



UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**SOCIOLOGY
GRADUATE PROGRAM**

FALL 2019

Last Updated: March 25, 2019

FALL 2019 COURSE OFFERING AND DEPARTMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

For the FALL 2019 semester, the following courses will fulfill the departmental requirements listed below:

Required Courses

SOC 63091: Proseminar I (2 credit hour)

SOC 63997: Linear Regression (3 credit hours)

SOC 61997: Linear Regression Lab (1 credit hour)

SOC 63911: Classical Social Theory (3 credits)

Foundational

SOC 63125: Cultural Sociology (3 credits)

SOC 63820: Sociology of Organizations (3 credits)

Advanced Statistics and Methods

SOC 93901: Social Networks (3 credits)

Graduate Level Seminars¹

SOC 63650: Religion in Global and (Inter-)national Contexts (3 credits)

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 2019

SOC 61997 – Linear Regression (Lab)

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

TBA

This is the lab for Linear Regression

SOC 63091 – Proseminar I

Thursday: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Terry McDonnell

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.

SOC 63119 – Culture Workshop

Friday: 1:30-3:00 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: 3:30-6:15 p.m.

Terry McDonnell

What is culture? How is it created and circulated? How does culture shape behavior? What part does culture play in consensus formation, in domination, and in resistance? The course begins by introducing theories of culture from critical theory, structuralism, practice theory, cognitive approaches. We ask where culture fits in understandings of structure and agency, debate whether culture motivates or justifies, and discuss a variety of methods for measuring culture. From these beginnings, we then treat culture as an outcome to be explained and assess theories that explain meaning from the production of culture approach to reception theory. To conclude the course we assess how culture operates as a casual or mediating force by exploring the concepts of cultural power, cultural capital, symbolic boundaries and more.

SOC 63270 – ND Pier Colloquium

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

Mark Berends

Interdisciplinary educational seminar sponsored by the Institute for Educational Initiatives (IEI) and the Program for Interdisciplinary Educational Research (ND PIER). This seminar will feature presentations of educational research by an invited speaker from off campus, a Notre Dame faculty member, or graduate student. Discussions of talks, methods, and contributions to educational policies, practices, and programs will follow each presentation.

SOC 63278 – CREO Seminar

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

Amy Langenkamp

This course focuses on new and innovative research in the substantive area of sociology of education. Several different formats are used during the semester. First, prominent scholars from outside Notre Dame are invited to present their on-going research to seminar participants. Second, seminar participants (faculty and graduate students) are encouraged to present their on-going research in order to receive feedback to help improve the quality of their scholarship. Finally, some classes may focus on a recently published paper that is particularly influential and relevant for future research.

SOC 63650 –Religion in Global and (Inter-)national Contexts

Wednesday: 3:30-6:15pm

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 63820 –Sociology of Organizations

Wednesday: 12:30-3:15pm

Erin McDonnell

This course will take you on a systematic overview of the major movements and developments of the field of Sociology of Organizations from the mid-20th Century onwards. The course is structured to facilitate chronological investigation of the major developments in the field. This approach is designed to help students understand how significant movements in organizational studies emerged in relation to the relevant theories of the time, and thereby to cultivate an explicit appreciation for how professional organizational sociologists frame their work, and in turn help students understand how to frame their own research interests in relation to today's significant organizational theories. In addition to covering "great works" that all familiar with organizational sociology should know, the end of the semester will take a "choose your own adventure" approach, allowing students an opportunity to specialize with deeper reading in one of several areas.

SOC 63901 –Social Networks

Tuesday and Thursday: 12:30-1:45pm

David Hachen

This seminar will examine both classical and more recent theory and research on and methods for studying social networks. The focus will be on both (a) the important substantive, theoretical and sociological issues that network analysis can address and (b) the methods, techniques and statistical models for analyzing social networks. Among the topics we will explore are the structure and dynamics of personal and community networks, conceptual and empirical definitions of role and position in social networks, theories of relationship formation and interpersonal attraction and repulsion, dynamics of

diffusion of objects and ideas through social networks as well as more recent theory and research on the structure and properties of large-scale networks and attempts to analyze the micro-structure of social networks through statistical modeling techniques. Students are required to have taken the sociology's required graduate statistics course or its equivalent. Having taken an advanced statistics course is a plus.

SOC 63911 – Classical Social Theory

Thursday: 3:30-6:15pm

Chris Smith

This seminar lays the foundation of knowledge of classical sociological theory required by graduate students training to become professional sociologists. The course will examine key works of a variety of most influential early sociological theorists. We will pay special attention not only to understanding the substantive arguments of those theorists but also to how they connect to crucial, deeper and larger meta-theoretical and philosophical issues that shape all sociological theories. The course is necessarily introductory in nature and provides an orientation from which to work into the future.

SOC 63997 – Linear Regression

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

Bill Carbonaro

In this course, students will learn the mathematics underlying “Ordinary Least Squares” (OLS) regression, as well as the practical applications and interpretation of the OLS model. The course will cover the following topics: interpreting regression parameters; generating predictions; properly specifying models; assessing model fit; finding the correct functional form; testing for statistical significance; interpreting interaction terms and non-additive models; and evaluating numerous modeling assumptions. Further, we will deal with extensions of this framework, some which address limitations of OLS. Examples include: multilevel modeling, and factor analysis. Throughout the semester, students will use the Stata software package to estimate, test and interpret linear models. Successful completion of the “Statistics Bootcamp” (or equivalent) or the approval by the instructor is necessary for enrollment in this 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.**

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.