

Sociology
Majors
Student
Handbook

2009-
2010

University of
Massachusetts,
Amherst

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Welcome to our New Sociology Majors!

Sociology has one of the strongest departments on campus, and is one of the largest majors. Our faculty study all aspects of society, in the United States and around the world:

- Naomi Gerstel not only won the Distinguished Teacher Award; her article on marriage as a greedy institution has generated widespread debate
- Don Tomaskovic-Devey testifies in law suits on civil rights discrimination
- Amy Schalet's piece on teenage pregnancy and Sarah Palin appeared in the Washington Post, one of the nation's premier newspapers
- Andrew Papachristos has a grant to make the records on Al Capone and Chicago crime electronically available to all
- Agustin Lao-Montes has given talks all over South America on Afro-Latinos
- Wenona Rymond-Richmond is an expert on the genocide in Darfur
- Enobong Hannah Branch studies the intersection of race and gender in shaping conditions for the black poor
- Michelle Budig's article showing that women suffer a wage-penalty for being mothers was named as one of the ten most influential articles in the field of organizations and work
- And twenty other faculty make similar contributions

We want to work with you to give you the best possible major and college experience. Individually, we want to work with you to help you develop a strategy (that includes finding the right courses, internships, and study abroad options) that will stimulate you and make UMass rewarding. Through the Student Sociological Council, we want to get your input as a group, so that we can put on the events and activities you'd like to see, as well as hearing from you this year as we set out to revise the sociology major.

We look forward to getting to know you, and to working with you, to make your UMass and sociology experience a fun experience, a chance to analyze the social world we live in, and preparation for your future life.

With warm salutations,

Dan Clawson
Director of Undergraduate Studies

Christin Glodek
Chief Undergraduate Advisor

Advising

Several advisers are available to help you plan your course schedule, negotiate future plans, or just talk. Below is a list of advisors and their office hours for fall 2008. You must meet with an advisor in advance of registering for classes.

Christin Glodek

Chief Undergraduate Advisor

Thompson Hall 704

545-4056

advising@soc.umass.edu

Wendy Wilde

Department Manager/Staff Associate

Thompson Hall 734

advising@soc.umass.edu

Robert Garvey

Criminal Justice Internship Coordinator

Thompson Hall 732

robertgarvey@hsd.state.us

Barbara Tomaskovic-Devey

Honors Coordinator

Thompson 530

batomask@soc.umass.edu

Peer Advisors

Peer Advising

Thompson Hall 722

advising@soc.umass.edu

THE SOCIOLOGY MAJOR

Major Requirements

All Sociology majors must take a core set of courses. These are listed below, with choices when appropriate.

- 100 level Intro Course

103 Social Problems

105 Self, Society and Interpersonal Relations

106 Race, Gender, Class, and Ethnicity

107 Contemporary American Society

110 General Introduction to Sociology

- 212: Elementary Statistics

- 213: Data Collection and Analysis

- Satisfaction of the Jr. Writing Requirement

Each semester, several electives are designated as fulfilling the writing requirement.

- 401: Theory and Perspectives in Sociology

Concentrations

Within sociology, there are five concentrations. Upon declaring the major, sociology students choose a concentration, each with specific requirements beyond the set of core classes.

Concentration in Social Inequality and Diversity

In addition to the core courses, students must take four courses from the following list:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 222: The Family | 224: Social Class Inequality |
| 244: Sociology of Immigration | 329: Social Movements |
| 340: Race Relations | 361: Demography of Minority Groups |
| 383: Gender and Society | 387: Sexuality and Society |
| 397B: Martin Luther King, Jr. and Civil Rights Movement | |

In addition, take two electives, numbered 200 or higher.

Concentration in Social Service

Take three courses from the following list:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 222: The Family | 244: Sociology of Immigration |
| 328: Introduction to Social Work | 341: Social Welfare |
| 382: Sociology of Childhood | 385: Gender and Family |
| 442: Sociology of Medicine | 481: Sociology of Mental Health |

Take one course from the following:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 224: Social Class Inequality | 340: Race Relations |
| 383: Gender and Society | |

In addition, take two electives, numbered 200 or higher.

Concentration in Culture, Organizations, and Institutions

In addition to the core courses, students must take four courses from the following list:

220: Sociology of American Culture	222: The Family
321: Sociology of Religion	322: Sociology of Education
325: Political Sociology	329: Social Movements
332: Social Change in China	360: Urban Sociology
383: Gender and Society	385: Gender and Family
386: Complex Organizations	387: Sexuality and Society
397B: Martin Luther King, Jr. and Civil Rights Movement	442: Sociology of Medicine

In addition, take two electives, numbered 200 or higher.

Concentration in Criminal Justice

In addition to the core courses, students must take the following:

241: Criminology

and 342: Deviance and Social Order **or** 323: Sociology of Law

Take two courses 200 or higher with crime topic – courses vary by semester.

In addition, take two electives, numbered 200 or higher.

Individualized Concentration

In addition to core courses, student must take six courses: All must be numbered 200 or higher; three must be numbered 300 or higher.

Certificates and Letters

Criminal Justice Certificate

The Sociology Department at UMass Amherst has taken pride in providing the best and broadest traditional liberal arts education to students in the New England region planning careers in criminal justice. Because of recent innovations in higher education technology, we now offer new alternatives to traditional, often overcrowded classroom courses. In partnership with Continuing and Professional Education, the program offers distance learning courses that can be taken online *anywhere in the world and all year round*. Our students therefore have a wider choice of courses than ever before. Our courses are taught by experienced UMass Amherst and adjunct faculty--many of whom are nationally and internationally recognized experts engaged in cutting-edge research. This group currently includes a wide range of individuals from a retired chief of police with over 25 years of experience as an officer, sergeant, detective, and narcotics investigator to a university professor and behavioral scientist for the RAND corporation.

Students majoring in Sociology with a concentration in Crime, Law, and Deviance can obtain the Criminal Justice certificate by taking a “cognate course” (list available in the Sociology department). It is also strongly recommended that students complete practical training in the form of an internship.

Letter in Social Welfare/Social Work

The Sociology Department offers a letter in Social Welfare/Social Work to students interested in studies leading to graduate work in social work or social policy, or preparation for employment in social welfare programs or social work agencies upon graduation.

Participating Faculty

Richard Tessler	Mental Health, Medical Sociology, Social Psychology	Machmer W35B 545-5980	tessler@sadri.umass.edu
Lucille Halgin	Childhood Psychopathology	Tobin 403 545-0377	lhalgin@psych.umass.edu

Students who wish to learn about the Social Welfare/Social Work program may consult with either of the participating faculty members listed above. Formal application is made at the Sociology Undergraduate Office, Thompson Hall, Room 712. Students are advised to consult with participating faculty before proceeding with course planning. Upon receipt of evidence from the Undergraduate Registrar of satisfactory completion of the required work, the Chair of the Sociology Department will issue a letter of accomplishment to the student after their graduation. A copy of this letter will be kept in the Sociology department's file.

Requirements:

Students must take six of the following social welfare/social work courses:

Sociology

244 Sociology of Immigration
340 Race Relations
341 Social Welfare
383 Gender and Society
442 Sociology of Medicine
391W Introduction to Social Work
481 Sociol. of Mental Health

Political Science

181 Controversies in Public Policy
214 Urban Governmt. & Politics
220 Public Administration
280 Public Policy
380 Social Welfare Policy
381 Heath, Education & Arts Policy

Psychology

350 Child Psychology
355 Adolescent Psychology
360 Social Psychology
365 Psychology of Aging
370 Personality
380 Abnormal Psychology

Two of these courses must be Sociology courses.

One course must be a Political Science Course.

One course must be a Psychology Course.

The remaining two courses may be any two from the list above.

Contact the the Undergraduate Program Office Manager, Juliet Carvajal (545-4059, Thompson 722) jcarvajal@soc.umass.edu for an information sheet.

Letter in Social Research Analysis (UTSRA)

The Sociology Department offers an Undergraduate Traineeship in Social Research Analysis (UTSRA). Its purpose is to master basic skills in gathering and analyzing data. Students completing the letter can expect to obtain entry level jobs in environments where research is conducted. The letter also provides a strong foundation for students wishing to pursue a Master's Degree in fields like survey research, public health, program evaluation, market research, public policy and public administration,

Recipients need not be Sociology majors but formal application is made at the Sociology Undergraduate Office, Thompson 712. Students should see an advisor when selecting courses.

Requirements

Students take three required courses, one approved elective course and 6 credits of graded internship. To receive the letter, a cumulative GPA of 2.0 is required in the 18 credits associated with the undertaking.

Required Courses

- Sociol 212 Statistics (an introductory statistics course in another department may be substituted for Sociol 212)
- Sociol 213 Data Collection and Analysis
- Sociol 314 Field Research Methods

Elective Course

To be certain of receiving credit, students must consult the Program Co-ordinator when choosing their elective. Possibilities include advanced courses in research methods in the Sociology Department as well as in other departments. Potentially acceptable choices include

- Sociol 313 Survey Design and Analysis
- Psych 241 Methods of Inquiry in Psychology
- Res-Econ 313 Quantitative Methods in Applied Economics
- Geo-Sci 352 Computer Mapping
- PubHlth 324 Epidemiology in Public Health
- Comm 355 Behavioral Research in Communication

Internship

To be certain of receiving credit, students' internships must be approved by the Program Co-ordinator. In ordinary circumstances, students will enroll in two three-credit internships spread across two consecutive semesters, under the same sponsor. The Program Co-ordinator can help students locate sponsors. Possible sponsors include faculty members in the Sociology Department, faculty and professional staff registered with the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship (1001 DuBois Library), or agencies registered with the Field Experience Office (Goodell 417). Graded internships appear on students' records as Sociol 398.

List of Sociology Courses Fall 2009

New Courses are added on a regular basis, so this list may not be exhaustive

103 Social Problems	340 Race Relations
105 Self, Society & Interpersonal Relations	342 Deviance & Social Order
106 Race, Gender, Class & Ethnicity	346 S-Communities & Crime
110 General Intro Sociology	347 Corporate Crime
197F ST-New Student Seminar	382C Sociology of Childhood
	383 Gender & Society
212 Elementary Statistics	383H Gender and Society
213 Data Collection & Analysis	387 Sexuality & Society
220 Sociology of American Culture	388 Gender & Globalization
222 The Family	391GH Street Gangs & Public Policy
224 Sociology of Class Inequality	392 Racialization
240 Asian American Experience	394N Social Networks
241 Criminology	397B MLK and the Civil Rights Movement
242 Drugs & Society	397L Sociology of Love
291L Intro to Latin American Society	397 Special Topics*
	401 THEORY
314 Field Research Methods	442 Sociology of Medicine
320 Work And Society	481 Mental Health
328 Seminar: Introduction to Social Work	
329 Social Movements	

*Different seminars are offered under this general topic each semester. Please see the Sociology Department during preregistration week for the most up-to-date information on these courses.

PLEASE NOTE: Only **one** course taken in your major may count as a general education requirement.

Honors Program

Why should I join Commonwealth College? (the Honors Program at U-Mass)

- Because you will take lot of small classes, and get to know other students and teachers. It is important to get to know a couple of teachers well because they can write you recommendations for jobs, study-abroad programs, scholarships, fellowships, graduate school, etc.
- Because it will look good on your resume!
- Because you will learn more, in an academically challenging, enriched environment.

Why should I sign up for the Sociology Honors Track?

- Because more of your honors classes will be in Sociology, your major.
- Because you will be better prepared for graduate school in Sociology.
- Because you will get to know a couple of Sociology professors really well (see note above).
- Because you will learn more Sociology in an academically challenging, enriched environment.
- And you will get to know other Sociology and honors students in small classes.

How do I accomplish the Sociology Honors track?

You fulfill some of the general Com.College requirements: a GenEd honors course; a GenEd I honors course; English Writing 112 Honors (or exemption); and their Honors Seminar Requirement (replaces the Dean's Book series, and combines a "Welcome to Honors Education class" with a 1-credit professor-taught class)

And you fulfill OUR Honors requirements: 1 Sociology honors class of ANY level; one Sociology honors class of at least the 300-level; (all of these classes must receive grades of at least "B"); and a senior-year, year-long project on a Sociological topic (the Sociology Equivalent of a Capstone Class).

If you study abroad, one of your classes per study-abroad semester counts as an honors course.

How do I qualify for Commonwealth College and/or the Sociology Honors Track?

In addition to GPA requirements (check with ComCol; they are changing), you must write 3 application essays. Your professors and honors coordinator are allowed to help you with these essays. Go to ComCol's website for specifics

(<http://webapp.comcol.umass.edu/comcolapp/>), or see Dr. Barbara Tomaskovic-Devey (Thompson Room 622, batomask@soc.umass.edu) for help and advice.

Global Education Requirement

Knowledge about society and its problems is outstanding preparation for individuals to be intelligent and committed citizens of the world. Exposure to diverse cultural perspectives is essential to the development of an understanding of society and oneself. Therefore, all undergraduate majors in Anthropology, Communication, Economics, Journalism, Legal Studies, Political Science, **Sociology**, and Social Thought and Political Economy, and all BA students in Psychology, are required to satisfy the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences' Global Education Requirement. Students must select one of four options for completion: 1) Foreign Language Option, 2) Regional Study Option, 3) Individualized Study Option, or 4) Certificate or Minor Option. All options require the completion of at least 15 credits; all require that at least six of these be in a foreign language at a level above current ability.

All credits earned to satisfy the Global Education Requirement, except those taken to meet the Certificate Option (see below), must be in addition to credits earned to satisfy General Education and Major Requirements. All credits must be graded; they cannot be taken on a Pass/Fail basis. Credits can be earned in study abroad programs, with the approval of a College advisor in the Arts and Sciences Advising Center or a Certificate Program Advisor (if the Certificate Option is chosen).

1. Foreign Language Option: 15 credits of one foreign language *starting at a level above current ability*.

2. Regional Study Option: 6 credits of one foreign language *starting at a level above current ability*, and 9 credits, in any combination of additional regional foreign language courses, or courses taught in English which focus on the contemporary culture of the region of the world where the foreign language being studied is used. These 9 credits may be chosen from courses in language departments, or in the departments of History, Economics, Anthropology, Political Science, or a related department. The courses listed for this option focus on contemporary cultural understanding and are regularly offered. *Experimental, special topics and Five College courses are not included in this list, but may be used to fulfill this requirement with the approval of a college advisor.*

3. Individualized Regional Study Option: Students can create a regional or international study option different from the choices listed above. This must include 6 credits of one foreign language starting at a level above current ability, and 9 credits, in any combination of additional foreign language courses, or courses that focus upon a region or country, or on international topics. The credits may be chosen from courses in a language department or in the departments of History, Political Science, Economics, Communication, Anthropology, the Isenberg School of Management, or another related department. This option requires that the student create a plan of study and receive prior approval from a College advisor in the Arts and Sciences Advising Center.

4. Certificate or Minor Option: This option requires the successful completion of a UMass Amherst or Five College Area Studies Certificate program or the Modern European Studies Minor Program. Courses taken for this option may also be used to fulfill major or general education requirements. Please discuss requirements for this option with your Certificate Program Advisor. You can choose from the following programs:

African Studies Certificate: Contact [Ralph Faulkingham](#), 213 Machmer Hall, 545.2065

Asian Studies Certificate: Contact [Department of Asian Languages and Literature](#), 545.0886. This certificate program will be accepted only if 6 credits of one Asian language is completed as part of the program.

Latin American Studies Certificate: Contact [Gloria Bernabe-Ramos](#), 924 Thompson Hall, 545.4868

International Relations Certificate: Contact [M.J. Peterson](#), 208 Thompson Hall, 545.6171

Modern European Studies Minor: Contact [Jacqueline Urla](#), 208 Machmer Hall, 545.2869. This minor will be accepted only if 6 credits of one modern European language is taken as part of the program. These courses must be more advanced than the fourth semester language course (240-249), unless it is the student's second European foreign language, in which case it must be at or above the second semester level (120-129).

After you finish the requirements for the certificate or minor, you must provide the College Records Office in E-22 Machmer with a College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Certificate Option form that has been completed and signed by your Certificate Program Advisor. Forms are available in the College Records Office.

Regions of Study:

AFRICAN STUDIES REGION (*Languages- Arabic, French, Portuguese*)

ASIAN STUDIES REGION (*Languages- Chinese, Japanese*)

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES REGION (*Languages- Spanish, Portuguese*)

MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES REGION (*Languages- Arabic, Hebrew*)

NORTHERN EUROPEAN STUDIES REGION (*Languages- Dutch, German, Swedish*)

EASTERN EUROPEAN STUDIES REGION (*Languages- Polish, Russian, Yiddish*)

SOUTHERN EUROPEAN STUDIES REGION (*Languages- French, Greek, Italian, Latin, Portuguese, Spanish*)

Why Study Abroad?

10 Compelling Reasons to See the World

1. Earn academic credit while traveling the world
2. Enhance your resume
3. Immerse yourself in another culture
4. Improve your foreign language skills...or take courses taught in English
5. Establish lifetime friendships with people from around the world
6. Gain a new perspective on the U.S. by living elsewhere in the world
7. You can't afford *not* to study abroad
8. Gain life-changing, life-enhancing skills
9. Graduate schools are impressed
10. Have fun!

1. Earn academic credit toward your UMass degree, while traveling the world!

With planning, you can take courses specific to your major, minor, general education or global education requirements. You may be able to complete a second major or a certificate program. All grades and credits from abroad will become part of your UMass transcript and degree when you study on a UMass, partner or approved abroad program.

2. Compete in the global marketplace: enhance your resume

Your experience studying abroad will set you apart from other students in the increasingly competitive global job marketplace. The skills you gain while living abroad will give you an advantage in just about any career field. Did you know fewer than 10% of state university students have had this experience yet more than 60% of private college students do? Be counted among the growing number of UMass undergraduates (15%) and become a "U.S. world citizen."

3. Immerse yourself in another culture

Studying abroad is a unique opportunity to actually *live* in another culture, not simply be a tourist or observer. Being a student in another country allows you an opportunity to experience the traditions, culture and society from the inside of a place.

4. Improve your foreign language skills

Intimidated by another language? Perhaps you're ready to become fluent in your second or even third language? Whether you've failed every language class ever taken in the U.S. or are ready for the next level toward fluency, everyone can enhance their language skills when studying abroad. Learn a language by living it, not by reading it in a textbook.

English only? Many programs are in English only institutions such as UK, Australia, South Africa, Egypt, India and more. Other programs offer the opportunity to take courses in English in a non-English speaking country.

5. Make new friendships that will last a lifetime

Bonding in the common experience of living in another culture, you will make friends that last a lifetime who come from all over the U.S., your host country and around the world. Simply becoming a "world citizen" by studying abroad gives you the advantage of meeting people from other cultures and countries. Some will be world travelers, like you. Others will be similar to the majority of US citizens who never own a passport nor travel far from home. You will be a personal ambassador and link to the U.S for those in your host country who never leave home.

6. Gain a new perspective about the U.S.

See your home from the perspective of others. You'll gain a more informed perspective on world affairs and the role of the United States in international politics when you engage in conversations with students and citizens from your host country. You will begin to understand the range of opinions and complexities when asking questions from a totally different place in the world. You will bring those insights home when you return.

7. Studying abroad is affordable!

Study abroad does cost more than studying on campus but with planning, all students can afford to go abroad as an undergraduate. If you currently receive financial aid, your aid can apply to your program abroad. There are also scholarships (need- and merit-based), grants and low-interest loans available to students studying abroad. In addition, the cost of education abroad programs varies. You can find a program that fits your budget. Studying abroad is not just for wealthy students; we can help you find a program that suits you. Your options include a full academic year or going as part of a class with an international travel option with your professor during a spring break or winter or January.

We want to assist each and every one of you in finding an international experience.

8. Gain invaluable life-changing and life-enhancing skills

Increased self-confidence, independence, self-sufficiency, patience, adaptability, cross-cultural communications skills, and a willingness to take on new challenges are all examples of the many personal benefits of studying abroad. The skills you gain while studying abroad will last a lifetime

9. Graduate schools are impressed!

Your experiences abroad as an undergraduate will enhance your application and give you additional information that helps you stand apart in the selection process. Some students use research done while abroad to clarify goals when applying to graduate programs. Whether you're bound for medical school or an MBA, your international undergraduate experience can have a profound impact.

10. Have fun!

Meet new people, try new foods, have new adventures! Take advantage of your time abroad to expand your horizons academically and personally. Travel on weekends or during school breaks to other cities or countries. At the end of a summer, semester or year abroad, come home filled with stories about your experiences, and excited to share them with others!

Careers and Internships*

What Can I do with a Major in Sociology?

A degree in sociology is an excellent springboard for entering the world of business, industry, and organizations. The sociological perspective is crucial for working in today's multiethnic and multinational business environment.

An undergraduate sociology major provides valuable insights into social factors such as race, ethnicity, gender, age, education, and social class that affect work and how organizations operate.

An advanced degree specializing in the sociology of work, occupations, labor, and organizations can lead to teaching, research, and applied roles.

Many applied fields are grounded in sociological theories and concepts. Sociological research influences the way we think about work and organizational life, and enables us to discover new knowledge. Sociology is a valuable preparation for careers in modern organizational settings.

Prospects for the BA/BS Sociology Major

Students who graduate with a B.A. or B.S. in sociology and enter the job market directly will find themselves competing with other liberal arts students, but with an advantage-- knowledge of key social factors and a firm grasp on research design and methods. This advantage of the B.A. sociology program provides breadth and the potential for adaptability.

Although few occupations include "sociologist" in their title at the bachelor's level, the sociological perspective is excellent preparation for a wide variety of occupations. You should look for an entry-level job, gain experience through internships, and watch for opportunities of specialized training or advanced education.

If you are approaching graduation (or have recently graduated) and are seeking a job in the business world, focus on general areas of interest that motivate you. Sociology majors who are interested in organizational theory gravitate toward organizational planning, development, and training. Those who study the sociology of work and occupations may pursue careers in human resources management (personnel) and industrial relations. Students who especially enjoy research design, statistics, and data analysis seek positions in marketing, public relations, and organizational research. Courses in economic and political sociology, cultural diversity, racial and ethnic relations, and social conflict can lead to positions in international business.

Regardless of your career path, the breadth of your preparation as a liberal arts major is very important.

The Employer's Perspective

Corporate interviewers are looking for applicants who display purpose and commitment to their future occupation. This does not mean that B.A. graduates will be hired as industrial sociologists, but that applicants may be considered for junior positions in corporate research, human resources, management, sales, or public relations.

Interviewers will seek to determine if applicants can easily adapt to organizational life in the private sector. In particular, this means the ability to work well with others as part of a team. Employers value graduates who have a keen understanding of the impact of cultural, racial, and gender diversity in the workplace, and who comprehend the global nature of business and industry.

During the job search, B.A./B.S. sociology graduates should stress their work and internship experience, analytical skills, oral and written communication skills, computer literacy, and knowledge of statistics and research design.

Those who are determined to succeed will be at an advantage. Ambition, drive, and competition are positive words in the world of business and organizations.

Tips for the job search...

- Acquire a broad educational background
- Gain experience through jobs, internships, and volunteer work
- Obtain skills in public speaking, writing, and computer applications
- Focus on an area that interests you (for example, human resources, industrial relations, management, marketing, public relations, or sales) and learn as much as you can before applying for positions.

Prospects for the MA/PhD Sociology Graduate

Doctoral programs in sociology prepare graduates for careers in teaching/research positions in colleges and universities (academic settings) and for research/program development careers in business, industry, and organizations (applied settings).

An academic career usually requires both a Master's and a Ph.D. degree. To be successful, you should like teaching and research. A flexible schedule and varied set of activities are advantages of the academic work life. Opportunities for academic administration provide another career avenue.

Those with advanced sociology degrees can compete for positions in corporations, think tanks, and agencies that focus on research; statistical analysis; program development, management, analysis, and evaluation; corporate planning and restructuring; and many other fields. They can also work collaboratively or independently as contract researchers and organizational consultants.

An advanced degree is crucial for working inside business, industry, and organizations as a consulting sociologist. For more responsible positions, it is worth combining M.A. level training with work experience. In the business world, people are evaluated primarily in terms of their experience, professional performance, motivation, drive, and ability to learn new skills.

Sociology graduates may wish to obtain an M.B.A. (Master's of Business Administration) in order to enhance starting salaries and lifetime earnings. Graduate education in sociology provides additional training in advanced quantitative and qualitative research methods, as well as computerized data analysis. Advanced courses in industrial sociology, group processes, organizational analysis and development, labor/industrial relations, industrial psychology, marketing, economics, and public relations round out the graduate program.

Research competence acquired in graduate school broadens employment opportunities, as does in-depth knowledge of substantive areas in sociology.

Sociological Roles Relating to Business, Industry, and Work

Sociologists with an M.A. or Ph.D. combine their advanced training in research methods, statistics, and theory with a substantive focus in such specialties as organizational sociology, sociology of work and occupations, sociology of labor, or medical sociology. They follow three major career paths that often overlap:

- Teaching in college or university settings
- Working in corporate and industrial organizations
- Consulting to business and industry

Practitioner Roles

- Organizational Researcher in Industry, Government, or other Service Organization
- Divisional Staff Position
- Independent Consultant
- Trainer or Field Employee
- Manager
- Owner

In *applied settings*, sociology practitioners work in research departments in corporations and participate in organizational analysis and development. They engage in research and strategic planning in corporate departments of human resources, industrial relations, public relations, and marketing. Some are supervisors, managers, and directors of large organizations. Others establish their own consulting and research companies or serve as staff researchers in private research firms and think tanks.

The practitioner's life is appealing to those who like the challenge of applying knowledge to everyday problems, and seeing immediate outcomes of their work.

Monetary rewards are usually generous, especially at the top of the career ladder. Opportunities for decision-making increase as one's responsibility and experiences broaden. Practitioners often adhere to an established work schedule, work cooperatively as part of a team, and work in bureaucracies. They blend research skills and substantive area knowledge into a powerful combination. For example:

A sociologist serving as vice president for research in a large insurance company applies both methodological expertise and understanding of ethnicity and gender in developing staff training programs and employee benefit packages.

A sociologist specializing in urban and community research consults for a multinational corporation developing new towns.

A sociologist in a large advertising company supervises marketing research operations and organizational development workshops.

Academic Roles

- Teacher and Trainer
- Academic Researcher
- Academic Consultant
- Mediator and/or Arbitrator

In *academic settings*, sociologists teach in colleges and universities and contribute to research and scholarship on theory, work, occupations, labor relations, or organizations. Many serve as consultants to organizations and businesses.

As part of the academic role, sociologists may conduct research in multinational corporations, factories, banks, retail stores, government agencies, hospitals, restaurants, nursing homes, and countless other settings. Their findings may influence how the business world works.

Academic sociologists conduct training programs and contract research for businesses and organizations; they propose and evaluate various personnel and industrial relations programs. Some professors are labor relations experts who serve as mediators of work disputes.

Further Reading

Embarking upon a Career with an Undergraduate Degree in Sociology ~ By Janet Mancini Billson and Bettina J. Huber. Designed for undergraduate sociology majors seeking employment. Discusses how to identify your interests and skills, the advantages of informational interviewing, how to design a resume, and how to conduct an employment interview.

- Taken from the American Sociological Association website www.asanet.org

Faculty Interests and Research

Doug Anderton

Historical and Mathematical Population Studies, Statistics, Environmental Health and Policy.

Callie Burt

Sociology of Crime, Deviance and Social Control, Sociology of Law, Sex/Gender, Crime and Justice, Quantitative Methods

Enobong Hannah Branch (on leave Fall and Spring 2009)

Social inequalities (race, gender, and class), intersectional theory, Historical Demography, and Work.

Michelle Budig

Gender Inequality in Labor Markets, Work and Family Conflict, Feminist Theory, Contingent Labor and Self-Employment, Quantitative Methods.

Dan Clawson

Labor Movements, Work Hours and Schedules, Corporatization of the University, Health Care, Social Movements

David Cort

Immigration, Social Stratification, Social Demography, Quantitative Methods, Race/Ethnicity

Emily Erikson

Comparative Historical Sociology, Social Networks, Economic Sociology, Complex Organization, and Foreign Trade.

Robert Faulkner

Business and Professions, Markets, Careers, Corporate Crime, Qualitative Methods.

Naomi Gerstel

Family, Families and Work, Gender, Carework, Race and Care

Christin Glodek

Human Rights, Public Policy

Sanjiv Gupta

Family Demography and Sociology, Gender Stratification, Methods.

Janice Irvine

Culture, Sexuality Studies.

Agustin Lao Montes

World-historical sociology and globalization, political sociology (especially social movements, & sociology of state and nationalism), social identities & social inequalities, sociology of race and ethnicity, urban sociology/community-university partnerships, African Diaspora and Latino Studies, sociology of culture and cultural studies, and contemporary theory and postcolonial critique.

C.N. Le

Race and Ethnicity, Immigration, Asian American Studies, Structural and Socioeconomic Measures of Assimilation, Interracial Marriage, Immigrant Self-Employment

Jennifer Lundquist

Social stratification, race and ethnicity, family, immigration, fertility, social demography.

Noriko Milman

Sociology of Education, Childhood & Youth, Race & Ethnicity, Social Inequality, Qualitative Methods

Joya Misra

Comparative Political Economy, Race/Gender/Class, Welfare States, Methods & Statistics.

Andrew Papachristos

Social network analysis to examine: (1) the social structures and group processes at the heart of interpersonal violence and delinquency; (2) issues of group dominance and reciprocity; and (3) the use of violence and honor as measures of social control.

Gerald Platt

Social Movements, Theory, History and Sociology of the Civil Rights Movement.

Sujani Reddy (Fall 2009 Visiting Five College Professor)

Race, Imperialism, Social Movements, Migration, Diaspora

Wenona Rymond-Richmond (on leave Fall 2009)

Crime and Deviance; Sociology of Law; Urban Sociology; Inequality; Race and Ethnicity; Qualitative Sociology; Sociology of Culture; Social Movements

Amy Schalet

Culture, Sexuality, the Welfare State, Theory and Qualitative Methods

Richard Tessler

Family Experiences with Mental Illness, Veterans and Homelessness, International Adoption.

Millicent Thayer

Sociology of Gender, Feminist Theory, Social Movements, Sociology of Globalization and Development, Qualitative Methods, Gender and Globalization, Women's Movements in the Global South, Feminisms in the Latin/a Americas, Feminist Methodologies

Barbara Tomaskovic Devey

Sociology of love, childhood sociology, honors program

Don Tomaskovic Devey

Organizations and Inequality, Economic Sociology, Sex, Race and Class Processes, Methodology.

Melissa Wooten

Social movement and discourse theories, using institutional theory as a means of understanding how the degree distributions of historically black colleges and universities changed following the American civil rights movement

Jonathan Wynn

Sociology of Culture, Media, Technology & Sociology, Sociological Theory, Urban Sociology, Qualitative Methods

Robert Zussman

Medical Sociology, Occupations and Professions, Sociology of the Self.

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