SOCI 004
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 533 Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

Race and ethnicity are, above all, both converge as system of ideas by which men and women imagine the human body and their relationships within society. In this course we will question the concept of race and ethnicity and their place in modern society (1500 - 2020). While the course reviews the pre-1500 literature our focus will be on the last 500 years. This course reviews the research that has contributed to the ideas about ethnicity and race in human society. The review covers the discourse on race in political propaganda, religious doctrine, philosophy, history, biology and other human sciences.

Taught by: Zuberi
Also Offered As: AFRC 535
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 535 Quantitative Methods in Sociology I

This course is an introduction to the practice of statistics in social and behavioral sciences. It is open to beginning graduate students and--with the permission of the instructor--advanced undergraduates. Topics covered include the description of social science data, in graphical and non-graphical form; correlation and other forms of association, including cross-tabulation; bivariate regression; an introduction to probability theory; the logic of sampling; the logic of statistical inference and significance tests. There is a lecture twice weekly and a mandatory ‘lab.’

Taught by: Allison, Smith
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: CRIM 536, DEMG 535
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 536 Quantitative Methods in Sociology II

As the second part of a two-semester sequence, this graduate course focuses on regression analysis as used in social science research. In particular, we discuss features and assumptions of linear regression and logistic regression models. We learn how to apply regression models to real social science data using Stata and how to interpret the results.

Taught by: Allison, Kohler, Park, Schnittker, Smith
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: DEMG 536
Prerequisite: SOCI 535
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 544 Sociology of the Climate Emergency
We're in the midst of a climate emergency, with climate change the most pressing problem. We need to transform our social and economic system to avoid the worst. There's still time to do this, while establishing the conditions for us, and our descendants, to live brilliant, stimulating lives. To move forward, we need to supplement natural science with social science. In the course, will ask, how did we get into this ecological crisis? How does climate figure in contemporary politics? How do the climate and water crises intersect with inequalities around the world? How does an ongoing revolution in the energy sector reflect these tendencies, and what is its promise? What are the big competing paradigms for positive, transformative change today? This seminar will tackle these vast questions by introducing students to a range of novel social perspectives on the contemporary global environmental crisis—a crisis that is usually otherwise represented in coldly scientific terms or according to cliches about environmentalists.
Taught by: Cohen
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: SOCI 344
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 553 Field Methods in Qualitative Research
This course is designed to introduce graduate students to basic skills and concepts in ethnographic field research, including participant observation, interviewing, field documentation, and the scholarly presentation of qualitative data. Students will learn to apply these skills and concepts through an assigned set of exercises in concert with a semester-long project based on intensive fieldwork at a research site of their choosing. In addition, we will examine exemplars of published fieldwork in both classical and contemporary sociology. Students outside of the Department of Sociology need permission of the instructor to enroll.
Taught by: Bosk, Grazian, Lareau
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 555 Pro-Seminar in Sociological Research
In the non-credit seminar students will be introduced to key areas in sociological research, and a set of professional skills necessary to navigate graduate school and a successful academic career. Students will also be introduced to faculty and resources available at Penn. This course is required for all first-year graduate students in Sociology. Taught by: Hannum, Jacob, Kao, Leidner, Smith
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Seminar
0.0 Course Units

SOCI 556 Pro-Seminar in Sociological Research II
This graduate seminar for first-year graduate students will be a two-semester course covering the major subfields of sociology -- their classical and contemporary theories, current methods and substance. Taught by: Collins, Grazian, Hannum, Park, Schnittker, Smith, Wilde
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 556 Pro-Seminar in Sociological Research II
This graduate seminar for first-year graduate students will be a two-semester course covering the major subfields of sociology -- their classical and contemporary theories, current methods and substance. Taught by: Collins, Grazian, Hannum, Park, Schnittker, Smith, Wilde
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 561 Class Cultures and Historical Change
Studies culture as values, scripts, practice, performance, and style in the contexts of everyday life, social class, and status groups, social movements, and changes of communication technologies. Approaches politics, society, institutions, identities, and social change as dynamic processes and complex interactions at both micro/meso and meso/macro levels. Examines the production, reception, circulation and effects of signs, symbols, and stories. Readings include both classic authors (Elias, Simmel, Bakhtin, Goffman, Foucault, Bourdieu, Raymond Williams, etc.) and contemporary works from sociology and communication studies.
Taught by: Yang
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COMM 889
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 562 Soci Movements & Poli Sc
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 563 Mechanisms for Perpetuating or Reducing Inequality by Class, Race and Gender
TBD
Taught by: Lareau
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 564 Poverty, Race and Health
This course is designed to introduce students to current literature on race/ethnic difference in health and mortality in the United States, covering such topics as explanations for why some race/ethnic groups fare better than others, how inner city poverty and residential segregation may contribute to racial/ethnic differences in health outcomes, and health of immigrants versus native-born populations. Current policy debated and recent policy developments related to health are also briefly discussed. The course is organized as a seminar with a combination of lectures and class discussions.
Taught by: Boen
Also Offered As: SOCI 264, URBS 264
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 566 Sociology of Education
This graduate seminar will introduce students to some of the key theoretical and empirical work in the sociology of education. We will examine how schools work to maintain or alleviate inequality, and focus on differences in educational achievement and attainment by race, ethnicity, immigrant status, class, and gender. We will review work on the educational experiences of youth from early childhood to young adulthood.
Course not offered every year
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 601 Contemporary Social Theory
This is a graduate-level seminar structured around the main theoretical debates of contemporary sociology, including the interplay of rationality and emotion, the relationship between structure and agency, the nature of power, and the role of chance and contingency. In considering alternative positions on these debates, we will encounter the major theorists of the past fifty years, including Parsons, Merton, Goffman, Homans, Schutz, Coleman, Bourdieu, Luhmann, Habermas, Collins, and Giddens. Requirements include intensive primary source reading, writing, and participation. The course assumes, and does not provide, prior familiarity with the main theoretical perspectives, and thus does not substitute for the undergraduate theory course (SOCI 126)
Course not offered every year
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 602 Proseminar in Classical Sociology
This course is designed to introduce graduate students to the classical foundations of sociology by drawing on canonical readings by Marx, Engels, Durkheim, Weber, Du Bois, Addams, Simmel, Park, and Goffman, among others. We will read these texts in the context of three major sociological themes: work and social inequality, culture and social structure, and urban interaction and culture in the city. Final papers will require students to draw on classical sociological works in their analyses of contemporary empirical research in sociology.
Taught by: Grazian
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 603 Master's Research in Sociology
This graduate course is intended to be helpful to students as they produce an MA thesis. The course is structured to provide social support and feedback as students move through the stages in the development of a project (i.e. data analysis, review of the literature, development of a thesis, and revision). Students should begin the semester with a data set in hand; additional data analysis will occur during the term. (In some cases, students may be finishing their data collection.) In addition, the course is intended to provided professional development opportunities for students by providing 'insider' information about the publication process. Students will be given examples of journal review (including reviews that reject a paper), copies of papers as they move through the revision process, and guidelines for producing a publishable piece of work. The goal is for students to produce a manuscript that can be submitted for publication in the near future. This is a required course for second year graduate students in Sociology.
Taught by: Bosk, Grazian, Jacobs, Kao, Lareau, Leidner, Park, Schnitker
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 604 Methodology of Social Research
This course will give students familiarity with the common research methods social scientists use to conduct research. Ethnographic, interview, survey, experimental and historical/comparative research methods will be covered. Four themes will be explored: 1) the basics of solid research design, 2) the various advantages and disadvantages of each method, 3) when the use of a method is appropriate or inappropriate for the research question, and 4) how to evaluate researchers' claims on the basis of the evidence they present. These themes will be explored by reading examples of and conducting exercises designed to give students hands-on experience in each of the methods. Students will conduct the exercises on a topic of their choice, which together will culminate in their final paper. The course is required and restricted to second year students in sociology and demography.
Taught by: Smith, Wilde, Zuberi
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: DEMG 604
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 605 Criminal Justice Data Analytics
This course covers the tools and techniques to acquire, organize, link and visualize complex data in order to answer questions about crime and the criminal justice system. The course is organized around key questions about police shootings, victimization rates, identifying crime hotspots, calculating the cost of crime, and finding out what happens to crime when it rains. On the way to answer these questions, the course will cover topics including data sources, basic programming techniques, SQL, regular expressions, web scraping, and working with geographic data. The course will use R, an open-source, object oriented scripting language with a large set of available add-on packages.
Taught by: Ridgeway
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: CRIM 402, CRIM 602
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 606 Introduction to Demography
A nontechnical introduction to fertility, mortality and migration and the interrelations of population with other social and economic factors.
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: DEMG 607
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 607 Basic Demographic Methods
This course provides an introduction to basic demographic concepts, data, indicators, and techniques. The course emphasizes hands-on applications of techniques in the analysis of population dynamics in the U.S. and elsewhere. Students will learn about the main sources of demographic data, including censuses, surveys, and vital statistics, and methods to estimate demographic processes (e.g. mortality, fertility). Students will leave the course with a solid grounding in a) the sources and limitations of demographic data; b) the construction of basic demographic indicators; and c) appropriate use of basic demographic techniques to answer questions about human populations.
Taught by: Guillot
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: DEMG 609, SOCI 128
Activity Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 611 Structural Equation Models
Statistical modeling with multiple equations and latent variables. The first part of the course will focus on linear models that could be estimated with any of the well-known SEM programs (e.g., LISREL, EQS, or Amos). Both Mplus and SAS will be used exclusively in this part of the course. The second part will focus on Mplus models for variables that are categorical, count, or censored. Maximum likelihood methods for missing data will also be covered.
Taught by: Allison
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: DEMG 611
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 612 Categorical Data Analysis
This course deals with techniques for analyzing multivariate data which the dependent variable is a set of categories (a dichotomy or polytomous). Topics will include linear probability models, logistic (logistic) regression models, probit models, logit analysis of contingency tables, cumulative logit and probit (for ordinal data), multinomial logit, conditional logit (discrete choice), unobserved heterogeneity, log-linear models, square tables, response-based sampling, and repeated measures. Methods will be illustrated using the Stata System. There will be several assignments using Stata to analyze data provided by the instructor.
Taught by: Allison, Smith
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: DEMG 612
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 613 Event History
An applications-oriented course on statistical methods for the analysis of longitudinal data on the occurrence of events, also known as survival analysis, failure-time analysis, hazard analysis or duration analysis. Emphasis on regression-like models in which the risk of event occurrence is a function of a set of explanatory variables. Topics include accelerated failure-time models, hazard models, censoring, Cox regression models, time-dependent covariates, competing risks, repeated events, unobserved heterogeneity, discrete-time methods.
Taught by: Allison
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: DEMG 613
Prerequisite: SOCI 536
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 634 Population Processes II
Population Processes II is part of a two-course sequence designed to introduce students to the core areas of demography (fertility, mortality, and migration) and recent developments in the field. PP II is divided into two parts. The first focuses on family demography and the biological, social and demographic factors explaining levels, trends, and differentials in human fertility transition with an emphasis on the historical and current course of fertility transition in developed and developing countries. The second part of the course provides a comprehensive review of theories and research on international migration. Readings examine patterns and processes of global migration during the classic age from 1800-1914 as well as during the postwar period from 1945 to the present. The course also covers a history and evaluation of immigration policies around the world, and devotes significant attention to theoretical and empirical perspectives on immigrant adaptation, including the relationship between gender and migration.
Taught by: Flippen, Kohler, Parrado, Smith
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: DEMG 634
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 643 Social Stratification
In this course we study the current levels and historical trends of inequality in the United States especially in cross-national comparative perspective. We discuss causes and consequences of inequality as well as various policy efforts to deal with inequality. Topics include intergenerational social mobility, income inequality, education, gender, race and ethnicity among others.
Taught by: Song
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: DEMG 643, SOCI 010
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 649 A Course on Elites
Most of the studies of inequality look at poverty and the impact of poverty. This course will be a study of those at the top of the social stratification system. We will take a broad vision of elites of to include the upper-middle-class as well as those in the top 1%. The course will examine the concentration of wealth in American society. It will examine elite families. It will also look at elite education. There will be a unit on the financial industry, the 2008 debacle, and the failure of the government to regulate this important industry. We will also study the influence of race by comparing the black upper-middle-class with white upper-middle-class families. Thus, we will also look at the power of elites in a number of spheres. Finally, we will also read theoretical perspectives including the work of C. Wright Mills, Marx, and Bourdieu. Thus, in addition to the focus on social stratification, this course cuts across sociology of the family, economic sociology, cultural sociology, and race and ethnic relations.
Taught by: Lareau
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 660 Exhibiting Black Bodies
This course concerns the exhibiting of Black Bodies in Museums and gallery spaces. We will trace the evolution of public history from the 'Cabinets of Curiosity' in 18th and 19th Century Europe, through to the current institutional confirmation of the vindications traditions represented by Museu Afro Brasil (Sao Paulo, Brazil), National Museum of African American History and Culture (Washington, D.C.), and the Museum of Black Civilization (Dakar, Senegal). We will give particular attention to 'why these representations at these times in these places?' In the process of addressing these questions we will give voice to the figures who conceived the curatorial content from those with the colonial mentality, to those with the abolitionist and nationalist and Pan-African visions.
Taught by: Zuberi
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 338, AFRC 620, SOCI 338
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 662 Panel Data Analysis
This course focuses on the ability to use, analyze, and understand panel data. Panel data contain repeated measurements of the dependent variable for the same individuals, and possibly repeated measurements of the predictor variables as well. Panel data offer important opportunities for controlling unobserved variables and for answering questions about causal ordering.
Taught by: Song
Also Offered As: CRIM 662, DEMG 662
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 667 Social Interaction
The dynamics of interpersonal interaction, especially in face-to-face encounters during limited short periods of time. Topics include: the theory of interaction rituals deriving from Durkheim, Goffman and their contemporary followers; conversation analysis; micro-ethnographic studies of non-verbal behavior and embodied interaction; sociology of emotions; symbolic interactionist theory and the social nature of mind, self, and inner dialogue; electronically mediated interaction and its effects on social ties; and the relationship between micro and macro sociology.
Course not offered every year
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 677 International Migration
A comprehensive review of theories and research on international migration. The course introduces the basic precepts of neoclassical economics, the new economics of labor migration, segmented labor market theory, world systems theory, social capital theory and the theory of cumulative causation. Readings examine patterns and processes of global migration during the classic age from 1800-1914 as well as during the postwar period from 1945 to the present. The course also covers a history and evaluation of immigration policies around the world, and devotes signification attention to theoretical and empirical perspectives on immigrant adaptation. Within this larger topic, we will also discuss internal migration and urbanization; the relationship between gender and migration; the spatial distribution of immigrants within the United States, immigrant communities, and ethnic enclaves; and the undocumented population in the United States.

Taught by: Flippin
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: DEMG 677, SOCI 377
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 707 Second-Year Research Seminar I
This course is intended to hone the skills and judgment in order to conduct independent research in sociology and demography. We will discuss the selection of intellectually strategic research questions and practical research designs. Students will get experience with proposal writing, the process of editing successive drafts of manuscripts, and the oral presentation of work in progress as well as finished research projects. The course is designed to be the context in which master's papers and second year research papers are written. This is a required course for second year graduate students in Demography. Others interested in enrolling in only one of the courses may do so with the permission of the Chair of the Graduate Group in Demography. The course usually offered in fall term.

Also Offered As: DEMG 707
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 708 Seminar: Demographic Research II
Demography 708 is the second part of a two-course sequence designed to introduce and familiarize second year students with current norms for academic research, presentation and publishing in the field of Demography. In Demg708 students are expected to finalize the analyses and to complete their second year research paper. This is a required course for second year demography students. Others interested in enrolling in the course may do so with the permission of the Chair of the Graduate Group in Demography. The course usually offered in spring term.

Also Offered As: DEMG 708
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 731 Advanced Demographic Methods
This course considers a variety of procedures for measuring and modeling demographic processes. We will consider both deterministic (drawn from classic demographic methods, stable population theory, and the like) and stochastic (drawn from statistics) perspectives and methods, including their integration. Pre-requisites: DEMG 609 and SOCI 536 (or its equivalent).

Taught by: Smith
Course not offered every year
Prerequisite: DEMG 609 AND SOCI 536
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 796 Demographic, Economic, and Social Interrelations
The course investigates economic and social determinants of fertility, mortality, and migration, and it discusses the effects of population variables on economic and social conditions, including economic and social development. Topics discussed in the course include: How do economic changes affect marriage, divorce, and child bearing decisions? How do households make decisions about transfers and requests? How can economic and sociological approaches be combined in explanatory models of demography change? How does immigration to the US affect the ethnic composition of the population, the earnings of native workers, taxes on natives, and the macro-economy? What causes the aging of populations, and how will population aging affect the economies of industrial nations, and in particular, pension programs like Social Security? What accounts for the rise in women's participation in the wage labor force over the past century? How are family composition and poverty interrelated? Does rapid population growth slow economic development with low income countries? In addition to these topics, the course also covers selected methods not included in DEMG/SOCI 535/536 and 609.

Taught by: Madden, Kohler
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: DEMG 796
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 881 The Performance Society: Readings in Social and Media Theories
Social action has a performative character - people act as if on a stage in response to audience expectations, whether offline or online. This seminar traces the history of this line of critical thought from Weber and Bakhtin through Goffman and Victor Turner to contemporary authors such as Judith Butler, Byung-Chul Han, Jon McKenzie, and Charles Tilly. Special attention will be devoted to the relationship between media and performance, examined through recent work by media scholars and sociologists such as Ben Agger, Jeffrey Alexander, Jeffrey Berry, Danah Boyd, Alice Marwick, and Sarah Sobieraj. A central issue concerns the will to perform. Why are individuals in modern society compelled to perform? What are the manifestations and forms of performance in institutional and non-institutional politics (such as revolutions and social movements)? How are performances related to emotion? How do the internet and digital media shape the forms and meanings of performance? What are the consequences of the performance imperative? A term paper is required.

Taught by: Yang G
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COMM 881
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit
SOCI 998 Independent readings and research
For advanced students who work with individual instructors upon permission. Intended to go beyond existing graduate courses in the study of specific problems or theories or to provide work opportunities in areas not covered by existing courses.
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Independent Study
1.0 Course Unit

SOCI 999 Directed Readings and Research
Primarily for advanced students who work with individual instructors upon permission. Intended to go beyond existing graduate courses in the study of specific problems or theories or to provide work opportunities in areas not covered by existing courses.
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Independent Study
1.0 Course Unit