



The Program of Studies. In the summer session, the Department of Sociology offers selected courses, described below.

SOC 10002/20002 01: Understanding Societies

3 credits; Wood, Michael

06/18 - 07/27 - MWF 10:00a - 12:15p

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 10502/20502 01: Dynamic Organizations

3 credits; Gunty, Mark

06/18 - 07/27 - MTWRF 8:00a - 9:20a

Description: Throughout our lives we participate in and interact with many different types of organizations from the simple to the complex: businesses, schools, government agencies, religious institutions, hospitals, student clubs, etc. This course focuses on the ways that the discipline of sociology can be applied to a broad range of topics related to organizations. Within that discipline, however, is a variety of perspectives. Taken together, those perspectives help us appreciate the diversity of organizations and the complex ways they impact individuals within and outside organizations, and society as a whole. This course will familiarize students with the social science methodologies used to study organizations, including field observations and surveys. In so doing, this course lays a foundation for understanding the importance of valid procedures for investigating claims about social life.

SOC 20410 01: Sociology of War and Terror**3 credits; Faeges, Russell****06/18 - 07/27 - MTWR 8:00a - 9:40a**

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.

SOC 20514 01: Can Facebook Start a Revolution**3 credits; Comeau, Katherine****06/18 - 07/27 - MTWR 3:10p - 4:50p**

Description: We live in an era of protests, rallies, consumer boycotts, online advocacy, and other forms of social movements. This has led some scholars to conclude that we live in a "movement society." Is this true? How do the identity movements of today differ from the labor movements of previous eras? And how have the emergence of new technologies, new forms of social organization, social media, and new targets altered the dynamics of social movements and their likelihood of success? In this course, students will learn about social movements in the 21st century. The class also explores the historical trajectory of social movements. Finally, this class interrogates whether we are in a new era of social movements.

SOC 20870 01: Inner City America**3 credits; Carbonaro, William****06/18 - 07/27 - MTWR 10:30a - 12:10p**

Description: Most Americans think of the "inner city" as a place of misery, danger, and despair. Why do most American cities have racially segregated areas dominated by concentrated poverty? What are the lives of inner city residents like? Why do the legal, political, economic, and educational institutions that serve these communities struggle so mightily to improve the lives of inner city residents? In this course, we will address all of these questions by viewing all five seasons of *The Wire*, David Simon's epic tale of life in inner city Baltimore. Sociological theory and research will serve as powerful tools to help students "decode" *The Wire*, and better understand of the social forces that create and sustain inner city poverty, violence, and disorder.

SOC 23118 01: Playing God? The Sociology of Death, Dying, and Power

3 credits; Sepulvado, Brandon

06/18 - 07/27 - MWF 10:00a - 12:15p

Description: Many people think that death is a single event, the endpoint of a person's life, and that how and when death occurs is related to choices made by the person throughout their life. In this class, we will examine how this conception of death is incomplete. While death is undeniably an intensely personal experience for everyone involved, it is in many ways socially constructed and structured. We, as such, will think about questions, like the following: How is death defined? Who gets to make this decision? Who is allowed to or should die? What are proper and improper ways of dying, and who gets to decide? What are the different roles in the dying process? We will use a series of case studies to respond to these questions, but the class will choose the final case to be examined. Course materials will include readings supplemented by other forms of media (e.g., documentaries and podcasts). This course is open to everyone: students considering medical, law, or graduate school; students interested in social justice; and those who would simply like a thematic introduction to sociology.

SOC 30603 01: Visualizing Global Change

3 credits; Kay, Tamara

06/18 - 07/27 - TR 12:30a - 3:40p

Description: The goal of the course is to compare the processes by which social scientists and filmmakers/photographers engage in social documentation. Students explore how global social problems such as rural and urban poverty, race and gender inequalities, immigration, and violence are analyzed across the social sciences, and depicted in a variety of documentary film and photography genres. The course also explores the role that documentary photography and film play in promoting rights and advocating for social change, particularly in the realm of human rights and global inequality. It examines the history of documentary film and photography in relationship to politics, and to the development of concerns across the social sciences with inequality and social justice. It also looks at how individual documentarians, non-profit organizations and social movements use film and photography to further their goals and causes, and issues of representation their choices raise.