SOC S101 – Introduction to Sociology

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Apply major theoretical perspectives in sociology to critically examine society, including groups and organizations, power and status arrangements, and social institutions
2. Discuss scientific methods of inquiry into society, including data collection procedures commonly used in sociology and the interpretation of research findings
3. Apply what C. Wright Mills called the “sociological imagination” to a variety of examples
4. Apply knowledge of social structures and processes in critically examining social problems related to major institutions such as family, education, and religion; economy, government, and criminal justice
5. Provide structural explanations of social inequalities related to class, gender, and age; and race, ethnicity, and sexuality, both globally and within the U.S.
6. Explain how society is constructed, maintained, and changed through human interaction

SOC S102 – Science, Technology, and Society

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe science as a process and as a social institution
2. Describe relationships between norms, belief systems, and policies related to science, technology, and society
3. Identify and define major subfields and approaches in the field of sociology to science and technology
4. Evaluate the social impacts of science and technologies on race and ethnicity, class, and gender; and on global inequalities

SOC S201 – Social Problems

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Define and explain the meaning of the term “social problem” and identify criteria for determining subjective and objective elements of a social problem
2. Explain the structural and historical roots of current social problems
3. Apply the major theoretical perspectives in sociology to understanding and interpreting social problems
4. Critically examine latent and hidden societal arrangements and how they cause or contribute to social problems
5. Explain how social problems are interrelated across social institutions
6. Discuss the implications of class, race, age, and gender inequalities related to social problems
7. Identify and evaluate the major social problems impacting the United States
SOC S242 – Marriage, Family, and Intimate Relationships

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Define the family as a social institution
2. Explain how social forces and social change influence family definitions, composition, and social contexts
3. Describe current trends in family formation and dissolution
4. Apply relevant sociological theories to the concept of family in multicultural contexts of gender, race-ethnicity, and socioeconomic status
5. Explain how research methods can be applied to scientifically study the family
6. Discuss changes in the family across the life course

SOC S251 – Criminology

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Define criminology and describe its subject matter
2. Identify the scientific approaches and work of criminology as an interdisciplinary subfield of sociology, and distinguish criminology from fields such as law enforcement, justice, and criminalistics
3. Demonstrate an understanding of crime as a social behavior through written work
4. Apply major classical theories of sociology to explain contemporary examples of crime
5. Describe the scope and varieties of crime and social control in the United States, including unequal application of social control across dimensions of race, gender, and socioeconomic status
6. Describe common pathways to crime and the socialization and labeling experiences of offenders and victims

SOC S301 – Sociology of Close Relationships

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the diversity of family, kinship, and other relationship forms in cross-cultural and historical contexts through written work.
2. Explain dynamics of power and inequality related to relationships, family structure, and contemporary issues related to marriage, family planning, and violence and abuse.
3. Describe the impact of recent institutional and cultural transformations in American society upon families, gender roles, and marriage; and intimate relationships, diverse forms of sexual expression, and relationships at various stages of the life course.
4. Critique popular ideas and misconceptions about close relationships, family, and gender and sexuality through application of scholarly research findings.
5. Identify and describe methodological and ethical issues related to the study of families and relationships.
SOC S302 – Social Psychology (Cross-listed as PSY S302)
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Identify and describe scientific methods used by social psychologists to test ideas about social behavior, thoughts, and social issues.
2. Describe critical research studies that lead to major findings in social psychology.
3. List and explain basic concepts and theories in social psychology.
4. Critique research in social psychology, and develop and defend research ideas.
5. Apply social psychological research in everyday life.

SOC S305 – Sociology of Food
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Explain how the production, distribution, and consumption of food reflects social patterns and inequalities.
2. Explain the social construction of food as a form of cultural expression.
3. Describe food access, consumption, and politics as an issue of justice.
4. Assess the ecological implications of the current global food system.
5. Explain structural explanations for food insecurity and hunger.

SOC S325 – Theory and Research in Criminology
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Define criminology and describe its subject matter.
2. Apply criminological theories and findings from scholarly research published in criminology and sociology journals to evaluate the causes and outcomes of a variety of crimes at the individual and societal levels.
3. Describe the scope and varieties of crime and social control in the United States.
4. Describe common pathways to crime and the socialization and labeling experiences of offenders and victims.
5. Describe how some of the largest crime and victimization datasets are commonly analyzed to develop contemporary criminological theories.

SOC S333 – Human Sexuality across Cultures (Cross-listed as PSY S333):
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Identify and describe biological, psychological, and sociological aspects of sexuality.
2. Identify and describe research methods in the study of sex.
3. Identify and describe major research findings in the study of sexuality.
4. Describe the social construction and culturally grounded nature of the experience and perception of sexuality.
5. Describe the history of sexuality and how attitudes toward sexuality and behaviors have changed over time.
6. Apply research and theories on sexuality to everyday life.
SOC S343 – Sociology of Deviant Behavior:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Explain positivist and constructionist approaches to deviance and apply each to understanding a variety of categories of deviance.
2. Explain how deviance is created and reinforced through everyday social interaction at individual and group levels.
3. Describe how power, inequality, and group memberships shape and provide context for deviance, including the implications of class, race, age, and gender inequality in the social construction of deviance.
4. Describe research approaches commonly used to study deviance.

SOC S345 – Education and Society
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Describe major sociological theories on education as a social institution and as a process.
2. Describe the dynamics of gender, race, and socioeconomic status on education and educational outcomes.
3. Explain how schooling can result in recreating or breaking down structures of power and inequality.
4. Identify and describe research methods commonly used to study the education system and educational outcomes.
5. Describe cross-cultural and historical differences in educational systems, and the institutionalized and non-institutionalized transmission of knowledge in society.

SOC S351 – Political Sociology (Cross-listed as PS S351)
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Explain selected theories of political sociology.
2. Describe current research methods commonly used to study politics and society.
3. Explain how power structures and political inequality are created and reinforced through everyday political action at individual, societal, and international levels.
4. Describe the interrelatedness of media, politics, and culture at local and global levels.
5. Describe the implications of gender, race, and nationality in politics and society.

SOC S370 – Medical Sociology
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Apply relevant sociological theories and concepts to the study of health and illness.
2. Explain how socioeconomic status, race, gender, age and other demographic variables impact a person’s health and illness experience, access to care, and medical treatment.
3. Describe how social and environmental factors contribute to and cause disease and illness.
4. Explain the organizational structure, functioning, and financing of major health care systems.
5. Identify sociological implications for public policy regarding problems with health care systems.
SOC S375 – Current Issues in Sociology: Selected Topics
Student learning outcomes will vary with topic.

SOC S377 – Men, Women and Change
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Apply relevant sociological theories to the study of men, women, and transgender persons.
2. Explain the meaning of gender as a social construction.
3. Explain how gender functions as an organizing system, along with race, social class, and sexual orientation.
4. Analyze how social institutions create and perpetuate gendered behaviors and roles
5. Describe how variations in power and inequality affect men and women.

SOC S380 – Social Movements
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Explain key social movement concepts and theories.
2. Describe strategies and tactics of social protest and be able to evaluate their success.
3. Describe how power and repression is both exercised against movements and challenged by movements.
4. Explain how movements are organized, frame their concerns, and recruit members.
5. Describe who joins social movement organizations and why.

SOC S402 – Theories of Sociology
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Describe, synthesize, and critique classical and contemporary sociological theories with new examples through written work.
2. Describe how events such as industrialization, globalization, and social change related to power and diversity have affected development of sociological theory.
3. Identify and describe concepts that are central to understanding sociological theories, such as perspectives on power and inequality, social order, and idealist vs materialist orientation toward social change; and agency vs structure, macro vs micro, and positivist vs constructionist paradigms.
4. Describe the relationships between development of sociological theory, research findings, and research methodologies.
SOC S404 – Environmental Sociology
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Apply a sociological lens for understanding ecological crises and change.
2. Explain the historical foundations, key concepts, and main paradigms of environmental sociology.
3. Distinguish and apply these concepts and theoretical orientations to a range of local and global environmental issues.
4. Describe the connections between environmental problems, human rights, and economic/social justice.
5. Evaluate how social structures, institutions, and arrangements contribute to ecological crises.

SOC S410 – Race and Ethnicity
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Differentiate between and apply sociological perspectives to explain the socially-constructed concepts of race and ethnicity and minority and majority statuses.
2. Describe the intersecting systems of oppression, domination/subordination, and exploitation in the US, including forms of resistance and agency of minority groups, from political, historical, sociological, and economic perspectives.
3. Describe how social, structural, and institutional issues disadvantage/advantage various racial/ethnic groups.
4. Deconstruct and evaluate the concept of intersectionality, including concepts such as gender, socioeconomic inequality, and whiteness and white privilege.
5. Describe and explain changing demographics in the United States.

SOC S411 – Sociology of War
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Describe the social construction of war through application of sociological theories, research, and perspectives.
2. Describe the scope and varieties of organized violence in global and historical context, including violence by state and non-state actors, terrorism, and violence directed at internal state constituencies during war.
3. Describe and critique the role of the media and government in the creation of consent and consensus for engagement in war and wartime activities.
4. Describe the role of war in creation and maintenance of intersectional social inequalities related to sex and gender, racial, ethnic, and nationality status, and socioeconomic stratification; and global and world system inequalities.
5. Describe how war is experienced by civilians, military, and government actors in states directly and indirectly involved in conflicts.