

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SOCIOLOGY PROGRAM

PROSPECTUS

The Field

Sociology is the scientific study of the causes and consequences of human interaction. The Sociology Program at the University of Guam combines scientific and humanistic perspectives in the study of family patterns and relationships, social change, social movements, community development, and social issues, such as ethnic, religious, political, and gender relations. Sociology is most interested in the diversity of the world, and it is for this world that students must be prepared.

Career Possibilities

This program equips students with the necessary skills to pursue careers in:

- Research
- Journalism
- Politics and government
- Public relations
- Business
- Counseling
- International aide work
- Criminal justice
- Community development
- Social work
- Public administration
- Education
- Family services

Additionally, this program provides training and a strong foundation for students wishing to pursue graduate degrees in sociology and other related disciplines and for entry-level positions involved with the analysis, interpretation, and evaluation of social behavior, social action, and social institutions.

Why UOG?

Through studying in one of the three areas of concentration of UOG's Sociology Program — Gender & Family Studies, Social Problems Studies, or Development Studies — students will encounter unique opportunities for both personal and academic growth. In recent years, students have presented research at international conferences; received scholarships and travel grants; participated in international field schools, internships, and service opportunities; and engaged with the local and regional communities beyond the classroom.

The Sociology Program also offers a minor, which students may consider as a complement to their chosen major.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The learning objectives of the Sociology Program are based on those of the American Sociological Association. Graduating students must be able to demonstrate their understanding and application of:

1. The discipline of sociology and its role in contributing to our understanding of social reality such that the student can apply the sociological imagination and sociological principles and concepts to any social topic, including within her or his own life;
2. The role of theory in sociology, such that the student will be able to define theory and describe its role in generating sociological knowledge and be able to compare and contrast basic theoretical perspectives;
3. The role of empirical evidence and the application of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies in collecting data and the ability to design a research study, collect and analyze data, and present the findings in research-paper format;
4. Technical skill in retrieving information and data from archival sources, the internet, and other data storage formats and the use of computers for data analysis;



5. Scientific technical writing that accurately conveys the data findings and an understanding of the issues and the ability to apply the principles of ethical practices in sociology.

CONCENTRATIONS

SOCIOLOGY CONCENTRATIONS

Students in the Sociology Program must choose one (or more) of the following areas of concentration and take no fewer than nine credit hours in their area.

Gender & Family Studies

The area of Gender & Family Studies focuses on the social dynamics that surround society's definitions of gender and gender identities. It examines the subtle interplay and dynamics of relations between the various genders and within them. What does it mean to be female or male in the 21st century? In what ways does culture influence gender? How have gender roles changed over time? Why are gender roles so different throughout our world?

This area of concentration also focuses on one of the most important social groups: the family. How do families function? How do they generate and manage conflict? And in our rapidly changing social world, what new forms of family are emerging that represent diverse societies?

Utilizing the scientific method, students will better understand ways to define families as private and public institutions that are influenced by collective and individualistic cultures. Students will study the ways religion, the state, cultural and racial diversity, social media, and technology construct family structures and their interactions.

Gender and family are inextricably intertwined structures, and it is important to conduct research in the region as these structures continue to transform and adapt to social change.

Social Problems Studies

Have you, or someone you know, ever been a victim of a crime? Have you, or someone you know, ever experienced family violence, drug or alcohol abuse, lived in poverty, or been discriminated against? All of these topics, and many more, are considered social problems.

Sociology is a science, and, as such, the way sociology approaches social problems is through research, the

systematic investigation of the world around us. By conducting research on social problems, sociologists strive to better understand social problems and ideally find solutions for these problems.

The objectives of the Social Problems Studies area of concentration are to 1) provide students with an understanding of the relevant research on social problems, both in Micronesia and around the world, and 2) assist students in developing the ability to design a research study, collect and analyze data, and present their findings in a research paper. Ideally students will develop and apply the sociological perspective as they take a new look at the world around them and the social problems that they encounter. Maybe you will be the person to reduce crime and poverty.

Development Studies

The Development Studies concentration focuses on the ways in which societies grow and transform. The curriculum allows students to explore the realities and challenges of the modern world, while critically looking at how humanity arrived at this place in history.

Why is there so much wealth and yet so much poverty in the world? How have people in different cultures responded to the challenges they face? What can indigenous people teach us, and how can we empower communities to take charge of their own destinies? Development Studies addresses these and many more questions. The framework is grounded in the processes, policies, and practices of development with a particular focus on sustainability, drawing on indigenous philosophy.

A unique focus on the application of learning outcomes means that students will graduate with:

- a comprehensive understanding of the history and key concepts of development work;
- the skills to lead transformational efforts;
- the capacity to demonstrate initiative, leadership, and originality in identifying challenges and opportunities for our society; and
- the ability to understand global trends and challenges communities face and how they can contribute to the welfare of these communities.



DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

SOCIOLOGY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS (42–43 CREDIT HOURS)

General Education (Recommended Courses)

See the [Student Advisement Sheet](#) of the General Education Requirements and include under:

Tier II: Direction Building (9-11 credit hours)

1) CF, DF, or UU as a prerequisite (can be within a declared major):

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SO203	INTRODUCTION TO QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS

2) DF or major exploration:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SO350	DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY - CLASSICAL	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS

3) DF or UU exploration outside major requirement (may apply to a minor or second major):

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
MA151	INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Tier III – Capstone Experience

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SO491	SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH SEMINAR	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Required Courses (21-22 credit hours)

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SO101	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
SO203	INTRODUCTION TO QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO350	DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY - CLASSICAL	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO351	DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY - CONTEMPORARY	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO414	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY IN SOCIOLOGY	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO491	SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH SEMINIAR	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
MA385	APPLIED STATISTICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
MA387	STATISTICS FOR SCIENCES	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
MA387L	STATISTICS FOR SCIENCE LABORATORY	1	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Elective Courses (21 credit hours)

Take 21 credit hours of 100-, 200-, 300-, and 400-level **Sociology (SO) courses** in Sociology or program-designated Sociology electives.

Students must choose one (or more) areas of concentration and take no fewer than nine credit hours' worth of electives in their concentration. No fewer than six credit hours from the 400-level coursework toward completion of major requirements are required.

Note: A course can only be used once.

CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS (9 CREDIT HOURS)

Gender & Family Studies (9 credit hours)

Required Courses

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
WG101	INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN & GENDER STUDIES	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
SO230	MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
SO342	SOCIOLOGY OF SEX AND GENDER	3	FALL ONLY/ EVEN YEARS
SO445	INEQUALITY AND IDENTITY	3	FALL ONLY/ EVEN YEARS
SO455	SOCIOLOGY OF WOMEN	3	FALL ONLY/ ODD YEARS

The following courses may also satisfy the major concentration if approved by the course instructor:

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SO480	SPECIAL TOPICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
SO491	SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH SEMINIAR	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO498	INTERNSHIP	1 - 6	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Social Problems Studies (9 credit hours)

Required Courses

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SO344	AGING: MYTH AND REALITIES	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO202	CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL PROBLEMS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
SO221	SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH AND MEDICINE	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO302	DEVIANCE AND SOCIAL CONTROL	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO386	JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AND CRIMINOLOGY	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO411	SOCIAL ISSUES IN MICRONESIA AND GUAM	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO418	SOCIAL STRATIFICATION	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
AN421	CROSS-CULTURAL & SOCIOLOGICAL PROBLEMS OF GUAM & MICRONESIA	3	SPRING ONLY/ ODD YEARS
PY440	SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS

The following courses may also satisfy the major concentration if approved by the course instructor:

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SO480	SPECIAL TOPICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
SO491	SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH SEMINIAR	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO498	INTERNSHIP	1 - 6	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Development Studies (9 credit hours)

Required Courses

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS304	POLITICS OF ASIA	3	FALL ONLY/ EVEN YEARS
SO332	GLOBALIZATION AND HUMAN DYNAMICS	3	SPRING ONLY/ EVEN YEARS
GE341	CULTURAL ECOLOGY	3	FALL ONLY/ ODD YEARS
SO360	SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND CHANGE	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO405	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	3	SPRING ONLY/ ODD YEARS
MI520	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE IN MICRONESIA	3	FALL ONLY/ ODD YEARS
SO475	HUMAN ECOLOGY: PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS	3	FALL ONLY/ ODD YEARS

The following courses may also satisfy the major concentration if approved by the course instructor:

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SO480	SPECIAL TOPICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
SO491	SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH SEMINIAR	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SO498	INTERNSHIP	1 - 6	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

SOCIOLOGY MINOR REQUIREMENTS (18 CREDIT HOURS)

General Education (Recommended Courses)

See the **Student Advisement Sheet** of the General Education Requirements and include under:

Tier II: Direction Building (9-11 credit hours)

1) CF, DF, or UU as a prerequisite (can be within a declared major):

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SO203	INTRODUCTION TO QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS

2) DF or major exploration:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SO350	DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY - CLASSICAL	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS

3) DF or UU exploration outside major requirement (may apply to a minor or second major):

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
MA151	INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Tier III – Capstone Experience

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SO491	SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH SEMINIAR	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Required Courses (3 credit hours)

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SO101	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Elective Courses (15 credit hours)

Take 15 credit hours of any 200-level and above [Sociology \(SO\) courses](#), six credit hours of which must be at the 300- or 400-level.

FACULTY

Angeline L. Ames

Associate Professor of Sociology, Micronesia Studies, and Women & Gender Studies
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences
(671) 735-2881
aames@triton.uog.edu

Todd T. Ames

Associate Professor of Sociology and Micronesia Studies
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences
(671) 735-2884
tames@triton.uog.edu

Debra T. Cabrera

Assistant Professor of Sociology, Micronesia Studies, and Women & Gender Studies
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences
(671) 735-2876
dcabrera@triton.uog.edu

Kirk D. Johnson

Professor of Sociology
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences
(671) 735-2856
kjohnson@triton.uog.edu