



UNIVERSITY OF  
NOTRE DAME

# **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**SOCIOLOGY  
GRADUATE PROGRAM**

**SPRING 2014**

**Last Updated: November 5, 2014**

## **SPRING 2014 COURSE OFFERING AND DEPARTMENTAL REQUIREMENTS**

For the SPRING 2014 semester, the following courses will fulfill the departmental requirements listed below:

### **Required Courses (for First Years):**

SOC 63091 "Proseminar II" (1 credit hour)  
SOC 63913 "Research Methods" (3 credit hours)  
SOC 63993 "Statistics II" (3 credit hours)  
SOC 61993 "Statistics II Lab" (1 credit hour)

### **Foundational**

SOC 63826 "Social Stratification" (3 credit hours)

### **Advanced Statistics and Methods**

SOC 63984: "Qualitative Analysis" (3 credit hours)  
SOC 73997: "Establishing Causal Inference" (3 credit hours)

### **Graduate Level Seminars<sup>1</sup>**

SOC 63572: "Social Movements & Collective Behavior" (3 credit hours)  
SOC 63650: "Religion in Global and (Inter-)national Contexts" (3 credit hours)  
SOC 63651: "Sociology of Religion I" (3 credit hours)

<sup>1</sup> Courses listed under the "Foundational" and "Advanced Statistics and Methods" sections can also count as a Graduate Level Seminars. However, these courses may only be counted towards ONE requirement.

## **COURSE OFFERINGS: SPRING 2014**

### **SOC 61993 – Graduate Statistics II (Lab)**

**Friday: 8:20 – 9:50 a.m.**

**Mary Kate Blake**

This is the lab for Statistics II.

**Sociology Graduate Students Only. Co-requisite -SOC 63993.**

### **SOC 63092 – Proseminar II (1 credit)**

**Monday: 9:30 – 10:25 a.m.**

**David Hachen**

The main goal of Proseminar II is to expose students to the substantive areas of strength in the department. Representatives from each area exam committee in the department will coordinate a series of presentations on the overall intellectual landscape and cutting edge issues in their area.

**Sociology Graduate Students Only.**

### **SOC 63119 – Culture Workshop (1 credit)**

**Friday: 1:45 – 3:15 p.m.**

**Terry McDonnell**

If your research examines the role of culture in society, we invite you to join our cross-disciplinary workshop. Every other week the workshop tackles one paper, circulated in advance. Our goal is to help both faculty and graduate students as they revise and refine works-in-progress: early manuscripts, articles under review, conference papers, dissertation chapters, grant and fellowship proposals, practice job talks, and the like. Polished or published papers are best reserved for other settings. The setting is informal. Since workshop participants are expected to have read the paper in advance, the author should not come with a formal presentation prepared. Instead, authors should be prepared to introduce the paper in 5-10 minutes by summarizing the argument and outlining for the group any questions or concerns hopes to have answered by the end of the workshop. Our definition of what constitutes culture is necessarily broad and cross-disciplinary. You'd be a good fit for the workshop if your work engages meaning and interpretation, cultural practice, ideology, cultural objects, discourse, creativity, production or reception of culture, morality, categorization, narrative, visual culture, cognition, materiality, tastes, media, and much more. We are even open to papers that might not have a cultural dimension but that might benefit from one.

### **SOC 63279 – CREO Seminar (2 credits)**

**Monday: 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.**

#### **Mark Berends**

Most sessions of the CREO Seminar feature a presentation of educational research by an invited speaker from off campus or by a Notre Dame faculty member or graduate student. The content of the presentation is discussed and students write a brief reaction. Other sessions are devoted to a discussion of chapters in the Handbook of the Sociology of Education. The seminar runs for both semesters during the academic year and students receive three credits for the entire year.

### **SOC 63572 –Social Movements & Collective Behavior (3 credits)**

**Thursday: 3:30 – 6:15 p.m.**

#### **Kraig Beyerlein**

This course will introduce students to major theories, topics, debates, and cases in the field of social movements and collective action. In this course, we will answer, among other things, what defines a social movement? Under what conditions do social movements emerge, thrive, and decline? Why do people get involved in social movements? What effects do social movements have on the lives of people who participate in them? On governmental policies, elected officials, and broader cultural expressions? How do social movements spread? What is the relationship between mobilization and repression and mobilization and countermobilization? As these questions indicate, the primary goal of this course is to explain the various processes and dynamics involved in social movements and collective action. To achieve this goal, we will draw on both classical and contemporary theoretical perspectives and empirical analysis, covering such important cases of collective action as the U.S. civil rights movement, the U.S. Central America peace movement, the East German revolution, anti-nuclear movements, animal rights movements, gay and lesbian movements, abortion activism, and terrorism. This course will also help students prepare for the comprehensive examination in social movements and collective action.

### **SOC 63578 –Social Movements & Politics (1 credit)**

**Tuesday: 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.**

#### **Kraig Beyerlein**

Seminar for graduate students conducting research in the areas of politics and social movements. The course focuses on presentation of on-going research projects and structured feedback about those projects. Participants will also read and discuss recent contributions to the social movements literature.

## **SOC 63650 –Religion in Global and (Inter)-national Contexts (3 credits)**

**Monday: 3:30-6:15 p.m.**

**Atalia Omer**

What does it mean to study religion in global and international contexts? What are some of the discursive and geopolitical legacies that make such an enterprise fraught with analytic complexities and pitfalls? How do religions, religious people, religious practices, and traditional resources relate to global, national, and international topographies, histories, and trends? In this seminar, we will develop theoretical foundations for thinking comparatively and globally about religion and social, political, cultural formations. The course is divided into three parts, distinct yet overlapping in significant ways. We begin with a sustained reflection on the critical revision of the secularism paradigm as well as on the critics of the reconstructed co-imbricated categories of the “religious” and the “secular.” This section of the semester also looks pivotally on the colonial and orientalist underpinnings of the modern study of religion. An understanding and scrutiny of the colonial contexts then will inform our discussion in the second section of the syllabus of the kind of conceptual (and sometimes theological) assumptions informing the promoters and critics of internationalizing the discourse of “religious freedoms.” The second section therefore tackles transnational, international, and national issues. Here we will familiarize ourselves with efforts to historicize, contextualize, and nuance the study of religion within varied social, cultural, political, and national contexts. We will then consider ways in which religion relates constructively to processes of conflict transformation and peacebuilding. The third and final part of the seminar will consider global religion as it pertains to diasporas, pluralistic social contexts, and supra-national challenges. This section will connect the theoretical readings that deconstructed and historicize the category of religion as a central feature of colonial and orientalist underpinnings and their enduring traces in the framing of international relations and popular attitudes to the sets of challenges facing western countries and the religious, ethnic, and nonreligious people who inhabit them.

## **SOC 63651 –Sociology of Religion I (3 credits)**

**Tuesday: 3:30 – 6:15 p.m.**

**Mary Ellen Konieczny**

This seminar considers classical and some contemporary approaches to the sociological study of religion through a study of theoretical and empirical works on religion. Topics include: classical approaches (Marx, Durkheim, and Weber) and their contemporary iterations and uses; the construction of religion as a category; religion and identities (e.g., race, class, gender, sexualities); religion in secular settings; the relation of religion to secularity, secularism, and atheism; and religion and globalization. Case studies will be drawn from international contexts as well as from the American religious landscape.

### **SOC 63691 – Research and Analysis in Sociology of Religion (1 credit)**

**Thursday: 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.**

**David Sikkink**

This one-credit workshop will engage students with key pieces of literature related to empirical research, measurement, and data analysis in the sociology of religion; teach some alternative approaches to basic data analysis strategies in the sociology of religion; and provide an informal seminar-based context for the collective reading, discussing, and critiquing of each other's scholarly papers in sociology of religion. Workshop readings are drawn from the reading list for the ND doctoral exam in sociology of religion, to also help facilitate preparation for that exam. **Course is one credit.**

### **SOC 63826 – Social Stratification (3 credits)**

**Wednesday: 3:30 – 6:15 p.m.**

**Megan Andrew**

The purpose of this seminar is to provide participants with an in-depth introduction to theories of and research on social stratification and inequalities. During the semester we will explore issues related to social classes, social mobility and attainment, income inequality, labor markets, poverty, race, gender, globalization, and changes in stratification systems.

### **SOC 63913 – Research Methods (3 credits)**

**Tuesday & Thursday: 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

**Elizabeth McClintock**

Provides an introduction to measurement theory, research design, and a review of various methods of data-gathering, including experimental, observational, and survey data collection techniques. Students will gain experience with a variety of techniques of measurement and will be guided through the process of developing a research proposal.

### **SOC 63984 –Qualitative Analysis (3 credits)**

**Tuesday & Thursday: 12:30- 1:45 p.m.**

**Erika Summers-Effler**

Qualitative Analysis is the second semester in a two semester qualitative methods sequence. We will begin by learning how to code the data collected in the previous semester, and move on to using qualitative analysis software. We will learn to construct theoretical arguments from qualitative analysis, as well as how to use qualitative data as support in writing up these theoretical arguments. Finally we will focus on developing writing techniques for ethnographic manuscripts.

## **SOC 63993 – Graduate Statistics II**

**Monday and Wednesday: 12:30 – 1:45 p.m.**

**Rich Williams**

This second course in the graduate sequence focuses on the general linear model in all its forms: special topics in multiple regression (multi-collinearity, missing data, panel data, heteroscedasticity), nonlinear models, causal modeling (recursive and non-recursive systems), structural equations, logit and probit models. **Sociology Graduate Students Only. Co-requisite- SOC 61993.**

## **SOC 73997 – Establishing Causal Inference**

**Monday & Wednesday: 12:30 – 1:45 p.m.**

**William Carbonaro**

Social scientists are centrally concerned with making inferences regarding *causal relationships* in their research. Unfortunately, making valid causal inferences is one of the most challenging problems in the social sciences. In this course, we will examine the nature of the problem, and learn different strategies for making credible inferences about causality in our data. We will focus on “big picture” issues such as, what do we mean by a “causal effect” in the social sciences? This course is both statistical and methodological. In terms of methodology, we will learn about *research designs* that can help us make strong causal inferences. In terms of statistics, we will learn analytical techniques that help us eliminate threats to internal validity in non-experimental data. We will focus heavily on the importance and use of panel (or “longitudinal”) data to make causal inferences, and we will learn commonly used techniques in making causal inferences, such as: random/mixed effects models, fixed effect models, propensity score matching, and selection/instrumental variable models. (Note: students will learn multilevel modeling [aka “HLM”] in this course, in the context of analyzing panel data.) Students will learn how to perform all of these statistical techniques in Stata. **Pre-requisite: SOC 63933 (Grad Stats II) and Soc 63913 (Research Methods).**

## **SOC 76098 – Directed Readings**

Reading and research on highly specialized topics that are immediately relevant to the student's interests and that are not routinely covered in the regular curriculum. **Pre-requisite: Departmental permission.**

## **SOC 78599 – Thesis Direction**

Reserved for the six credit-hour thesis requirement of the master's degree.  
**Pre-requisite: Departmental permission.**

### **SOC 78600 – Nonresident Thesis Research**

For master's degree students.

**Pre-requisite: Departmental permission.**

### **SOC 98699 – Research and Dissertation**

For resident graduate students who have completed all course requirements for the Ph.D.

**Pre-requisite: Departmental permission.**

### **SOC 98700 – Nonresident Dissertation Research**

For non-resident graduate students who have completed all course requirements for the Ph.D.

**Pre-requisite: Departmental permission.**