
SOCIOLOGY (SOC)

Dr. Rebecca L. Clark
Dr. Laura L. Hartman
Dr. Steve Wray, *Chair*

The Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology is a four-year program at Averett University. The curriculum in Sociology ensures that each student is provided with a strong foundation in the basic principles, techniques of analysis, and theories for understanding and working with the important aspects of social life in the contemporary world. The program gives students an appreciation of their own social world, a broader understanding of different ways of life, and a more complete perspective of the world and their place in it. Courses focus on the study of the structure and changes of social life and relationships, and on contemporary issues in areas such as the family, crime, religion, race and ethnic relations, urban communities, aging, gender roles, and law. The program prepares students for careers in government employment, secondary teaching, social services, and research with agencies in industry and business. It also enables students to work as data analysts, office managers, sales directors, labor managers, city planning directors, police officers, parks and recreation directors, community organizers, social workers, management consultants, advertising executives, and insurance agents. Supervised internships are available in community agencies and organizations to allow students to test their ideas about careers and examine the realities of a professional occupation.

Students must attain at least a 2.00 grade point average in the major in order to graduate.

Requirements for a Major in Sociology:

In addition to the general education requirements, the following courses are required:

	Semester Hours
SOC 101, Introduction to Sociology	3
SOC 401, Social Theory.....	3
SOC 440, Senior Seminar	3
SOC 470, Research Methods	3
Sociology Electives	15
MTH 160, Introduction to Statistics.....	<u>3</u>
	Total 30

Sample Four-Year Course Sequence: Sociology

Freshman Year:

SOC 101, Introduction to Sociology

Sophomore Year:

MTH 160, Introduction to Statistics
SOC Recommended Elective
SOC Recommended Elective

Junior Year:

SOC Recommended Elective
SOC 300+ Elective

Senior Year:

SOC 401, Social Theory
SOC 470, Research Methods
SOC 440, Senior Seminar
SOC 300+ Elective

Sociology/Criminal Justice

The Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology/Criminal Justice is a four-year program at Averett University and requires courses in Sociology and in Criminal Justice.

Specific course requirements for the Sociology/Criminal Justice Programs (4-year program and 2+2 program) may be found in the Criminal Justice section of the catalog, page 102.

Minor

Students electing a minor in Sociology must complete SOC 101 plus 15 hours in Sociology (9 hours must be at the 300-400 level).

Students must maintain a grade point average of at least 2.00 in the minor.

Courses of Instruction

- 101 Introduction to Sociology (3)
A scientific study of social behavior examining the topics of culture, socialization, social organization, social class, minority groups, social power and conflict, patterns of social interaction, the environment, and social change.
- 102 Social Problems (3)
An examination of the contemporary social problems of poverty, war, racism, sexism, domestic violence, and resource depletion. Theories of causation, cost, and possible solutions are discussed.
- 212 Death and Dying (Same as REL 212) (3)
The goal of this course is to examine the phenomenon of death and dying within various cultural and religious contexts with the view of understanding how such perspectives inform our understanding of the end of life. This approach will survey the principles and perspectives of science and the humanities as they apply to the experience of death and dying. Numerous studies and instructional methodologies will be examined for the purpose of correcting stereotypes and myths concerning death and the reactions of people to death and dying. The course will pay particular attention to the phenomenon of death and dying through the lenses of social science and religion.
- 216 Criminology (3)
An examination of criminal behavior and crimes against society. The crimes surveyed include murder, burglary, robbery, fraud, embezzlement, confidence games, and business crimes. The course provides an analysis of the social and legal factors affecting the nature of crime and the development of social responses to it.
- 230 Cultural Anthropology (3)
A comparative study of cultures around the world. Emphasis is on the variations in marriage and kinship, religion and magic, the arts, language, and social systems of politics, stratification, and economics.
- 306 Marriage and the Family (3)
A study of courtship, marriage, and the family, focusing on the problems in these relationships and promoting self-understanding in dynamic relationships.
- 309 Society and the Individual (3)
An examination of the individual in a changing society and the dynamic relationship between the person and society at large. Particular attention is paid to the topics of personality development, perception, symbolic communication, drug addiction, madness, social control, and deviant subcultures. Several theoretical perspectives are employed to analyze these topics.

- 317 American Minorities (3)
An examination of the conditions and problems of minority groups with particular emphasis on the social and psychological processes involved in prejudice. The focus is on racial, ethnic, class, and religious minorities, but consideration is given to women, the elderly, homosexuals, and the mentally and physically disabled as minority groups. Prerequisite: SOC 101.
- 320 Urban Sociology (3)
An examination of the origin and development of the city and urbanization as a social phenomenon. The organization, functions, and problems of modern urban communities are examined with special emphasis on population growth and environmental decay. Prerequisite: SOC 101.
- 329 Drugs and Substance Abuse (same as CRJ 329) (3)
An examination of drugs and substance abuse in American society. The course examines the social, physical, and mental effects drugs have on the user, as well as the impact they have on the family and society. Major issues include addiction, recovery, treatment, rehabilitation and relapse prevention.
- 332 Gender Roles in Society (3)
A study of the impact of gender roles on the institutions of our society including the family, church, school, economy, military, sports, media, health care, law and government. The biological, psychological, and sociocultural explanations for the acquisition of gender roles also will be examined as well as the importance of language and the nature of same sex and opposite sex relationships.
- 340 Juvenile Delinquency and Justice (Same as CRJ 340) (3)
An examination of the causes of juvenile delinquency, sociological theory, and the responses of the legal system. The extent of juvenile delinquency, the organization of police, judicial, and correctional response to juvenile offenders, the legal developments in statutory and case law, and the future of this system are examined.
- 344 Sports on the Silver Screen (3)
Most Americans are at least somewhat interested in sport and many are downright fanatical about it. This does not mean they necessarily understand sport. Today, every facet of sport culture is media culture. By looking at sports films, this course will examine how sport is linked to other institutions in society and the role sport plays in socializing youngsters in American values. Sport movies will also be used to examine the issues of race, gender, deviance and violence.
- 365 Aging and Society (3)
An exploration of the characteristics, experiences, problems, and needs of older persons. Issues examined include population changes, health, physical changes, social psychological processes of aging, social policies for the aged, and community programs and services for older adults. Prerequisite: SOC 101.
- 375 Corrections (Same as CRJ 375) (3)
A survey of prison, jail, and correction alternatives in the United States. Topics include federal, state, and local correctional facilities, sentencing, the prison experience, community correctional programs, probation and parole. Prerequisite: SOC 216 or CRJ 301.
- 401 Social Theory (3)
A review of the growth and development of sociology, the major theories of symbolic interactionism, conflict, functionalism, and the fundamentals of theory construction. Prerequisites: SOC 101 and six additional hours in sociology.
- 440 Senior Seminar (3)
A capstone course for the major. The student will complete a project combining theory, research, and evaluation methods on a selected topic in the major. A portion of the course will be devoted to career development. Prerequisite or corequisite: SOC 470.

445 Internship

(3)

A supervised work experience in a setting that requires the student to use sociological skills in a practical, applied program. A qualitative analysis and report are required. Prerequisite: 2.0 cumulative grade point average and permission of the instructor.

470 Research Methods

(3)

An examination of the methods sociologists use in gathering and evaluating scientific facts. Topics include surveys, participant observation, content analysis, questionnaire construction, and interviewing. Prerequisites: SOC 101 and six hours of sociology.