

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. Sociologists study how deviance, crime, marriage, family, politics, education, race, gender and religion affect individuals. The AA in Sociology allows students to choose from *two degree tracks*, the Associate of Arts in Traditional Sociology or the Associate of Arts in Applied Sociology. For both tracks, the student will receive an AA in Sociology. For the Applied Sociology track, students will receive an AA in Sociology, field training in a concentration of their choice and a Certification in Applied Sociology awarded by the National Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology.

The subject matter of sociology ranges from the intimate, interpersonal level (microsociology) to the institutional, national level (macrosociology). Examples can include Sociology of: the family; intergroup relations; civil rights, labor rights or other aspects of the law; minority experiences; sports; gender, sex and sexuality; the workplace; technology; medicine and nursing; media; and computers, digital technology, information security and the development and use of the internet over time. Sociology is capable of moving from the individual level to the collective level in all of its fields. In fact, few fields have such broad scope and relevance for research, theory and application of knowledge.

Some important differences between Traditional and Applied Sociology include the following:

- **Applied Sociology:**
 - Is an interdisciplinary, highly customizable field that lends itself to the student's interests, future education or as a transfer major
 - Is a client-centered field in which practitioners utilize research, analysis and application of sociological skills and concepts to work towards a client-defined goal.
 - Is capable of working in the private, public, nonprofit or community-oriented sectors
 - Is action-oriented, focusing on administration, advocacy and adjustments that foster client and organization success
 - Provides clients with real world, local and national solutions to problems and challenges
 - Design and implement practical projects, policies or solutions for their clients
- **Traditional Sociology:**
 - Investigates the social world in order to provide solutions to social problems.
 - Focuses on a research and data-oriented approach, where data is collected, analyzed and shared with the academic and local community
 - Utilized a combination of the scientific method and sociological theory in order to deeply understand social problems, social entities, their functions and their dysfunctions
 - Approaches the world from an interdisciplinary perspective in order to understand social interactions, social problems and social harmony

- Works with policy makers, community members and academics to instill change in society

Sociology is an excellent transfer program. Since the study of Sociology covers the basic structures of human society with its cultures and stratifications, it is a popular major among those who want to enter career fields that address social change and social support. It provides a strong foundation for those working within other Social Science fields and provides required knowledge for those entering Pre-Med, Nursing, and Epidemiology. Examples include: human resources, human services, public relations, government agencies, psychology and social psychology, teaching, medical care, human rights, community relations, census work and research, business trends and any other institution that requires knowledge of social science research.

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Students will: (1) Collect and analyze no less than three current events, and (2) identify and summarize Classical European and Early American Sociological theories, and apply these theories to current events.
2. Students will identify and summarize the importance of research evidence in understanding the social world and how to use systematic and scientific inquiry to investigate direct research questions.
3. Students will identify and summarize Sociological analytical tools to structure and organize assessments of social institutions, groups, and behaviors.
4. Students will identify and summarize historical and contemporary sociological concepts used to analyze social inequality as pertains to: minority groups, gender, race, culture, poverty, and immigration.
5. Students will identify and summarize the Macro and Micro levels of research used to critically deconstruct institutional, familial, cultural, and interactive practices in the United States.

Sociology Program Requirements

TSI Liable

Field of Study - 18 credit hours ¹		18
General Sociology Track		
Discipline Foundation Courses (9 SCH)		
SOCI 1306	Social Problems	
SOCI 2301	Marriage and the Family	
SOCI 2319	Minority Studies	
Directed Electives (9 SCH) ²		
MATH 1342	Elementary Statistical Methods	
SOCI 2326	Social Psychology	
SOCI 2336	Criminology	
Applied and Clinical Sociology Track - 18 credit hours ¹		
To earn an Associate's Degree in Sociology by following the Applied and Clinical Sociology Track, students would need to meet with departmental advisors to formalize their certificate of Applied Sociology with AACSB during the beginning of the semester.		
SOCI 1306	Social Problems	
PSYC 2317	Statistical Methods in Psychology	
or MATH 134:Elementary Statistical Methods		

SOCI 2389	Academic Cooperative
Select one of the following:	
SOCI 2326	Social Psychology
SOCI 2336	Criminology
SOCI 2319	Minority Studies
SOCI 2301	Marriage and the Family
Field of Study Elective (2 courses)	
Students will complete 2 classes (or 6 credits) of coursework in a discipline of their choice; both classes must be chosen from the same field of study, must be from academic AA or AS program, and must include an introductory-level course. Students must consult with the program's advising team in order to declare an area of focus and have it noted in their Degree Works profile. A complete list of eligible course electives can be found in the Applied and Clinical Sociology degree plan.	
STC Core Curriculum - 42 credit hours	
Complete 42 credit hours of required Core Curriculum including the following: ³	42
<i>Social and Behavioral Sciences</i>	
SOCI 1301	Introductory Sociology ⁴
Total Credit Hours	60

- ¹ Courses taken to fulfill field of study requirements must not duplicate courses taken to fulfill Core Curriculum Requirements.
- ² The listed Directive Elective options are for students pursuing to transfer to The University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley. Students pursuing a different transfer institution should see an advisor for selection of Directed Electives.
- ³ In addition to the courses in the Field of Study, the student is required to take 42 credit hours from the STC Core Curriculum.
- ⁴ Designated core curriculum course in the Field of Study for the Texas Direct Transfer Degree.

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100% Online

Recommended Course Sequence - General Track

Course	Title	Credit Hours
First Year		
Fall		
HIST 1301 or HIST 2327	United States History I or Mexican-American History I	3
ENGL 1301	Composition I	3
SOCI 1301	Introductory Sociology	3
Sociology Directed Elective - Field of Study ¹		3
SOCI 2326 or SOCI 2336	Social Psychology or Criminology	
Credit Hours		12
Spring		
HIST 1302 or HIST 2328	United States History II or Mexican-American History II	3
ENGL 1302	Composition II - Rhetoric	3
SOCI 2319	Minority Studies	3
MATH 1342	Elementary Statistical Methods ¹	3
Credit Hours		12
Summer		
Component Area Option - Core Curriculum		3

Select one of the following:

EDUC 1300	Learning Framework	
PSYC 1300	Learning Framework	
SPCH 1311	Introduction to Speech Communication	
SPCH 1315	Public Speaking	
SPCH 1318	Interpersonal Communications	
SPCH 1321	Business and Professional Communication	
SPCH 2333	Discussion and Small Group Communication	
SPCH 2335	Argumentation and Debate	
Creative Arts Elective - Core Curriculum		3
Language, Philosophy & Culture Elective - Core Curriculum		3
Credit Hours		9
Second Year		
Fall		
GOVT 2305	Federal Government	3
Mathematics Elective - Core Curriculum		3-4
Recommended:		
MATH 1414	College Algebra ²	
SOCI 1306	Social Problems	3
Life and Physical Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		4
Credit Hours		14
Spring		
GOVT 2306	Texas Government	3
SOCI 2301	Marriage and the Family	3
Sociology Directed Elective - Field of Study ¹		3
SOCI 2336 or SOCI 2326	Criminology or Social Psychology	
Life and Physical Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		4
Component Area Option - Core Curriculum (if required)		1
Credit Hours		13
Total Credit Hours		60

- ¹ The Directive Elective options are for students pursuing to transfer to The University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley. Students pursuing a different transfer institution should see an advisor for selection of Directed Electives.
- ² Students following the General Sociology Track who select a 3 credit hour Mathematics course to fulfill the Mathematics component of the Core Curriculum must take 4 credit hours to complete the Component Area Option for the Core Curriculum.

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Recommended Course Sequence - Applied and Clinical Sociology Track

Course	Title	Credit Hours
First Year		
Fall		
SOCI 1301	Introductory Sociology	3
HIST 1301 or HIST 2327	United States History I or Mexican-American History I	3
ENGL 1301	Composition I	3
MATH 1414	College Algebra	4
Credit Hours		13
Spring		
SOCI 1306	Social Problems	3
HIST 1302 or HIST 2328	United States History II or Mexican-American History II	3

ENGL 1302	Composition II - Rhetoric	3
Select one of the following Sociology Electives:		3
SOCI 2301 or SOCI 2315 or SOCI 2326 or SOCI 2336	Marriage and the Family or Minority Studies or Social Psychology or Criminology	
Credit Hours		12
Summer		
Life and Physical Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		4
Language, Philosophy & Culture Elective - Core Curriculum		3
Recommended:		
ENGL 2331	World Literature	
ENGL 2351	Mexican American Literature	
HUMA 1305	Introduction to Mexican-American Studies	
HUMA 2319	American Minority Studies	
HUMA 2323	World Cultures	
PHIL 1304	Introduction to World Religions	
Component Area Option - Core Curriculum		3
Students should meet with department advisors to formally indicate their Field of Study in this semester.		
Credit Hours		10
Second Year		
Fall		
Creative Arts Elective - Core Curriculum		3
PSYC 2317 or MATH 1342	Statistical Methods in Psychology or Elementary Statistical Methods	3
GOVT 2305	Federal Government	3
Field of Study Elective I		3-4
Credit Hours		12-13
Spring		
GOVT 2306	Texas Government	3
Life and Physical Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		4
Field of Study Elective II		3-4
SOCI 2389	Academic Cooperative	3
Credit Hours		13-14
Total Credit Hours		60-62

Field of Study Elective I (3-4 Credits) (Intro. Level Course)	Field of Study Elective II (3-4 Credits)
ANTH 2301	ANTH 2302, ANTH 2351
CRIJ 1301	CRIJ 1307, CRIJ 1310, CRIJ 1313, CRIJ 2313
EDUC 1301	EDUC 2301
GOVT 2304	GOVT 2311
KINE 1301	KINE 1304, KINE 1306, KINE 1346
PSYC 2301	PSYC 2308, PSYC 2315, PSYC 2319
SOCI 2301	SOCI 2319
SOCW 2361	SOCW 2362
TECA 1303	TECA 1311, TECA 1318, TECA 1354
COMM 1307	COMM 2311, COMM 2315, COMM 2339
DANC 2303	DANC 1301, DANC 1305
DRAM 1310	DRAM 1330, DRAM 1351, DRAM 2355

ENGL 2311, ENGL 2331	ENGL 2321, ENGL 2326, ENGL 2341, ENGL 2351
HIST 2301	HIST 2321, HIST 2322
HUMA 1301, HUMA 1305	HUMA 1302, HUMA 1311, HUMA 2319
MUSI 1303	MUSI 1306, MUSI 1307, MUSI 1310
PHIL 1301, PHIL 1304	PHIL 2303, PHIL 2306, PHIL 2316
AGRI 1329	AGRI 1407, AGRI 1415
BIOL 1322, BIOL 1406	BIOL 1406, BIOL 1407, BIOL 2401, BIOL 2406
CHEM 1405, CHEM 1411	CHEM 1407, CHEM 1409, CHEM 1412
COSC 1301	COSC 1315, COSC 1320, COSC 1436
ENGR 1201	ENGR 1304, ENGR 2301, ENGR 2302
GEOL 1403	GEOL 1404, GEOL 1445
ARCH 1311	ARCH 1301, ARCH 1303
ACCT 2301	ACCT 2302
BUSI 1301	BUSI 2301
ECON 2301	ECON 2302