



UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**SOCIOLOGY
GRADUATE PROGRAM**

FALL 2014

Last Updated: February 14, 2014

FALL 2014 COURSE OFFERING AND DEPARTMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

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

Required Courses (for First Years):

SOC 61990 "Social Statistics Boot Camp" (0 credit hours)

SOC 63091 "Proseminar I" (1 credit hour)

SOC 63992 "Statistics I" (3 credit hours)

SOC 61992 "Statistics I Lab" (1 credit hour)

Required Courses:

SOC 63911: "Classical Social Theory" (3 credit hours)

SOC 63922: "Contemporary Theory" (3 credit hours)

Foundational

SOC 63125: "Cultural Sociology" (3 credit hours)

SOC 63740: "Social Psychology" (3 credit hours)

Advanced Statistics and Methods

SOC 73994: "Categorical Data Analysis" (3 credit hours)

Graduate Level Seminars¹

SOC 63591: "International and Global Sociology" (3 credit hours)

SOC 63630: "Religion, Gender and Family" (3 credit hours)

SOC 63806: "Race and Ethnicity" (3 credit hours)

Research Workshops

SOC 63119: Culture Workshop (1 credit hour)

SOC 63278: CREO Seminar (1 credit hour)

SOC 63578: Social Movements & Politics (1 credit hour)

SOC 63691: Research and Analysis in Sociology of Religion (1 credit hour)

¹ 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: FALL 2014

SOC 61990 – Social Statistics Boot Camp

MTWR: 8:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. (8/18-8/22)

Instructor TBA

This course will provide all students with a strong foundation in the “basics” of social scientific statistics before taking “Graduate Statistics I” (Sociology 63992). The course is meant for students who either have NO prior coursework in statistics, or those who feel they need a “refresher” before enrolling in Stats I. The course will cover: basic descriptive statistics; basic probability theory; the fundamentals of statistical sampling and sampling error; and the fundamentals of statistical inference (including confidence intervals and hypothesis testing). **Sociology Graduate Students Only. Prerequisite for Statistics I.**

SOC 61992 – Graduate Statistics I (Lab)

Friday: 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

TBA

This is the lab for Statistics I.

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

SOC 63091 – Proseminar I

Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Jessica Collett

The proseminar is designed to acquaint first-year graduate students with the professional requirements of the field of sociology. The course will cover such topics as how to be a good graduate student, how to get research started, preparing for the job market during graduate school, and how to write for sociological outlets. Students will also attend department colloquia given by faculty and advanced graduate students. **Sociology Graduate Students Only.**

SOC 63119 – Culture Workshop

Friday: 1:45 p.m. - 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 63125 – Cultural Sociology

Thursday: 12:30p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Lynette Spillman

Do cultures reflect societies? Do social institutions reflect culture? Or are social institutions themselves texts? What part does culture play in consensus formation, in domination, and in resistance? How has the relation between culture and social institutions changed?

We will survey some of the central issues in the sociology of culture, and their implications for sociological analysis and understanding more generally. We will review classic statements of the relation between culture and institutions, and exemplars in the renaissance of sociological work on culture. Case studies will illustrate different approaches. According to student interest, these may be selected from work on specialized cultural institution like art and the mass media, or from more broadly based studies of meaning and value.

SOC 63278 – CREO Seminar

Monday: 3:00 p.m. - 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 63578 –Social Movements & Politics

Tuesday: 9:45 a.m. - 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.

Course is one credit.

SOC 63591 –International and Global Sociology

Wednesday: 12:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Erin McDonnell

This graduate course provides a broad exposure to some of the most significant theories and trends in understanding the social world beyond the USA. We will examine the nature of "globalization" including critics who say we have always been global, and others who question whether we are truly global now. We will extend our inquiry of "the global" to examine the significance of regionalism and global cities, culminating in a debate about scale for sociological theories generally. We will explore important trends in international research including transnationalism, immigration, neoinstitutionalism, world systems theory, politics of globalization, cultural diffusion & the clash of cultures.

Along the way we will read canonical classics by intellectual giants and great work by smart young scholars. Although this is NOT a hands-on international methods course, we will think critically about the methods employed, and how an international and comparative lens can be employed to sharpen theory and enumerate conditions and extent of theoretical generalizability.

SOC 63630 – Religion, Gender and Family

Tuesday: 3:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

Mary Ellen Konieczny

This course examines classical and current sociological theory and empirical research concerning the relation of religion to issues of gender and family. Themes to be examined include: religious participation and the construction of gendered identities; modern women's adherence to conservative, evangelical and fundamentalist religious groups articulating patriarchal gender ideologies; religion, family organization, and parenting; religion and the control/expression of sexuality; and the contribution (and limits) of feminist theory to understanding the relation of religion, gender, and family in contemporary societies. Empirical research studied in this course draws extensively from Western contexts, but also substantially includes cases from societies across the globe.

SOC 63691 – Research and Analysis in Sociology of Religion

Wednesday: 7:30 p.m. - 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 63740 – Social Psychology

Wednesday: 3:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

Jessica Collett

An introduction to theories and empirical research in social psychology, organized around the major theoretical orientations in contemporary sociological social psychology and their application to selected research issues. Emphasis is placed on understanding the basic theoretical and methodological assumptions of each orientation.

SOC 63806 – Race and Ethnicity

Tuesday: 12:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Jennifer Jones

This course will introduce students to major theories, topics, debates and cutting edge research in the field of race and ethnicity. During this semester we will engage with important issues in the field, such as the utility of race and ethnicity as concepts; how racial and ethnic 'groupness' is formed, classified and inhabited; and explaining persisting racial and ethnic inequality. While the course's main focus is to examine how the study of race and ethnicity has evolved in the United States, readings on other countries will also be drawn on to illuminate how different institutional environments give rise to specific understandings of race and ethnicity. This class will also bring a critical lens to the field of sociology, and the ways in which race has played a defining role in the discipline over time.

SOC 63911 – Classical Social Theory

Thursday: 3:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

Gene Halton

This course aims to familiarize students with the traditions and concerns of social theory. Social theory can be understood as growing out of eighteenth-century enlightenment thought and the conditions of nineteenth-century industrial society. Readings: In the first half of the semester we will concentrate on key figures in the emergence of sociological thought. In the second half we will turn to more contemporary thinkers who touch on central issues of concern to contemporary social theory.

SOC 63922 – Contemporary Theory

Tuesday and Thursday: 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Omar Lizardo

This graduate seminar is an intensive overview of major currents of American and European theory that continue to have a strong influence in contemporary research and thinking in sociology. In particular the course focuses on lines of thinking in the sociological tradition that begin "after the classics," roughly from the post-war era in Europe and the United States to the present. A strong background in classical social theory (SOC 63911) is strongly recommended as a pre-requisite for this course. As defined here contemporary theory includes currently relevant strains of "neoclassical" theory (including neo-Marxian, neo-Weberian and neo-Durkhemian traditions), theories of symbolic interaction and micro-interaction emerging from the American pragmatist and postfunctionalist traditions, contemporary re-interpretations of mid-twentieth century action theory and early twentieth century pragmatism, and current reinterpretations of utilitarian theories (e.g. rational action theory and methodological individualism) for application to sociological problems. We will also deal with post-classical lines of scholarship of European provenance (such as structuralism and field theory) as well as American network theory. Lines of theory that used to be influential but which have declined in influence or are no longer relevant will not be considered here (the course is not an antiquarian history of ideas, but is designed to prepare the student to be conversant with theoretical scholarship that is actually used in contemporary empirical work).

SOC 63992 – Graduate Statistics I

Monday and Wednesday: 11:00 p.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Bill Carbonaro

This course provides an extensive introduction to the statistical techniques most commonly used by sociologists. The course will focus on both descriptive and inferential statistics in bivariate and multivariate analyses. We will also learn about sampling designs, measurement, and internal validity (i.e., causality) as they pertain to statistical analyses in the social sciences. Finally, the lab will provide an opportunity for students to learn how to use Stata (a powerful statistical software package). **Sociology Graduate Students Only. Co-requisite- SOC 61992.**

SOC 73994 - Categorical Data Analysis

Monday & Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Rich Williams

This course discusses methods and models for the analysis of categorical dependent variables and their applications in social science research. Researchers are often interested in the determinants of categorical outcomes. For example, such outcomes might be binary (lives/dies), ordinal (very likely/somewhat likely/not likely), nominal (taking the bus, car, or train to work) or count (the number of times something has happened, such as the number of articles written). When dependent variables are categorical rather than continuous, conventional OLS regression techniques are not appropriate. This course therefore discusses the wide array of methods that are available for examining categorical outcomes. Heavy use will be made of Stata and possibly other programs. Course requirements will include writing a quantitative paper using one or more of the methods discussed. Sociology 63992 and 63993 or their equivalents are prerequisites for the course.

SOC 76097 – 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.**