What is Sociology?

Sociology is the study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Sociologists investigate the structure of groups, organizations, and societies, and how people interact within these contexts. Since human behavior is shaped by social factors, the subject matter of sociology ranges from the intimate family to the hostile mob; from organized crime to religious cults; from the divisions of race, gender and social class to the shared beliefs of a common culture; and from the sociology of work to the sociology of sports. In fact, few fields have such broad scope and relevance for research, theory, and application of knowledge.

Sociology provides many distinctive perspectives on the world, generating new ideas and critiquing the old. The field also offers a range of research techniques that can be applied to virtually any aspect of social life: street crime and delinquency, corporate downsizing, how people express emotions, welfare or education reform, how families differ and flourish, or problems of peace and war. Because sociology addresses the most challenging issues of our time, it is a rapidly expanding field whose potential is increasingly tapped by those who craft policies and create programs. Sociologists understand social inequality, patterns of behavior, forces for social change and resistance, and how social systems work.

~American Sociological Association
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The major requires **12 courses** (minimum 38 hours) in Sociology and a GPA of a 2.0 or higher within the major.

**I. REQUIRED COURSES**

The following **3 courses** are required for the major:

- QTM 100: Introduction to Statistical Inference **OR** SOC 356: Social Research II
- SOC 355: Social Research I
- SOC 457: Development of Sociological Theory

**II. FOUNDATION COURSES**

Majors must take **2 courses** from the following group (you may select any two):

- SOC 214: Class, Status, & Power
- SOC 221: Culture & Society
- SOC 245: Individual & Society
- SOC 247: Racial & Ethnic Relations
- SOC 266: Global Change

**III. ELECTIVES**

The remaining **7 courses** are electives. Most sociology courses count as electives, with the following conditions:

- No more than 2 courses (8 hours) from the SOC 497R-499R series may count as an elective toward the major.
- You may take 1 elective S/U. Most students don't do this because it is their major, but it is an option. All other courses must be taken for a letter grade.
- Majors who study abroad can take up to 3 of their sociology electives abroad.

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**Recommended Sociology Major Course Plan**

**Freshman Year:** a course in the general introductory series of SOC 101, 103, 105 and/

**Sophomore Year:** QTM 100, SOC foundation courses, SOC 355 and/or electives

**Junior Year:** SOC 355, SOC 457, and/or SOC electives

**Senior Year:** SOC 457, and/or SOC electives
Sociology Major Checklist (B.A. Program)

Name: ___________________________________________  Advisor: _______________

I. REQUIRED COURSES
The following 3 courses are required for the major:

☐ 1. QTM 100: Introduction to Statistical Inference OR SOC 356: Social Research II
☐ 2. SOC 355: Social Research I
☐ 3. SOC 457: Development of Sociological Theory

II. FOUNDATION COURSES
Majors must take 2 courses from the following group (you may select any two):

☐ 1. ___________________________  →  SOC 214: Class, Status, & Power
☐ 2. ___________________________  SOC 221: Culture & Society
                                             SOC 245: Individual & Society
                                             SOC 247: Racial & Ethnic Relations
                                             SOC 266: Global Change

III. ELECTIVES
The remaining 7 courses are electives.

☐ 1. ___________________________
☐ 2. ___________________________
☐ 3. ___________________________
☐ 4. ___________________________
☐ 5. ___________________________
☐ 6. ___________________________
☐ 7. ___________________________

- No more than 2 courses (8 hours) from the SOC 497R-499R series may count as an elective
- You may take 1 elective S/U. Most students don't do this because it is their major, but it is an option. All other courses must be taken for a letter grade.
- Majors who study abroad can take up to 3 of their sociology electives abroad.
Special Major Policies

CROSS-LISTED COURSES: In OPUS, if a class has a combined section with SOC, it will count toward the major even if you are enrolled through the non-sociology section of the class. (i.e.: If you take SOC 247/AAS 247: Racial & Ethnic Relations, through the AAS 247 section, this will still count toward the major.)

SOCIOLOGY/PSYCHOLOGY DOUBLE MAJORS: As a SOC/PSYC double major, if you have successfully completed both PSYC 230: Applied Statistic for Psych and PSYC 200WR: Lab in Experimental Methods you are exempted from SOC 355: Social Research I, but you need to replace it with an elective.

OXFORD CONTINUEES: Sociology courses taken at Oxford count toward the major.

Sociology Courses that Satisfy GERs

I. Continuing Writing Requirement (WRT) Courses
   Must be listed as WRT on OPUS under Rq Desgn
   SOC 355W: Social Research I
   SOC 457W: Development of Sociological Theory
   SOC 494RW: Internship Program
   SOC 495BW: Honors (second sequence of Honors Program)

II. History, Society and Cultures (HSC) Courses
   to see the specific GER sociology course listings, please visit:
   http://catalog.college.emory.edu/academic/ger/
   Click “History, Society, Culture (HSC)- Area VI”
Sociology/Religion Joint Major (RELSOC)

This joint major is an option for students with strong interests in both fields. It is intended to show how the theoretical and methodological resources of sociology can aid in the study of religious traditions, and how insights gleaned from the study of religion can enrich a sociological understanding of culture.

Requirements:

1. A minimum of 48 hours (14 courses) as follows:
   a. 16 hours (5 courses):
      • One tradition-specific course in religion (with approval of advisor)
      • REL 300
      • One course selected from SOC 201, 214, 245
      • SOC 355 or SOC 355W
      • QTM 100
   
   b. 26 hours (8 courses) from the two departments:
      • REL 490
      • 3 courses in the Religion Department, two at the 300 level or higher
      • SOC 333 or SOC 221
      • SOC 457W
   
   c. 6 hours (2 courses):
      • 2 courses from either or both of the departments, at least one at the 200 level or higher

2. The course work of individual students should be organized in consultation with an advisor.

3. Honors in the joint major may be earned by satisfying the honors requirements of either department.
Peer Mentors

A select group of senior sociology majors serve as peer mentors to younger sociology majors, minors, and those interested in majoring or minoring in sociology.

Please refer to the Peer Mentor Handout Sheet, available from the Undergraduate Program Coordinator in Tarbutton Hall.

You can contact the peer mentors directly via email or using the Blackboard Sociology Group.

Peer mentors are able to answer questions on a wide variety of topics, including questions about:

- the major and minor in sociology
- the pros and cons of double majoring
- internships, studying abroad, favorite classes
- post-college career plans
- making the transition from Oxford to Emory
- the Honors Program in sociology
The Sociology Department has developed informal career concentrations in five different fields to better assist students in their career planning. For more information, including additional courses see your advisor and/or the Director of Undergraduate Studies (Dr. Mullis).

1. The **Health Services** concentration is intended for students interested in medical school, schools of public health, other medical graduate programs, and employment in the healthcare industry:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended Courses</th>
<th>Other Relevant Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 230: Sociological Aspects of Health &amp; Illness</td>
<td>SOC 221: Culture &amp; Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 330: Mental Health &amp; Well-Being</td>
<td>SOC 245: Individual &amp; Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 348: Aging in Society</td>
<td>SOC 247: Race &amp; Ethnic Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 389: Social Gerontology</td>
<td>SOC 347: Gender &amp; Global Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 390: Comp Health Care Systems (Sum Study Abroad)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2. The concentration in **Media Industries** is intended for students interested in journalism, broadcasting, advertising, public relations, and related areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended Courses</th>
<th>Other Relevant Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 221: Culture &amp; Society</td>
<td>SOC 245: Individual &amp; Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 343: Mass Media and Social Influence</td>
<td>SOC 266: Global Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 327: Language &amp; Symbols of Media</td>
<td>SOC 325: Sociology of Film</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 443: Sociology of Music</td>
<td>SOC 465: Social Interaction Processes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. The concentration in **Law and Criminal Justice** is intended for students with an interest in criminal justice, law, police and court services, and corrections.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended Courses</th>
<th>Other Relevant Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 220: Juvenile Delinquency</td>
<td>SOC 214: Class, Status, &amp; Power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 249: Criminology</td>
<td>SOC 245: Individual &amp; Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 350: Sociology of Law</td>
<td>SOC 247: Race &amp; Ethnic Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 445: Miscarriages of Justice</td>
<td>SOC 349: Gender &amp; Crime</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. The **Education and Social Services** concentration is intended to prepare students for employment in social service organizations, as well as graduate programs in social work or social services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended Courses</th>
<th>Other Relevant Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 214: Class, Status, &amp; Power</td>
<td>SOC 213: Sociology of the Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 245: Individual &amp; Society</td>
<td>SOC 330: Mental Health &amp; Well-Being</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 247: Race &amp; Ethnic Relations</td>
<td>SOC 389: Social Gerontology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. The concentration in **Global Studies** provides students interested in business and government work, international law, international health and welfare, and politics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended Courses</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 266: Global Change</td>
<td>SOC 105: Intro Population &amp; Human Ecology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Undergraduate Program in Sociology offers a variety of special features and opportunities, shown over the following pages.

### Research in Sociology at Emory (RISE) Program

The Sociology Department’s RISE program provides an opportunity for undergraduates to gain research experience in sociology research projects. The RISE program pairs qualified undergraduates with either Faculty or Graduate Students (under the supervision of a Faculty member) who need research assistance.

Undergraduates accepted into this program will receive Sociology course credit for their research work. Typically, students will **work (one semester) either: 9 hours per week and receive 3 course credits, or 12 hours per week and receive 4 course credits** (as SOC 497R: Directed Research). This course may be repeated, but any credit hours over the initial 3-4 will be graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (the first 3-4 credit hours may be taken for a grade or S/US).

Undergraduate Sociology Majors or Minors may **apply** for these positions (see application information on the website). We encourage any interested majors or minors to apply.

**Tips for best applications:**

- High GPA in Sociology classes
- Good research skills
- Flexible research interests

The type of research work required will vary by faculty member or graduate student. Examples of the kind of assistance that may be requested: survey pilot testing assistance; data entry; interview transcription; literature summaries; study participant recruitment.

### Honors Program (SOC 495A/B)

We encourage majors who anticipate having at least a 3.5 overall GPA and a 3.7 sociology major GPA at the end of the fall semester of their junior year to consider applying for the honors program. In order to graduate with honors, you will have to complete a thesis during your last two semesters and take at least one graduate course. Most find participating in honors to be the best part of their college experience and it also better prepares you for graduate training. Dr. Mullis will contact eligible students in the Spring semester of their junior year. To prepare as a junior, you should start thinking about possible thesis topics, talk to your advisor and other relevant faculty members, and take SOC 355: Social Research I.

For additional information about our honors program, please visit: [http://sociology.emory.edu/home/undergraduate/honors/index.html](http://sociology.emory.edu/home/undergraduate/honors/index.html)

For recent titles of honors theses by our undergraduates, please visit: [http://sociology.emory.edu/home/undergraduate/honors/honors-graduates.html](http://sociology.emory.edu/home/undergraduate/honors/honors-graduates.html)
SouthEastern Undergraduate Sociology Symposium (SEUSS)

Co-sponsored by Emory University and Morehouse College Departments of Sociology. The symposium offers students the opportunity to present their own original papers at a professional conference, in a 12-15 minute presentation. Regardless of your career plans, preparing and presenting your paper is a great learning experience. It provides an opportunity for you to get public speaking and professionalization under your belts in preparation for graduate school, law school, public health, etc. We strongly encourage you to consider submitting a good paper you have written in one of your sociology classes. If you are considering a paper for presentation, talk with the instructor for whom you wrote the paper to see if your paper is appropriate.

For all the latest details, please visit:  
http://www.sociology.emory.edu/SEUSS

The SEUSS conference takes place each year in February.

Internship Program (SOC 494R)

The Sociology Department has a wonderful internship program. Doing an internship is a useful way to test possible career options and an excellent way of applying what you have learned in the classroom to experiences in organizations and agencies in the “real world.” Sociology students have had internships in a variety of private industry, non-profit and government settings such as:

- ACLU
- Emory's Center for Women
- International Rescue Committee
- CNN
- Fox News
- Make-a-Wish Foundation
- DeKalb County Juvenile Court
- Georgia Commission on Family Violence
- Turner Entertainment

All interns are expected to write two papers related to their work and attend several seminar sessions. Contact Dr. Karen Hegtvedt (khegtve@emory.edu), the Internship Coordinator, for more information.
Study Abroad (SOC 390: Health Care & Society Seminar)

The Department of Sociology and the School of Public Health at Emory University jointly offer a six-week program focusing on issues and problems in health care delivery in Great Britain and the United States. Emphasis is on the comparative social organization of the two systems, contrasting the evolution and current state of the two health care systems.

For more information about this program, please contact:

Center for International Programs Abroad (CIPA)
1385 Oxford Road
Atlanta, GA 30322
(404) 727-2240
cipa@emory.edu

Application Form: www.cipa.emory.edu/summer/start/emory.cfm
Deadline: view website for details
Maximum Enrollment: 20 students

Financial Aid: http://www.cipa.emory.edu/summer/finance.cfm
Emory College students who qualify are considered by the Office of Financial Aid for a summer aid award after registration in summer study abroad classes. The amount of the award depends on the number of credits and current financial aid package. Students currently receiving financial aid from Emory are typically eligible.

Alpha Kappa Delta (International Sociology Honors Society)

AKD is the international sociology organization that honors outstanding majors in the discipline.

To be eligible:

1. you must have completed at least 5 courses (20 hours) in sociology
2. have a minimum 3.4 GPA overall
3. have a minimum 3.6 GPA in sociology

Eligible students are invited early in the spring semester of their junior year or senior year and are inducted in April. If you are eligible but do not receive an invitation, please let Dr. Mullis know.

You can visit the Emory AKD website at the following address: http://alphakappadelta.org/
What Can I Do with a Sociology Major?

Just about anything! Any social science major from a top university will be well received in most employment fields and graduate schools. Most of the US News and World Report Top 20 National Universities of 2010 focus on liberal arts disciplines for undergraduate education. For example, only 7 of these top 20 universities have undergraduate business degrees or dedicated business majors. Students interested in business often major in one of the social sciences — economics, sociology, political science, psychology.

Here is a look at what some of our recent sociology major graduates are doing:

**Law School**
JD programs at UCLA School of Law, University of Michigan School of Law, Emory University Law School, Vanderbilt University Law School, University of Virginia School of Law, JD program at Fordham Law School

**Medical School & School of Public Health**
- MD programs at University of Maryland School of Medicine; Georgetown University School of Medicine
- Master of Health Administration (MHA), Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- Master of Public Health (MPH); Emory University Rollins School of Public health; Columbia University; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

**Other Graduate Schools**
- Master in Public Policy (MPP), Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan
- MA in Journalism, Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University
- MS in Education at University of Pennsylvania; MA in Student Affairs/Higher Education at UCLA
- Master in Social Work (MSW) at Columbia; University of Chicago; University of Michigan
- PhD in Sociology at University of Pennsylvania; Stanford; Vanderbilt; Duke; Yale

**Employment**

**Healthcare Sector**
- CDC, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion: Program Assistant
- University of Michigan School of Public Health, Dept. of Health Behavior & Education: Research Assistant
- NYC Department of Healthy, Public Health Engineering Assistant
- Washington University, St. Louis, School of Medicine: Research Project Coordinator, Obesity & Children Study

**Media & Cultural Industries**
- HBO: Production Assistant
- Fox News New York City: Production Assistant
- Internet Marketing Inc., NYC: Marketing Consultant
- BBDO: Account Management

**Law & Business**
- AT&T: Paralegal
- Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Asia, Corporate Management and Communications Division: Intern Coca-Cola Enterprises, Recycling Division: Data Services & Consultant Intern

**Education & Non-Profits**
- Teach For America: Tulsa, OK; Atlanta, GA; Charlotte, NC
- Oxford College at Emory: Admissions Advisor
- Fulbright Teaching Fellowship in Austria
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Research Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert Agnew</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bagnew@emory.edu">bagnew@emory.edu</a></td>
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<td>criminology &amp; delinquency; social psychology; theory</td>
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<td>stratification/mobility; sociology of sex and gender; race/ethnic/minority relations</td>
</tr>
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<td>231 Tarbutton Hall</td>
<td>culture; music media; formal organizations; economic sociology</td>
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<td>Roberto Franzosi</td>
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<td>212 Tarbutton Hall</td>
<td>methods; culture; historical sociology; social protest</td>
</tr>
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<td>Karen A. Hegtvedt</td>
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</tr>
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</tr>
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<td>209 Tarbutton Hall</td>
<td>social epidemiology; sociology of religion; individual &amp; population aging &amp; the life course; medicine &amp; health care; social science writing</td>
</tr>
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<td>Cathryn Johnson</td>
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<td>Inequality; gender; education and family</td>
</tr>
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<td>Corey Lee Keyes</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ckeyes@emory.edu">ckeyes@emory.edu</a></td>
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<td>mental health; aging; social psychology; public health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>global change; culture; religion; theory</td>
</tr>
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<td>law; social control; deviant behavior</td>
</tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:rrubin@emory.edu">rrubin@emory.edu</a></td>
<td>217D Tarbutton Hall</td>
<td>political economy of development; political sociology; sociology of education; organization</td>
</tr>
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<td>Tracy Scott</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tscott@emory.edu">tscott@emory.edu</a></td>
<td>230 Tarbutton Hall</td>
<td>culture; gender; health care organizations; qualitative methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abigail Sewell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:abigail.a.sewell@emory.edu">abigail.a.sewell@emory.edu</a></td>
<td>204 Tarbutton Hall</td>
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<td>7029 Claudia Nance Rollins Building</td>
<td>social demography; family &amp; medical sociology; gender; aging</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>