



SOCIOLOGY

GRADUATE PROGRAM

SPRING 2008

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

THE PROGRAM

The University of Notre Dame offers a graduate program leading to the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in sociology. The program is a broadly based one designed to provide the student with intensive training in theory, research methods, and statistics. Close collaboration with other departments provides a distinctive cross-cultural and interdisciplinary emphasis. The department has a strong commitment to the preparation of researchers and college teachers.

REQUIRED COURSES

Soc 63911 Theory
Soc 63913 Research Methods
Soc 63091 Proseminar
Soc 63993 Statistics II
Soc 63975 Research Practicum I

AREAS OF CONCENTRATIONS

Cultural Sociology
Education
Family
Historical/ Comparative Sociology
Quantitative Methodology
Political Sociology/Social Movements
Religion
Social Psychology
Stratification/Race/Ethnicity
Theory

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COURSES OFFERED SPRING 2008

SOC 63138 (CRN: 23345) - Culture and Consumption

Cr.: 3.0 R--5:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

Eugene Halton

In the past century the twin problems of meaning and materialism have come to the forefront of modern civilization, forming the basis of a variety of philosophies and social theories, animating revolutionary movements in art, looming as the silent specter behind mass society and its dramas of consumption. Today's consumer societies offer the promises of affluence, of convenience, of "the good life." Consumption touches on themes that reach from the sources of identity and small-scale processes to the problems of the global economy, environment, and culture. Yet it is by no means clear that the massive technological advances and material gains in advanced industrial societies have contributed to a better way of life--many would say increased meaninglessness is the actual result: a "goods life" instead of the good life. By exploring the rise of materialism and its contemporary presence through a variety of historic sources, key expressions in social theory, works of art, and consumption culture, we will attempt to achieve a new understanding of contemporary materialism and the prospects for the good life. Key topics to be taken up in the course include: Invention of poverty and wealth: civilized consciousness and the animate mind; the rise of modern ghost in the machine; making the matrix of modern life; contemporary consumption culture and its effects on domestic; civic and global life; from materialism to signs of life.

SOC 63239 (CRN: 24725) - Sociology of Education II

Cr.: 3.0 T, R--2:00 p.m.--3:15 p.m.

Sean P .Kelly

Sociologists have identified the school as a fundamentally important social institution that both shapes, and is shaped by, the larger society. In this course, we will examine where schools "came from," how schools "work," and focus on how they "fit" with society's main social, economic, and political institutions. Topics covered in the course will include school expansion, the school as an agent of socialization, schools and social inequality, school organization, and school reform.

SOC 63279 (CRN: 22282) - CREO Seminar

Cr.: 2.0 M--3:00 p.m.--4:30 p.m.

Maureen Hallinan

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 on the Sociology of Education. The seminar runs for both semesters during the academic year and students receive three credits for the entire year. In the spring semester this course is two credits.

Graduate Students Only

SOC 63578 (CRN: 23346) - Training Seminar: Social Movements

Cr.: 1.0 W--9:40 a.m.—10:30 a.m. Erika Summers-Effler

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.

Sociology Graduate Students Only

SOC 63664 (CRN: 27480) - Modernity, Secularization, Religious Persistence, Spiritual Transformation

Cr.: 3.0 T, R--3:30 p.m.--4:45 p.m. Christian Smith

What is the fate of religion in modern society? Is there something about modernity that is particularly corrosive of religion? Does modernity secularize? What is "modernity?" What does "secularization" mean? Where, how, and why does religion survive or thrive in the modern world? What social forces and influences explain different religious outcomes in modernity? Are there "multiple modernities" that have different effects on religious traditions? This course will examine the most important works in the literature on religion in modernity to explore these questions, toward mastering a set of key debates in the sociology of religion and generating new research to contribute to the field. Readings will help students prepare for the doctoral exam in sociology of religion.

SOC 63678 (CRN: 28449) - Training Seminar, Religion

Cr.: 1.0 Day/Time: TBA Christian Smith

This workshop will train students in methods of in-depth personal interviewing. Students will read material related to the personal interviewing method, listen to audio recordings of good interviews conducted by others, and practice conducting their own interviews both on "practice subjects" and real research interviews. The instructor will provide feedback to interviewers on their techniques and methods. By the end of the workshop, students should be equipped to conduct their own interviews in a real research project. Registration by instructor's approval only.

SOC 63826 (CRN: 27482) - Social Classes and Stratification

Cr.: 3.0 W--3:00 p.m.--5:30 p.m.

David Hachen

This seminar is an in-depth introduction to theories of and research on social classes and inequalities. The focus of the seminar is on important socio-economic processes (mobility, income and status attainment, discrimination and segregation) and controversial issues (the existence of social classes, the character of the middle class, the relationships between class, race and gender, the emergence of new social classes). We will examine how various theoretical perspectives (Marxist, Weberian, functionalist, elite, gradational, and the "new structuralism") are being used to understand these processes and issues.

SOC 63878 (CRN: 23347) - Training Seminar: Stratification

Cr.: 1.0 M--11:45 a.m.—1:00 p.m. William Carbonaro

Seminar for graduate students conducting research in the areas of stratification, education, and family. The course will consist of seminar participants presenting their on-going research and getting feedback on their work. Students will also occasionally receive training in advanced statistical techniques. Finally, the group will also read and discuss recent research in the areas of stratification, education, and family.

Sociology Graduate Students Only

SOC 63913 (CRN: 21482) - Research Methods I

Cr.: 3.0 T, R--12:30—1:45 p.m. Jessica Collett

Research Methods is designed to provide an in-depth view of quantitative and qualitative research methods in the social sciences. Topics covered include (1) hypothesis formulation and theory construction (2) the measurement of sociological variables (3) data collection techniques - experimental, survey, and observational. At the end of the course, students should appreciate both the strengths and the limitations of sociological research techniques, and will hopefully have a solid foundation for beginning to conduct research on their own.

Graduate Students Only

SOC 63957 (CRN: 27484) - Historical and Comparative Sociology

Cr.: 3 R--9:00 a.m.--11:30 a.m. J. Samuel Valenzuela

Reviews some of the basic techniques in historical research, discusses comparative research designs in the social sciences, and examines critically major works using comparative analysis. Students are encouraged to write proposals using comparative analysis.

SOC 63984 (CRN: 25334) Qualitative Analysis

Cr.: 3 T--9:00 a.m.--11:30 a.m.

Erika Summers-

Efler

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 (CRN: 22290) - Statistics II

Cr.: 3 M, W--11:45 a.m.--1:00 p.m.

Richard Williams

SOC 61993 (CRN: 22480) - Statistics II Lab

Cr.: 0 F: 1:30 p.m.--2:45 p.m.

Brian Miller

The lab is required of the Statistics II course.

The second course in the graduate sequence focuses on the general linear model in all its forms: special topics in multiple regression (multicollinearity, autocorrelation, heteroscedasticity), nonlinear models, causal modeling (recursive and nonrecursive systems), structural equations, logit equations, and probit models.

Sociology Graduate Students Only

SOC 73080 (CRN: 23349) - Writing for Academic Journals

Cr.: 3 M, W--1:30 p.m.—2:45 p.m.

Michael Welch

This seminar is intended for advanced (post-M.A.) graduate students in sociology. It requires students to develop and submit a paper to an appropriate academic journal. The course takes students through the following steps: (1) final preparation of a manuscript, (2) pre-submission review, (3) selecting an appropriate journal, (4) submitting the paper, (5) reviewing process, (6) interpreting reviewers' and editors' comments, (7) revising the paper, and (8) re-submission.

Sociology Graduate Students Only

SOC 76098 - Directed Readings

Soc Faculty

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 (CRN: 21155) -- Thesis Direction

Rory McVeigh

Reserved for the six credit-hour thesis requirement of the master's degree.

Pre-requisite: Departmental permission

SOC 78600 (CRN: 20879) -- Non resident Thesis Direction

Rory McVeigh

For master's degree students.

Pre-requisite: Departmental permission

SOC 98699-01 (CRN: 21819) - Research and Dissertation

Cr.: 1

Rory McVeigh

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

SOC 98699-02 (CRN: 25974) - Research and Dissertation

Cr.: 1--6

Rory McVeigh

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

SOC 98700 (CRN: 21146 -- Non Resident Dissertation Research

Cr.: 1

Rory McVeigh

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