

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND FAMILY STUDIES

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Faculty

Student Organizations

Pi Gamma Mu, national social science honor society, seeks to improve scholarship in social studies; to inspire service to humanity by an intelligent approach to the solution of social problems; and to engender sympathy towards others with different opinions and institutions. Students who have completed 20 hours of social science with a "B" average or above are eligible for membership.

Sociological Inquiry Society (S.I.S) functions as a Christian community of students interested in sociological foundations

and enables students to better understand and exercise sociology outside the classroom through discussion, activities, and service.

Student Awards

The **Pi Gamma Mu Scholarship Leader Award** is presented to the graduating member of the society with the highest academic average.

Course Offerings in Sociology (SOC)

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

211. Principles of Sociology (3) F, W, S

Designed to introduce students to the sociological study of society. Sociology focuses on the systematic understanding of social interaction, social organization, social institutions, and social change. Understanding sociology helps discover and explain social patterns and see how such patterns change over time. By making vivid the social basis of everyday life, sociology also develops critical thinking by revealing the social structures and processes that shape diverse forms of human life.

213. Social Change for Social Problems (3) F—Odd Years

Reciprocal credit: ICS 213.

Sociologists hold a passion to make the world a better place. This passion is combined with the use of the scientific approach to understand and explain social phenomena. The results of scientific investigation can be used to suggest social policies that can mitigate the negative consequences of problems that inevitably plague all human societies. We will discuss suggestions for policy designed to mitigate the negative consequences of social problems.

214. Social Research I (3) F—Odd Years

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

An introduction to statistics common in social science research. Topics include descriptive and inferential statistics, hypothesis testing, significance, correlation, analysis of variance, and multiple regression. Emphasis is on application and effectively using a common statistical program (PASW/SPSS).

220. Introduction to Studying Families (3) F

This course is designed to provide an interdisciplinary introduction to issues pertaining to contemporary families. The course provides an engaging contemporary look at family studies' theories, methods, essential topics, and career opportunities. Concepts are brought to life through striking examples from everyday family life.

221. Sociology of Education (3) As Needed

Explores education as an institution that affects and is affected by the larger social structure. Topics may include the role of schools in society; connections between schooling, stratification and the economy; gender and ethnic differences in achievement; and social and cultural contexts of learning.

225. Relationships, Marriage and Families (3) Su; S—Odd Years

Reciprocal credit: SW 225.

An investigation of the sociocultural and historical factors influencing relationships, marriage and families emphasizing challenges, prevention and intervention.

300. Sport Sociology (3) S—Odd Years

Reciprocal credit: PEWS 300.

Application of sociological principles to sport and athletics. Exploration of sport as a social institution in American society and how it is an agent of social change.

310. Social and Economic Justice (3) As Needed

Prerequisites: CHR 111 or 112. Reciprocal credit: SW 310, ICS 310. See SW 310 for course description.

311. Crime and Society (3) F—Even Years

This course examines the social, political and economic processes that affect the creation and implementation of law. It focuses on history and fundamental principles of American legal system and compares it to other legal systems existing in today's world. In assessing how judicial opinions and legislative efforts affect social relations and institutional arrangements, inquiry is centered on: the ways in which social problems become defined as legal issues, the forces which shape the initiation and ultimate formulation of legislative acts designed to affect public policy, the role which cultural values and assumptions play in framing legal arguments and influencing judicial opinions and remedial programs, and the strengths and limitations of the law as a means of achieving special social policy objectives.

317. Urban Structure and Process (3) As Needed

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

321. Social Gerontology (3) As Needed

Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: SW 321.

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

322. Medical Sociology (3) As Needed

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

A sociological examination of health, illness, and the social organization of medical care in the US. Consideration is given to race, class, gender, and age as factors influencing health, illness, and the delivery of medical care.

324. Social Deviance (3) S–Odd Years

Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: SW 324.

Focuses on why certain individuals violate social norms and the ways society responds and attempts to control deviant behavior. Topics include: defining, measuring and explaining social deviance and types of deviant behavior as well as personal and social consequences of deviant behavior.

325. Families Across Cultures (3) F, S

Reciprocal credit: SW 325, ICS 325.

The family as an object of sociological inquiry within the context of cross-cultural, multi-cultural and historical bases. Continuity and change, similarities and differences are emphasized.

326. Juvenile Justice (3) F–Odd Years

This course covers youthful crime: its volume, causes and trends. The prediction, prevention, treatment and control of juvenile delinquency by social control agencies is examined relative to social policies needed to reduce its incidence. The organization and procedures of the juvenile justice system are also explored.

327. Sociology of Media and Technology (3) S–Even Years

In this course, attention will be given to different aspects of the relationship between technology and society and directions for the future. The nature of technology and the process of innovation are driven by social influences and pressures. Those social influences mean that technologies reflect and often reinforce the structures of social, economic, and political power in any society. Special emphasis on social media and the effects it has on daily interactions in society.

333. Parent-Child Relations (3) S–Even Years

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

Social and historical context of parent-child interaction over the life course; analysis of theories, research and educational programs; socialization into the family; examination of parenting as a developmental process. Overview of the parenting process in diverse cultural and familial structures. Emphasizes the use of Biblical teaching in parent-child relations.

356. Food, Culture, and Society (3) S–Odd Years

Reciprocal credit: ICS 356.

This course explores how social and cultural contexts affect food production and consumption. Specifically, this course examines how modern food practices have become disordered, diverging from a proper theological approach to creation.

370. Gender and Sexuality (3) W, S–Odd Years

Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: SW 370.

Gender and sexuality in American society and cross-culturally with consideration to the role of gender in structuring identity, male/female interaction, and constraining or expanding opportunities. Topics: Sexual development, function and dysfunction, cultural and socio-psychological issues, and Christian, ethical and moral responses.

411. Internship (3) S

Prerequisites: 21 SOC hours including 417 or 425; 422; and departmental approval.

A field situation in a community agency. Supervision will be provided by the agency and department. A journal and substantive term paper are required.

413. Globalization and Social Change (3) As Needed

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

This course addresses contemporary social, economic, and political changes referred to as globalization. What is globalization and what is its history? Does economic globalization lead to development or only to new ways of concentrating wealth in the hands of the few? These questions suggest the overarching themes of the course, which include the institutional structures of globalization, how those institutional structures shape power and inequality, and the question of scale, or how institutional structures translate power and inequality from the global to the local and back, and, finally, possible alternatives to globalization. How does globalization affect God's global work?

417. Social Theory (3) S–Even Years

Prerequisites: 6 hours of SOC including SOC 211.

Examines major social theories that explain society and human behavior. Special emphasis is given to family theories and applying other social theories to the family and behavior within the family.

418. Social Psychology (3) As Needed

Prerequisite: SOC 211 or PSY 213. Reciprocal credit: PSY 418. See PSY 418 for course description.

419. Social Diversity and Inequality (3) F–Even Years

Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: SW 419, ICS 419.

A study of the social, cultural, historical, political-economic, and psychological dimensions of minority-majority group relations within the United States. Focus on African American, Hispanic, and

422. Social Research II (3) As Needed

Prerequisite: MAT 114; 6 additional hours in SOC including