

# Department of Sociology and Social Work

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## School of Education and Human Studies

### Faculty

**Naomi Larsen** (1996). Assistant Professor of Sociology and Department Chair. B.A. and M.A., Mankato State University; Ph.D., Iowa State University.

**Antonio A. Chiareli** (1997). Assistant Professor of Sociology. B.A., Macalester College; M.A., and Ph.D., Northwestern University.

**Mary Anne Poe** (1996). Assistant Professor of Social Work and Social Work Program Director. B.A., Vanderbilt University; M.S.S.W., University of Louisville; M.Div., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, A.C.S.W. Certification.

**Roslyn Wilson** (1995). Associate Professor of Social Work and Social Work Field Director. B.S., Tennessee State University; M.S.S.W., University of Tennessee.

### Mission Statement

The mission of the Sociology and Social Work department is to educate students in various aspects of human society and human relationships from a Christian perspective. The Sociology and Social Work department will continue to strive for academic excellence in our students and ourselves, to be future directed, focused on the needs of our students, and to center our plans and dreams around Christ.

### Sociology

The courses in Sociology are designed for two types of students: (1) those who desire pre-professional training for sociology or other related fields of human relations, and (2) those who seek to understand underlying principles in human relations, the role of custom and group psychology in collective behavior, the structure of society, the problems of group living, and the tendencies toward the improvement or the disintegration of society. Courses are designed to present both a practical and a scientific analysis of human relationships in the various areas of social life.

### Family Studies

The family, as a basic building block of society, is critical to the functioning of both the church and society as a whole. The contribution of the Christian community to the development of leaders in family relations is crucial. The program equips graduates for occupations in fields requiring a human relations background including family life education, community education programs, juvenile probation, and hospital children's programs and prepares graduates for graduate study.

#### I. Sociology major—30 semester hours

- A. SOC 211, 417, 422
- B. Fifteen hours must be junior and senior level.

#### II. Family Studies major—33 hours

- A. Prerequisites: application to the program and successful completion of SOC 211, PSY 213, SW 200.
- B. SOC 313, 422, 425, 435; PSY 219
- C. Select 18 hours from 3 different areas:
  1. SOC 321, 370, 400, 420, 411



**\*\*310. Social and Economic Justice (3) S**

See SW 310 for course description.

**\*\*313. The Family (3) F, S, Su**

An investigation of the background, trends, and problems of marriage and family life.

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

**\*\*316. Criminology (3) S**

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

A study of the sources of crime and delinquency, theories of punishment, treatment of crime, etc.

**317. Sociology of Community (3) F—Even Years**

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

An introduction to sociological theory and research on community life, both rural and urban. The emergence and transformation of communities will be examined through anthropological, ecological, economic, historical, and political analytic frameworks.

**319. Sociology of Religion (3) S—Odd Years**

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

A course designed primarily to analyze the secularization of religious practice and belief, as well as the interrelations between religion and other social institutions. Cults, sects, religious minority groups, fundamentalism, and radicalism will also be examined. American society will be the primary focus.

**\*\*321. Social Gerontology (3) F**

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

A brief, comprehensive introduction to the subject of aging. The social and socio-psychological aspects will be examined.

**355. Cultural Anthropology (3) F**

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

A study of humanity, both biologically and culturally, including its origins, changes, and present-day manifestations utilizing a cross-cultural approach. Major areas to be examined include language, food gathering, kinship, economic structures, social stratifications, political structures, religious structures, and culture change.

**\*\*370. Gender and Society (3) S**

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

An exploration of gender as defined in American society and cross-culturally and the impact of these definitions on the lives of men and women. Consideration is given to the role of gender in structuring identity, male and female interaction and constraining or expanding opportunities.

**\*\*400. Families Across Cultures (3) F**

This course examines the family as an object of sociological inquiry within the context of cross-cultural, multi-cultural and historical bases. Both continuity and change, similarities and differences are emphasized.

**411. Internship (3) F, W, S, Su**

Prerequisites: SOC 417, 422, 15 additional hours in SOC and prior departmental approval.

A specified time in a field situation in a community agency, public or private. Supervision will be provided by both the agency and this department. A journal and research paper are required.

**417. The History of Social Thought (3) F**

Prerequisite: 9 hours of SOC including SOC 211.

The origin and development of social thought with an emphasis on contemporary social theory.

**\*418. Social Psychology (3) F**

See PSY 418 for course description.

**\*\*419. Minorities (3) F, S**

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

A study of the social, cultural, historical, political-economic, and psychological dimensions of minority-majority group relations in American society. Problems and intervention strategies will be examined.

**\*\*420. Death and Dying (3) S—Even Years**

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

An interdisciplinary investigation of death and dying. Contributions from anthropology, ethics, health sciences, history, literature, psychology, religion, and sociology will be explored. Self-discovery through critical analysis of the student's assumptions, orientations, and predispositions will be emphasized. Strategies of counseling with dying persons and their families will be a central thrust of the course.

**421. Social Stratification (3) F—Odd Years**

Prerequisite: Six hours of SOC including SOC 211.

A study of the systems of inequality in the distribution of reward structures (power, status, prestige) existing in all societies.

**422. Research Methods (3) S**

Prerequisite: SOC 211 and six additional hours in sociology.

A study of basic sociological research design, applied techniques, and data analysis methods. Special emphasis will be placed on instructing the student in how a complete research project, from problem formulation to research report, is carried out.

**425. Family Theories (3) F**

Prerequisites: SOC 211, 313.

An examination of the broad scope of family theory from sociological and family studies perspectives exploring historical roots, basic assumptions, core concepts, empirical applications and implications for families.

**\*435. Contemporary Issues in the Family (3) S**

Prerequisites: SOC 211, 313.

An in-depth look at the family, life issues, threats and challenges facing the family today. Biblical principles related to such issues as parent-child relationships, work and family, divorce and family violence are discussed. Preventive techniques and solutions are considered.

\*Reciprocal credit in PSY.

\*\*Reciprocal credit in SW.

# Social Work

## Mission Statement

The Social Work Program seeks to prepare students for entry level generalist social work practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities. The program emphasizes the importance of a solid liberal arts foundation and of Christian and social work values that promote social and economic justice and an understanding and appreciation for human diversity.

A student majoring in Social Work will receive the Bachelor of Social Work degree. The student must take the General Core requirements and B.S.W. specific requirements as outlined below:

### **General Core Requirements: (44 hours)**

CLU 111, 112; ENG 111, 112, 201, 202; ART 210; HIS 101, 102; Science Group A; BIO 121; MAT 114; PEWS 100, PEWS Activity; CHR 111, 112; PSY 213.

### **B.S.W. Specific Requirements: (21 hours)**

CSC 105, SOC 211, PSC 211, PSY 317, SW 421 or SOC 422, and 6 hours Modern Foreign Language

## **Social Work Major—45 hours**

- I. SW 200 and 201
- II. SW 300, 301, 310, 335, 400
- III. SW 315, 401, 402, 490, 423
- IV. SW Elective—3 hours

## **Admission Requirements to the Social Work Program**

A student may make application for entry into the Social Work program during the Spring semester of his/her sophomore year. The following are requirements for admission:

- Complete an application form.
- Two faculty references, one personal reference.
- Have at least 2.25 minimum GPA in all college courses, with at least a “C” in the following courses: ENG 111, 112; BIO 121; PSC 211; SOC 211; PSY 213; CSC 105; MAT 114; SW 310.
- Complete SW 200 and SW 201 with at least a grade of “B.” These two courses may be taken in the first semester after admission to the program, though it is advisable to complete these two courses prior to admission to the program.
- Pass all courses listed as General Core and B.S.W. specific core. It is advisable that students complete all core requirements prior to admission to the program.
- Complete an interview with the Social Work Program Admissions Committee. Knowingly making a false oral or written statement during the admission process can result in denial of admission to the program. The Social Work Program Admissions Committee may require outside evaluations, assessments, and/or opinions of professionals as is deemed necessary.
- Possess the following personal qualities: Self-awareness, empathy, objectivity, appreciation of diversity, professional commitment, and a liberal arts base of knowledge.
- Sign a statement indicating that he/she has read and will follow the Code of Ethics of the National Association of Social Workers.



Work majors with an overall GPA of 3.0 and a GPA of 3.4 in social work courses are invited to become members. Students become eligible for membership at the end of their Junior year in the Social Work Program.

## **Student Awards**

**Academic Excellence Medals.** This award is given to the graduating major who has the highest academic average in the discipline, provided the average in the subject is not less than 3.5 and provided the student has completed, before Awards Day, a minimum of 15 hours in the discipline at Union University in courses for which precise grades are computed (as distinguished from courses graded pass or fail). If there is no eligible major, the medal will be given to the minor with the highest average if the above qualifications are met.

## **Course Offerings in Social Work (SW)**

( )-Hours Credit; F-Fall; W-Winter; S-Spring; Su-Summer

### **200. Introduction to Social Work (3) F, S**

Prerequisite or Corequisite: ENG 112.

The profession of social work and the institution of social welfare will be surveyed in terms of their evolution in America. Emphasis will be on social work knowledge base and values, the professional education needed, practice methods, the variety of social services available, and occupational settings of the social work profession.

### **201. Community Social Service Experience (3) F**

Pre/Corequisite: SW 200.

An opportunity for the beginning social work major to be exposed to the principles of social work within a community social service agency, approved by the department. An opportunity to experience principles of

**@310. Social and Economic Justice (3) S**

Prerequisite: CHR 111 or 112.

Dynamics and consequences of injustice including oppression, poverty and discrimination with particular attention to biblical and theological teachings about justice. Strat-



**@405. Families Across Cultures (3) F**

See SOC 400 for course description.

**@419. Minorities (3) F, S**

See SOC 419 for course description.

**@420. Death and Dying (3) S—Even Years**

See SOC 420 for course description.

**421. Research Methods in Social Work (3) S**

Prerequisites: MAT 114.

An introduction to the basic research methods and techniques of social research as applied to the social problems and human situations that a generalist social worker will encounter. Emphasis will be placed on problem formulation, development of research