

## Course description for Sociology

### SOC Courses (Sociology)

#### **SOC 2213 Introduction to Sociology**

A.C.T.S. Equivalent Course # SOC 1013

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

An introduction to the scientific study of society and human behavior as products of social interaction. An overview of the major sociological perspectives and research methods of socialization, culture, social structure, social institutions, social inequality, and social interaction.

#### **SOC 2223 Social Problems**

A.C.T.S. Equivalent Course # SOC 2013

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Overview of contemporary social problems in the U.S., such as crime, poverty, substance abuse and addiction, racial, ethnic and gender inequality, health care access, and the impact of environmental disruptions on social systems.

#### **SOC 2283 Research Methods in Social Sciences (same as CJ 2283; PSCI 2283)**

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

An overview of social science research methodology focusing on creating research designs, developing appropriate measures creating testable hypotheses, and developing research skills.

#### **SOC 3413 The Family**

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

The broad overview of the nature and functions of the family as a social institution across time and social organization. Examines the nature and functions of the family in U.S. society from 1600s to the present and relates these patterns to changes in the larger society. Emphasis on changes in the family since the 1960s.

#### **SOC 3453 Race and Ethnic Relations**

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Analysis of ethnic relations within the U.S. through an examination of the core culture, the distinctive experiences of Native Americans and Hispanics as conquered peoples, the forced immigration of African Americans and the voluntary immigrations of other ethnic groups, the contributions of various ethnic groups to U.S. culture and the inherent challenges of a pluralistic society.

#### **SOC 3543 Learning Through Community Service**

3 credits: 1 hour lecture, 8 hours field experience per week

Prerequisites: Junior or Senior standing or instructor's permission

Students have an opportunity to develop knowledge of and basic skills in social service work through experience in agencies or other community settings. A minimum of 110 hours of field experience for the semester is required.

#### **SOC 4373 Criminology (same as CJ 4273)**

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisites: Junior or Senior standing or instructor's permission

Theories of the nature and causes of crime, and analysis of various kinds of crimes.

#### **SOC 4513 Drugs and Society (same as CJ 4413)**

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisites: Junior or Senior standing or instructor's permission

An overview of the drug problem in the U.S. including an analysis of both legal and illegal drugs commonly abused. Emphasis on the criminal justice system's response to the use, possession, and distribution of illicit drugs in our society.

**SOC 4643 Population Problems**

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Population growth, distribution, composition, and migration in relation to political, social, economic, and ecological implications.

**SOC 4663 Seminar in Sociology**

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Selected topics with extensive readings and class discussions. May be repeated for up to 9 hours credit.

**SOC 4673 Terrorism and Social Change**

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing, or instructor's permission

An interdisciplinary social science approach to international terrorism that analyzes the nature, forms and history of a distinctive type of violence that may promote social change or as an outcome of social change. Emphasis on current international terrorist groups, their political goals, strategies, targets and resources.

**SOC 479V Independent Study in Sociology**

Variable credit