THE MAJOR IN SOCIOLOGY

What is the study of Sociology?
Sociology is the scientific study of human groups— their characteristics, changes, causes and consequences. Through teaching, research, and service we seek to reveal a critical understanding of the different ways people relate to one another through the organization of society and how its structures and cultures influence our lives. Our subject matter ranges from family life to large-scale organizations, from crime to religion, from the divisions of race and social class to the shared beliefs of a common culture, from poverty to prosperity, from the sociology of work to the sociology of sport. Few fields have such a broad and exciting scope.

The Major
The department offers a major and minor in sociology. The major requires 30 credits. In addition to offering undergraduate courses, the department maintains an active internship program that provides interested students with research and work experience in community organizations. Our sociology majors pursue a number of career paths, including leadership positions in research and consulting, human resource management, telecommunications, social planning and administration in various government agencies, and managing social and community development agencies. In addition, many students continue their education in the professions of medicine, law, and business as well as academic graduate education. Sociology is a popular double major at SLU, often combined with a wide variety of other disciplines.

Concentrations
Students can earn a concentration in specific area. Students will need to take 12 hours to receive a content-based concentration or they can opt to take 15 hours of electives for a traditional sociology major.

Gender, Sexuality, and the Body (GSB) - The Gender, Sexuality, and the Body concentration examines how social forces cause masculine and feminine behavior, create gendered systems of privilege, and influence the lives of individuals and groups. Students will find this concentration useful for understanding their own experiences and dealing with others in occupations such as health care, education, business, law, social services, government, and the arts.

Health and Medicine (HM) - The concentration in Health and Medicine focuses on the interplay of various social factors that influence health and illness, both locally and globally, and the role that these factors play in today’s society. Courses offered span several topics such as mental health, culture, anthropology, environment, drugs and demography. Students preparing for any health-related field will find this area of concentration relevant.

Law, Crime, and Deviance (LCD) - The concentration in Law, Crime, and Deviance allows students to develop their sociological expertise on the making, breaking, and enforcement of social norms—from explicit laws and policies to informal rules and guidelines. Students considering careers in law, forensic science, and related fields may be interested in this concentration.

Urbanization, Immigration, and Demography (UID) - The Urbanization, Immigration, and Demography concentration gives students an opportunity to explore the dimensions of urban and community change and social justice. Courses will engage urban life from a diverse set of perspectives including urban ecology, demography, and immigration. This concentration will provide opportunities for students interested in careers in consulting, government, human services, social welfare, and geoinformatics and geospatial statistics.

FOR MORE INFORMATION please visit the department web site http://www.slu.edu/x15854.xml or call or write:

Dr. Richard Colignon, Chair
SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
3700 Lindell Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63108-3342
Phone: (314) 977-2900
Email: rcoligno@slu.edu

Office of Undergraduate Admissions
SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
221 N. Grand Blvd.
(314) 977-2500
(800) SLU-FOR-U (toll free)
World Wide Web: www.slu.edu
Email: admitme@slu.edu

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Total Hours Required for a Sociology Major: 30

Required Classes - Foundations (15 hours)
SOC 1100: Introduction to Sociology
SOC 2000: Research Methods
Applied Methodology Course—choose one:
   SOC 3010: Quantitative Research Methods or SOC 3020: Qualitative Research Methods
SOC 3100: Sociological Theory
SOC 4940: Sociology Capstone

Electives
SOC 1180: World Geography
SOC 1190: Cultural Geography
SOC 1200: Introduction to Anthropology
SOC 1500: The Urban Community
SOC 2110: Sociology of Sports
SOC 2180: Cities and Space
SOC 2200: Cultural Anthropology
SOC 2220: Peace and Conflict Studies
SOC 2360: Diversity & Health Disparities
SOC 2480: Drugs and Society
SOC 2490: Sociology of Medicine
SOC 2500: Social Ecology
SOC 3180: Immigration
SOC 3220: Urban Sociology
SOC 3230: Gender and Society
SOC 3240: Anthropology of Sex and Gender
SOC 3260: Peace and Conflict
SOC 3270: Environmental Anthropology
SOC 3350: Social Movements
SOC 3360: Race and Ethnic Relations
SOC 3380: Power in U.S. Society
SOC 3430: Marriage and Family
SOC 3480: Sociology of Emotions
SOC 3490: Sociology of Mental Health
SOC 3500: Social Inequality
SOC 3525: Elite and White Collar Deviance
SOC 3510: The Structure of Poverty
SOC 3575: Sociological Theories of Crime
SOC 3580: Deviant Behavior
SOC 3590: Law and Society
SOC 3840: African American Religious Traditions
SOC 4050: Feminist Movements
SOC 4080: Poverty and Unemployment
SOC 4180: Citizenship
SOC 4200: Cities, Suburbs, and Neighborhoods
SOC 4540: Environmental Impact of the City
SOC 4530: Urban Ethnography
SOC 4640: Demography
SOC 4630: Sociology of Religion
SOC 4800: Research Activity
SOC 4980: Independent Study

Regarding electives: The above list of electives is not comprehensive. Students may take other courses within the department as electives, if they obtain approval from their mentor and the department chair. Also note that a course taken to fulfill the Stratification or Social Institutions requirement may not be simultaneously used as an elective. However, students are encouraged to take additional Stratification and Social Institutions courses as electives.

Double-counting within the department: A student may double count only those courses that are REQUIRED for both (2 or more) of the degree programs (including majors, minors, and certificates) that students pursue WITHIN our department (Sociology, Anthropology, and Forensic Science). Please see your mentor for clarification.

Double counting between the department and another department: Students who want to double count a Sociology course for a degree in our department and a degree in a different department must get approval from their advisors in all involved departments.

Grade requirements: We recommend that students earn a C- or better in all required courses for the major, minor, or certificate. Students must maintain an average GPA of at least 2.0 in the courses taken to satisfy their major, minor, or certificate. Students must maintain an overall GPA at SLU at or above 2.0.