The Program of Studies. In the summer session, the Department of Sociology offers selected courses, described below. The requirements for the undergraduate major in sociology include 31 semester hours.

SOC 10002/20002 01: Understanding Societies
3 credits; Chandler, Matthew
06/15 - 07/24 - MWF 8:00a - 10:05a
Description: The goal of this course is to introduce you to the discipline of sociology and the major questions that guide sociological research and study. We will examine how (often invisible or taken-for-granted) social forces of our everyday worlds influence our individual lives and life outcomes, yet, at the same time, how we as individuals help to create, maintain and transform the social world. We will focus on various types of social differences – race/ethnic, class, gender, etc. – as well as how these have developed and the impact they have on people in society. This course will introduce you to the sociological perspective or ‘imagination’ in examining social problems and issues, making the familiar unfamiliar and helping you critically examine what you experience in your day-to-day life.

SOC 20342 01: Marriage and the Family
3 credits; Kawentel, Linda
06/15 - 07/24 - MTWR 10:30a - 12:05p
Description: The family is often agreed to be the primary and most fundamental of social institutions. It is within this institution that early socialization and care-giving usually take place, and therefore, many of our ideas about the world are closely tied to our families. This course will give students the opportunity to learn about the diverse forms the family has taken over time and across different groups. This knowledge will be useful in examining the ongoing debate about the place of the family in social life. By taking a sociological approach to learning about the family and by gaining knowledge about national family trends and patterns in the U.S., this course will give students the theoretical and empirical tools for understanding how family life is linked to the social structure; to economic, cultural, and historical events and transitions; and to societal factors like race, class, and gender.
SOC 20541 01: Sociology of War and Terror
3 credits; Faeges, Russell
06/15 - 07/24 - MTWRF 09:30a - 10:45a
Description: This course offers a broad introduction to the sociology of wars, terror, and communal violence, including their causes, conduct, and consequences. We will consider the basic social forces which impel people to kill and to risk death in the name of their societies, including the relationship of violence to “human nature.” We will survey the manifold characteristics of societies that contribute to and are affected by war and terror: politics; economics; religion; culture; demographics; the environment; gender; race, ethnicity, and nationalism; social movements; and social psychology. We will survey the scope of war and terror throughout social history and pre-history, but will give special attention to the security dilemmas confronting American society. And we will consider alternatives to war and terror and the prospects for transcending the communal violence that has been so much a part of social life for millennia. The format of the course combines lectures, presentations, and discussions. We will draw on both written and visual materials of several kinds. Grades will be based on examinations, brief written work, and participation. (This course requires no background in sociology. It is open to any student, regardless of major, who is concerned about the occurrence of armed conflict in social life.) This course bears the ALSS attribute. (Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors Only)

SOC 30019 01: Sociology of Sport
3 credits; Welch, Michael
06/15 - 07/24 - TR 12:30a – 3:40p
Description: The primary objective of this course is to examine the nature of sport in American society and the modern world. A variety of topics will be covered, including sociological perspectives on the history of sport, the relationship between sports and the entertainment industry, problems in intercollegiate and professional sports, and other issues. Prominent guest speakers (e.g., in the past we have had Joe Kernan, former Governor of Indiana and part owner of the South Bend Silver Hawks, Jeff Jeffers, Jack Swarbrick, etc.), journalists, former athletes, and sports administrators, will participate in at least two in-class panel discussions. The course should be particularly helpful for students who are interested in careers in athletic administration, sports journalism or broadcasting, coaching, higher education administration, sports and entertainment law, and other aligned fields.

SOC 43849 01: Sociology of Masculinity
3 credits; Gunty, Mark
323 Flanner Hall
06/15 - 07/24 - MWF 08:45a - 10:50a
Description: This seminar reviews the social construction of masculinity in its many forms, both traditional and emerging, through readings, movies, discussions, and writing assignments. Members of the seminar will seek a better understanding of shifting roles, identities, and social structures that influence the way both males and females develop the meaning of masculinity. Topics include socialization, role conflicts, gendered violence, sexuality, the impact of fathering, and men’s movements. The course draws attention to the often unnoticed existence of multiple masculinities in the US and around the world. It is intended to complement the study of gender in other disciplines, but some familiarity with basic concepts in sociology is strongly recommended.