SOCIOLOGY, B.A.

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 understand major sociological theories in a specific substantive area of specialization.

- 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.

Admissions

Entrance Requirements

New freshmen who meet University admissions standards are eligible for admission to degree programs offered by the college. A student who wishes to enter the College of Arts and Sciences from another college on the Columbia campus must be in good standing and have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher. A student who wishes to enter the College of Arts and Sciences from another UofSC campus must fulfill one of the following requirements:

1. Be in good standing, meet the admission requirements for a baccalaureate degree on the Columbia campus, and have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher.
2. Be in good standing and have completed 30 semester hours with a GPA of 2.00 or higher on a UofSC campus.

Some programs in the College of Arts and Sciences have special admission requirements established by the department or committee that supervises the specific degree program, for example, Cardiovascular Technology, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Economics, Environmental Science, the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies, and the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies. These requirements are listed in the sections of this bulletin that describe department and special degree programs.

Degree Requirements (120 hours)

Program of Study

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Founding Documents Requirement

All undergraduate students must take a 3-credit course or its equivalent with a passing grade in the subject areas of History, Political Science, or African American Studies that covers the founding documents including the United States Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation, and more documents that are foundational to the African American Freedom struggle, and a minimum of five essays from the Federalist papers. This course may count as a requirement in any part of the program of study including the Carolina Core, the minor, or cognate, or as a general elective. Courses that meet this requirement are listed here (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/founding-document-courses/).

1. Carolina Core Requirements (32-44 hours)

CMW – Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Written (6 hours)

must be passed with a grade of C or higher

- any CC-CMW courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

ARP – Analytical Reasoning and Problem Solving (6-8 hours)

- any CC-ARP courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

SCI – Scientific Literacy (8 hours)

- Two 4-credit hour CC-SCI (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/) laboratory science courses

GFL – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Foreign Language (0-6 hours)

Demonstration of proficiency in one foreign language equivalent to the minimal passing grade on the exit examination in the 122 course is required for all baccalaureate degrees. Students can demonstrate this proficiency by successfully completing Phase II of the Proficiency Test or by successfully completing the 122 course, including the exit exam administered as part of that course.

- CC-GFL courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)
Please select the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement from the approved list of U.S. and non-U.S. history courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/history-requirement/).

2. College Requirements (15-18 hours)

Foreign Language (0-3 hours)
- only if needed to meet 122-level proficiency

History (3 hours)
The College of Arts and Sciences requires one additional GHS course beyond the Carolina Core GHS requirement.
- If the Carolina Core GHS requirement is fulfilled by a U.S. history course, the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement must be fulfilled by a non-U.S. history course.
- If the Carolina Core GHS requirement is fulfilled by a non-U.S. history course, the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement must be fulfilled by a U.S. history course.

Social Science and Fine Arts or Humanities (12 hours)
- Social Science (3 hours)
  - The College of Arts and Science requires one 3-hour Social Science Course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/courses-acceptable-social-science/)
- Fine Arts/ Humanities (9 Hours)
  - A Bachelor of Arts from the College of Arts and Sciences requires three 3-hour Fine Arts/ Humanities Courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/courses-acceptable-fine-arts-humanities/)

3. Program Requirements (31-46 hours)

Supporting Courses (3 hours)
- must be passed with a grade of C or higher
- SOCY 392*

Cognate or Minor (12-18 hours)
Students must complete a cognate (12 hours) or a minor as part of this program. In lieu of a cognate or minor, an additional major may be added to a student’s program of study. Additional majors must include all major courses as well as any prescribed courses noted (*) in the bulletin. Prescribed courses noted in the bulletin may be shared with Carolina Core, College requirements, and Program requirements in the primary program.

Cognate (12 hours)
The cognate must consist of twelve (12) hours of courses at the advanced level, outside of but related to the major. The cognate may be taken in one or more departments or programs.

Courses offered by departments and programs that are acceptable for cognate credit are outlined in the section titled Courses Acceptable for Cognate Credit in Degree Programs in the College of Arts and Sciences (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/courses-acceptable-cognate/). Some major programs have specific cognate requirements. It should be emphasized that the cognate is not a second set of elective courses to be chosen at random by the student. Students are urged to consult their major advisors for specific requirements in their major.

For Bachelor of Arts degrees, all cognate courses must be passed with a grade of C or higher.

Minor (18 hours)
In place of the cognate a student in the College of Arts and Sciences may choose a minor consisting of at least 18 credit hours of prescribed courses.

The minor is intended to develop a coherent basic preparation in a second area of study. It differs from the cognate inasmuch as the courses must follow a structured sequence.

Courses applied toward general education requirements cannot be counted toward the minor. No course may satisfy both major and minor requirements. All minor courses must be passed with a grade of C or higher. At least half of the courses in the minor must be completed in residence at the University.

A list of minor programs of study can be found at Programs A-Z (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/programs-az/).
Electives (10-31 hours)

120 (or 128) degree applicable credits are required to complete any degree at UofSC. After the cognate, minor or second major is complete, any additional credits needed to reach 120 (or 128) total credits can be fulfilled by electives. No courses of a remedial, developmental, skill-acquiring, or vocational nature may apply as credit toward degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences. The College of Arts and Sciences allows the use of the Pass-Fail option on elective courses. Further clarification on inapplicable courses can be obtained from the College of Arts and Sciences.

4. Major Requirements (27 hours)

A minimum grade of C is required in all major courses.

Major Courses (9 hours)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOCY 393</td>
<td>Sociological Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCY 391</td>
<td>Sociological Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCY 561</td>
<td>Integrative Research Experience</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credit Hours</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
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Major Electives (18 hours)

- Select 4 additional SOCY courses from the 300-level or above
- Select 2 additional SOCY courses from the 500-level or above

B.A. with Distinction in Sociology

The Departmental Undergraduate Research Track (BA with Distinction in Sociology) is available to students majoring in Sociology who maintain a minimum GPA of 3.50 in the major and 3.50 cumulative and who wish to plan and conduct an individual research project under the supervision of a faculty committee.

A student seeking to graduate with Distinction in Sociology must select a faculty member to chair the committee that guides and evaluates the research project. At least two other faculty members will be appointed by the committee chair to serve as members of the committee. A written sponsorship agreement signed by the committee chair must be filed with the departmental chair. The student must successfully defend a research proposal and final paper to the committee. Ideally, the project should be finished within two semesters.

Research projects must conform to the University’s policy on the treatment of human subjects. Proposals must additionally be subjected to the scrutiny of the Department of Sociology ethics committee.

Requirements

- Cumulative GPA of 3.50 or higher and a GPA of 3.50 or higher in the major;
- Successful completion of requirements for the Sociology major;
- Research proposal approved by faculty committee;
- Successful completion of 3-6 hours SOCY 599 including written and oral presentation of research project.

Major Map

A major map is a layout of required courses in a given program of study, including critical courses and suggested course sequences to ensure a clear path to graduation.