Sociology: Studying People, Society, & Cultures

Classes for Spring 2021

SOCY 110, Introduction to Sociology (3), multiple sections. Please see the registration schedule for section days & times. Look for Online Distance Learning: Asynchronous (DLAS) options too.

SOCY 110 helps you understand everything from society's biggest problems to your individual interactions, all within a social context. Approved for Core Curriculum credit in Social and Behavioral Sciences or U.S. Perspectives.

SOCY 121, Understanding Cultures (3), multiple sections. Please see the registration schedule for section days & times. Look for Online Distance Learning: Asynchronous (DLAS) options too.

SOCY 121 is an introductory course to cultural anthropology. Explore cultural patterns of behavior and belief around the world, and apply cultural anthropology perspectives to understand cultural variations and diversity. Approved for Core Curriculum credit in Social and Behavioral Sciences or Global Perspectives.

SOCY 210, Social Problems (3), two sections:

- Spring 2021 - 01, Dr. Elizabeth Lyman & SOCY 210-02, Dr. Aysha Bodenhamer

Job insecurity, a “broken” educational system, health care woes: What are the causes? The consequences? And what kinds of action can we take in addressing these pressing social problems? In this class we will examine these issues and more as we take a sociological look at contemporary social problems.

SOCY 213, Social Issues and Healthcare Delivery (3), two sections:

- SOCY 213-01 (RU only), Dr. Paula Prince & SOCY 213-02 (RUC only), Dr. Paula Prince. Both sections are Online Distance Learning: Asynchronous (DLAS).

This course will introduce students to vital social issues affecting healthcare delivery in the United States. Course content will include health related demographics, ethnic and cultural diversity, applied communication methods and skills and an orientation to community healthcare. An experiential learning module will place students in a volunteer role working 20 hours a week with a human service agency.

SOCY 250, Social Inequality (3), two sections:

- SOCY 250-01 Dr. Hulya Dogan & SOCY 250-02, Dr. Stephanie Bradley. Section 250-01 is Online Distance Learning: Asynchronous (DLAS).

Did you know that the richest one percent of U.S. households own more than the combined wealth of the bottom 90%? That the wages of professional women are approximately 80% of those of professional men? And that African Americans and Hispanics are roughly three times as likely to live in poverty as whites? In this course, we will seek to clarify which human institutions cause the unequal distribution of valued resources and opportunities, and how these institutions cause inequality.

SOCY 331, Race and Ethnic Relations (3), two sections:

- SOCY 331-01, Dr. Joanna Hunter. Plus SOCY 331-02, Kathryn Everard-Van Patten, at the Roanoke Higher Ed Center

Race and ethnicity are a large part of our identities, yet White people in the US infrequently recognize that they have a “race.” Race, ethnicity, social class, gender, etc. intersect and play a large role in everyday interaction. Sociology of race and ethnicity studies how identities matter and influence social outcomes and why some of us are very aware of our racial and cultural backgrounds and others are not.

SOCY 342, Race, Ethnicity, and Healthcare (3), Dr. Paula Prince. This course is Online Distance Learning: Asynchronous (DLAS).

This course will provide students with a fundamental understanding of the dynamics of racial and ethnic relations in American daily life. Students will get an in-depth look at the history, theory, and methods that inform social science research on pressing social issues that affect health status such as diversity and inequality.

SOCY 360, Sociological Theory (3), Dr. Elizabeth Lyman

McDonald's, fashion, social networking, and car shopping: sociological theory comes to life in this course covering both classical and contemporary theory. Come and explore the relationships between theory and our everyday lives.

SOCY 365, Society and the Individual (3), Dr. Joanna Hunter

Why are you attracted to certain people and not others? Why do people go along with the crowd even when they know they shouldn’t? Are women really less aggressive than men? Why are we so influenced by others? This class takes a sociological look at social psychology and uses a variety of lectures, class exercises, and other activities to explore these and other questions related to the ways that social interaction affects individual attitudes and behaviors.

SOCY 370, Environmental Sociology (3), Dr. Aysha Bodenhamer

Are we heading towards an environmental crisis in the U.S. and beyond? What does this mean and how will it impact you and societies around the globe? Taking a social problems approach, we will explore many pressing environmental issues including: energy generation and what this means for coal, natural gas, and renewables; the role of technology; food and agricultural practices; environmental (in)justice; the impacts of climate change; the importance of water; waste management and recycling; and environmental health. By participating in this class, you will gain a solid understanding of the current environmental landscape and how we can improve it.

SOCY 443, Deviance (3), Dr. Roby Page

"Why be normal?" some like to ask. We’ve all been deviant now and then, for better or worse. Why do people step outside the boundaries and deviate? From criminals in the streets and criminals in the suites… to drug abusers and sexual deviants… to simply not fitting in, we’ll look at how and why people stray from conformity.

SOCY 465, Visual Sociology (3), Dr. Roby Page

Do you like looking at pictures? And taking pictures? Are you interested in studying the social world through your camera? Is photography art, science, or something else? In Visual Sociology we’ll be sociologists with cameras and we’ll consider the use of photography as a social science research tool.

SOCY 480, Survey Research Methods (3), Dr. Allison Wisecup

Survey Research Methods, invites students to engage in the world of research by selecting their research question and analyzing the data using a worldwide leading software program, SPSS. This class will give you transferable skills for your resume, so you can hit the job market ahead of your peers.

SOCY 495, Topical Seminar in Sociology: Sociology of Hip Hop (3), Dr. Stephanie Bradley

Originated by New York City teenagers and young adults in the 1970s, hip hop is now an outright culture and a multi-billion-dollar industry with a global influence. Assessments of hip hop suggest that it both brings awareness to social inequalities and reinforces stereotypes. We will explore hip hop through a sociological lens as we assess these claims and listen to some cool music.

SOCY 499*, Internship (3-12). Please see Dr. Beth Lyman, Internship Coordinator, to discuss opportunities to fulfill the internship requirement. Also please review the Sociology Internship Manual on the Sociology website, and view internship opportunities at http://www.radford.edu/content/chbs/home/sociology/about/internships.html.

* Satisfies the SOC-Y major Applied/Practical Experience course requirement.
THE SOCIOLOGY MAJOR AND MINOR

The Department of Sociology promotes a challenging atmosphere in which students are encouraged to recognize, understand, and think critically about social processes, issues, and cultural diversity. Through rigorous coursework, the program teaches students how to gather, analyze and interpret qualitative and quantitative data. Through research-in-service and internships students learn how to apply their knowledge and skills to problems and needs in businesses, organizations, and communities. A central part of our mission is to provide opportunities for independent student research as well as faculty and student collaborative research. We teach from the philosophy that active engagement in real-world research enhances employment opportunities and opens doors to graduate school. The department engages in sound career planning and preparation with each major.

SOCIOLOGY MAJOR, B.A. OR B.S. DEGREE
(36 semester hours)

Required Courses (21 credit hours)
SOCY 110 Introduction to Sociology (3)
SOCY 250 Social Inequality (3)
SOCY 360 Sociological Theory (3)
SOCY 365 Individual and Society (3)
SOCY 380 Introduction to Social Research Methods (3)
SOCY 480 Survey Research Methods (3)
SOCY 497 Senior Seminar in Sociology (3)

STAT 130 Understanding Statistics in Society, or STAT 200 Introduction to Statistics.
All majors in the department must successfully complete either of these courses, which is a prerequisite for SOCY 380.

Sociology Electives (15 credit hours)
Five additional elective courses not listed above must include at least four 300-400 level courses. One elective must be satisfied by an approved internship or other designated applied sociology course selected in consultation with your advisor.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
To graduate with a major in Sociology, a student must have a grade point average of 2.0 or higher in all courses taken with a SOCY prefix. Majors must complete all required courses in the major curricula listed above with a grade of “C-” or better (SOCY 110, and 250, 360, 365, 380, 480, 497).

For specific Core Curriculum information and additional B.A or B.S requirements see the Undergraduate Catalog.

SOCIOLOGY MINOR
(18 semester hours)

SOCY 110 Introduction to Sociology (3)
SOCY 210 Social Problems OR SOCY 250 Social Inequality (3)
SOCY 365 Society and the Individual (3)
The remaining 9 credits must be SOCY-prefix courses and include at least two courses (6 credits) at the 300- or 400-level.

Sociology Department Advisor: Dr. Roby Page, erpage@radford.edu