

# SOCIOLOGY, B.A.

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## Learning Outcomes

- Sociology majors completing the required SOCY 561 capstone course will demonstrate they understand the general sociological perspective and the uses of sociological theory, can apply critical reasoning skills to evaluating theoretical explanations, and can identify uses and limitations of major sociological research methods in evaluating theories. Majors will evidence the ability to apply these skills to the study of social issues of broad impact and interest beyond the discipline.
- Sociology majors completing advanced substantive courses (500-level) will demonstrate they
  - a. understand the major sociological theories in a specific substantive area of specialization,
  - b. can critically evaluate competing theories in the field, and
  - c. can identify and critique major methodological approaches within the specialty area.  
Examples of substantive areas are Social Inequality, Social Psychology, Sociology of the Family, and Sociology of Medicine and Health.
- Sociology majors will demonstrate an understanding and ability to use the following statistical tools:
  - a. The distinction between descriptive and inferential statistics
  - b. Levels of measurement, ratios and rates
  - c. Various measures of central tendency and statistical variability used to describe distributions
  - d. Hypothesis testing, sampling and inference from sample estimates for a population
  - e. Simple bivariate modeling techniques such as correlation and regression.
- Students should demonstrate that they can apply elementary statistical tools and research methods to the analysis of basic sociological questions.
- Graduating sociology majors should evidence an integrated preparation for career pursuits and self assess their career preparation as adequate for career plans at the point of graduation.