

Program Description

Sociology is both a scientific and a humanistic discipline. It is concerned with the study of systems of social action and their interrelations. The systems of action include, in increasing order of size and complexity: single social acts, social relationships, organizations, institutions, communities and societies.

Survey courses focus on basic sociological theory and analytic techniques. There are also substantive courses in marriage and the family, and social problems.

The program includes a variety of courses, and utilizes a number of teaching methods, including those which emphasize student participation through group and individual activity.

Staff

Please dial (661) 722-6300, then the 4 digit extension.

Division:

Nate Dillon, Dean	x.6275
Casey Farris, Administrative Assistant	x.6482
Bettie Negrete, Clerical Assistant III	x.6482
Carlos Pinho, Department Co-Chair	x.6716
Duane Rumsey, Department Co-Chair	x.6322

Faculty:

Dr. Carina Giorgi	x.6297
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Adjunct Faculty:

Amy Andrada	V.M. 2994
Siobhan Goldberg	2132
William Lund	2198
Salvador Nuño	2411
Marion Robinson	2165
Art Salazar	2156
Chaka Khan D. Theus	2169

Career Options

Administrator	Personnel Management Specialist
Civil Service Worker	Probation Officer
Community College Instructor	Public Opinion Analyst
Criminologist	Public Relations Consultant
Employment Counselor	Research Director
Human Resources	Recreation Specialist
Interviewer/Researcher	Social Services Director
Outreach Worker	Social Worker
Personnel Analyst	Urban Planner

(Careers may require education beyond the two-year college level.)

Program Learning Outcomes

Associate in Arts in Sociology for Transfer

1. Define sociology, social structure, social stratification, race, ethnicity, gender, globalization, socialization, ethnocentrism, relativism, racism, sexism, and ageism.
2. Discuss and identify the social maintenance functions and dysfunctions of social inequality, global stratification, boundary maintenance systems, and the social construction of identity and group solidarity.
3. Compare and contrast the major theoretical perspectives of sociology, and identify the unique features of sociological analysis.
4. Interpret sociological research of both qualitative and quantitative empirical studies and demonstrate familiarity with the variety of sociological research methods and designs.

Certificate Program

Certificate not applicable.

Associate Degree

Associate in Arts in Sociology for Transfer

The Associate in Arts in Sociology for Transfer (AA-T in Sociology) ensures that students have a pathway to transfer into the California State University (CSU) system to complete a baccalaureate degree in the Sociology major. AA-T in Sociology offers students a fundamental understanding of the field of Sociology and its various sub-fields, including social research methods, demographics, criminology, ethnic relations, family relations, the study of social problems, and the impact of drug policy on society. Additionally, students will gain knowledge through the application of the sociological perspective to their personal lives and contemporary social issues.

The Associate in Arts in Sociology for Transfer (AA-T in Sociology) degree meets the requirements of SB 1440 for Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT). These degrees are intended to make it easier for students to transfer to California State University campuses, but do not exclude admittance to other colleges or universities.

To earn an Associate in Arts in Sociology for Transfer (AA-T in Sociology) degree, a student must complete the following:

- (1) Completion of 60 semester units or 90 quarter units that are eligible for transfer to the California State University, including both of the following:
 - (A) The Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education – Breadth Requirements.
 - (B) A minimum of 18 semester units or 27 quarter units in a major or area of emphasis, as determined by the community college district.
 - (2) Obtainment of a minimum grade point average of 2.0.
- ADTs also require that students must earn a “C” or better in all courses required for the major or area of emphasis. A “P” (Pass) grade is also an acceptable grade for courses in the major if the course is taken on a Pass/No Pass basis.

Required Courses (3 units): units
 SOC 101, Introduction to Sociology 3

Required Courses (Select 6-7 units): units
 MATH 115, Statistics 4
 SOC 112, American Social Issues: Problems and Challenges 3
 SOC 200, Research Methods for the Social Sciences 3

Required Electives A (Select 6-7 units): units
Or any above not already used:
 AJ 206, Criminology 3
 PSY 230, Social Psychology 3
 SOC 110, Ethnic Relations 3
 SOC 115, Marriage and Family Life 3

Required Electives B (Select 3-4 units): units
Or any above not already used:
 SOC 105, The Mexican American in Contemporary Society 3
 SOC 111, Issues and Concepts in Aging 3
 SOC 116, Sociology of Gender and Sexuality 3
 SOC 120, Drugs, Society and Human Behavior 3

Some courses required for the major may also satisfy general education requirements. Consult with a counselor for additional information.

Except in cases of a prerequisite requirement, it is not required to take courses in exactly this sequence; they are recommended in this order to facilitate success.

Recommended Pathway	
Fall, First Semester	units
SOC 101, Introduction to Sociology	3
CSU GE A2 (ENGL 101)	3
CSU GE A1 (COMM 101)	3
CSU GE B2/B3	4
CSU GE C2	3
	Total 16

Spring, Second Semester	
SOC 112, American Social Issues: Problems and Challenges (CSU/GE D)	3
MATH 115, Statistics (CSU/GE B4)	4
CSU GE D (recommended POLS 101)	3
CSU GE A3	3
CSU Transferable Elective	1
	Total 14

Fall, Third Semester	
Required Elective A	3
Required Elective A	3
CSU GE C1/C2	3
CSU GE B1	3
CSU GE C1	3
	Total 15

Spring, Fourth Semester	
American Institution Requirement	3
Required Elective B	3
CSU GE E	3
CSU GE F	3
CSU Transferable Elective	3
	Total 15

Degree Total 60

*Electives should be taken from other courses within the major.

Note: If you are following an IGETC GE pattern, please see a counselor.

Transfer

Students planning to continue studies at a four-year college or university after AVC should visit the Transfer Resource Center and consult with a counselor as soon as possible. Additional information on official transfer articulation agreements from AVC to many CSU/UC campuses can be found at www.assist.org

Prerequisite Completion

All prerequisite courses must be completed with a satisfactory grade in order to enroll in the next course. According to Title 5, Section 55200(d), a satisfactory grade is a grade of "A," "B," "C" or "P". Classes in which the Pass/No Pass option is available are indicated with an asterisk (*) before the course title. See "Pass/No Pass Option" in the catalog for full explanation.

Sociology Courses

SOC 101 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 101 or placement by multiple measures.

This course will introduce students to the basic concepts of the discipline of sociology, and the theoretical approaches and methods of sociology. Topics will include the analysis and explanation of social structure, group dynamics, socialization, culture, the construction of self and group identity, social stratification, diversity, social change, global dynamics and globalization. Course objectives include the ability to apply sociological ideas to everyday human behavior and the appreciation of societal problem. (C-ID: SOCI 110) (CSU, UC, AVC)

SOC 105 *THE MEXICAN AMERICAN IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Completion of SOC 101 and eligibility for ENGL 101 or placement by multiple measures.

This course provides a broad social and historical study of the major characteristics of the second largest minority in the United States and the largest in the Southwest. Attention will be given to the ethnic, sexual, social, educational, cultural, economic, and political elements which differentiate the Mexican-American from the dominant and other groups in the United States. Issues of racism and sexism will be explicitly covered. (CSU, UC, AVC)

SOC 110 ETHNIC RELATIONS

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Completion of SOC 101, and eligibility for ENGL 101 or placement by multiple measures.

This course is a study of the sociological, historical, and political components of race and ethnic relations in the United States and the effect that this has had in regard to globalization. Major ethnic and racial groups, including minorities within these groups, will be examined in detail utilizing sociological theories and perspectives including; African-American, Hispanic, Middle Eastern, Asian, Pacific Islander and Native American ethnic groups. Questions concerning techniques designed to promote peaceful and successful interaction will also be reviewed.

(C-ID: SOCI 150) (CSU, UC, AVC)

SOC 111 *ISSUES AND CONCEPTS IN AGING

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Completion of SOC 101.

This course provides an introductory study of the social, psychological, demographic, and physical aspects of growing older in American society, with an emphasis on health, finances, retirement, and interpersonal and intergenerational relations. The course also includes psychological and sociological adjustment to aging, as well as death and dying. (CSU, UC, AVC)

SOC 112 *AMERICAN SOCIAL ISSUES: PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Completion of SOC 101.

This course is designed to acquaint the student with the major social issues and problems facing contemporary American society. This course focuses on the origins, sustaining causes, implications and possible solutions to societal issues. While emphasis will be on the national level, substantial input will also be placed on local and international events and situations. Emerging concepts such as globalization will also be addressed.

(C-ID: SOCI 115) (CSU, UC, AVC)

SOC 115 *MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Completion of SOC 101.

This course provides a study of the American family, both past and present, from a sociological perspective. Included are the psychological, historical, economic, ethical, and legal aspects of courtship, marriage, child-rearing, and family life. The character of ethnic influence on the form and function of families will be emphasized. (C-ID: SOCI 130) (CSU, UC, AVC)

SOC 116 * SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER AND SEXUALITY

3 units

3 hours weekly

Prerequisite: Completion of SOC 101.

Sociology of Gender and Sexuality is the balanced study of the historical, political, and sociological components of gender relations in the United States; including a comparison and contrast of gender relations in other countries and the effect that this has had in regard to globalization. This course will examine the masculine, the feminine and third gender in detail utilizing sociological theory and perspectives, concepts and key terminology. The basic tools of sociological theory and analysis will be presented to increase students' understanding of the topic. (C-ID: SOCI 140) (CSU, UC, AVC)

SOC 120 *DRUGS, SOCIETY AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR

3 units

3 hours weekly

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 101 or placement by multiple measures.

This course offers an overview of the historical and contemporary role of alcohol and other drugs in our society, with an emphasis on patterns of drug use and abuse. Course content includes a discussion of both legal and illegal drugs, research in support of theories of drug abuse and prevention, a detailed discussion of the major pharmacological classes of drugs, the connection between drug use, crime and violence, and a thorough comparison of models of drug treatment. A field trip to a recovery or rehabilitation program is an important component of this class. (CSU, UC, AVC)

SOC 200 *RESEARCH METHODS FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

3 units

3 hours weekly

Prerequisite: Completion of MATH 115 and SOC 101.

This course is designed to introduce students to the process of empirical research. It covers both qualitative and quantitative research analysis and both experimental and non-experimental research strategies in detail, including surveys, observational, case studies, and comparative historical research. The practical application of these methods in a contemporary setting is emphasized. Ethical issues will be examined for human and non-human subjects as well as an overview of computer applications frequently used in social science data analysis. (C-ID: SOCI 120) (CSU, UC, AVC)