

BA in Sociology

Degree Program Description

Sociologists systematically investigate the causes of social problems and how people make meaning collectively using both quantitative (statistical) and qualitative techniques. Sociologists are curious about the hows and whys of human social life. Sociological perspectives and methods have many applications: in non-profit organizations, marketing departments, criminal justice organizations, public health agencies, and many other academic disciplines. Sociological knowledge helps businesses, policy makers, and the public navigate the complex social and cultural structures that shape everyday life.

A Bachelor of Arts with a major in Sociology consists of 30 credits including introductory courses, the fundamentals of research and theory, and more in-depth coursework that leads to a capstone experience. The capstone, taken during the senior year, allows students to choose between a professional internship, a research oriented course, or an honor's thesis if they qualify.

Sociology at Mizzou offers students the opportunity for in-depth study of some of the big questions and problems of the 21st century: culture and identities, justice, social inequalities, and health and environment. Sociologists are involved in analyzing some of the most critical issues of the contemporary world: class, race and gender oppression, sex and gender diversity, and global issues like health disparities and climate change. Sociologists empirically study these issues not simply to understand them, but to help create a more just society through the production of evidence-based knowledge. Sociology majors gain key skills necessary for today's careers, including critical thinking, global/intercultural fluency, teamwork, and oral and written communication. Sociology majors also build cultural literacy that helps them understand current events and their own place in history.

Major Program Requirements

A Bachelor of Arts with a major in Sociology consists of 30 credits organized to provide progressively more sophisticated levels of sociological analysis culminating in a capstone course. It is expected that students start with entry courses, progress to basic courses and then to upper-level electives. In addition, students must complete all degree, College of Arts and Sciences and University graduation requirements (<http://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/universityrequirements/>), including University General Education (<http://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/generaleducationrequirements/>).

Major core requirements

Entry courses		
SOCIOL 1000	Introduction to Sociology (Recommended)	3
SOCIOL 2200	Social Inequalities	3
Basic courses		
SOCIOL 3100	Recent Theories in Sociology (prerequisite: SOCIOL 2200)	3
SOCIOL 3950	Social Research	3
Post-basic courses		
Three additional sociology courses numbered 3000 or above; may include no more than 3 credits in SOCIOL 4940 or SOCIOL 4960		9
Additional hours in sociology		6

An additional 6 credits in elective coursework in the major

Capstone course

A choice between a 4000 Level Course (3 hours), Internship in Sociology (SOCIOL 4940) or an Honors Thesis (see Departmental Honors below). The capstone should be taken in the last two semesters of undergraduate work.

Departmental honors

SOCIOL 4995	Honors in Sociology (1st semester of senior year)	3
SOCIOL 4995	Honors in Sociology (2nd semester of senior year)	3

Students with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.3 are eligible for departmental honors in sociology. Qualified students who seek this option must write an honors thesis under the supervision of a sociology faculty member. Students enroll in SOCIOL 4995 for 3 credits each semester of the senior year.

Total Credits **30**

Semester Plan

Below is a sample plan of study, semester by semester. A student's actual plan may vary based on course choices where options are available.

First Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
SOCIOL 1000		3 SOCIOL 2200	3
ENGLSH 1000		3 MATH 1100, 1050, or STAT 1200	3
Social Science Elective (Missouri State Law Requirement)		3 Humanities Elective	3
Science Elective		3 Social Science Elective	3
Humanities elective		3 Science Elective with Lab	4
			16
Second Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
SOCIOL 1650		3 SOCIOL 3600	3
Second language I	4-6	SOCIOL 3950	3
Humanities Elective		3 Second language II	4-6
Social Science Elective (upper level)		3 Humanities Elective (upper level)	3
Science Elective		3 Behavioral Science Elective	3
			16-18
Third Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
SOCIOL 3200		3 SOCIOL 3100	3
Second language III	3-4	Elective - upper level	3
Behavioral Science Elective (upper level)		3 Elective - upper level	3
Writing Intensive Elective		3 Elective	3
Elective		3 Elective	3
			15-16
Fourth Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
SOCIOL 3330		3 SOCIOL 4545	3
Elective - upper level		3 SOCIOL 4220	3
Elective - upper level		3 Elective	3
Elective		3 Elective	3

Elective	3 Elective	3
	15	15

Total Credits: 123-128