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LaGrange College

Course Catalog - Sociology

B.A. in Sociology with a Concentration in Health and Medicine - B.A. in Sociology with a Concentration in Health and Medicine

Type:Major

Health and Medicine Concentration (Sociology Majors)

Medical sociology is the study of the societal dimensions of health and medicine.

It is a well-recognized field that offers great preparation for graduate school in the health-related professions. The Sociology Department has a good sequence of courses in the department for students with a pre-med or pre-health career path. Students often plan to go to medical school, attend a graduate program in health services administration, or seek a program in social work. Students may seek jobs in human resources as well as recruiting in a health software companies.

The **Health and Medicine** concentration introduces students to the relationship between society and health. In this concentration, students will study the impact of social, cultural, political, and economic factors on health and vice-versa. Courses in this area examine issues such as health behavior, physical and mental illnesses, doctor-patient interaction, medicalization, health care reform, health care delivery and health policy. This concentration is for students interested in jobs related to medical, mental health, or social service fields, patient advocacy, mental health facilities or nursing homes, administrative positions, and program planning.

Health and Medicine Concentration (requirements)

The Sociology program offers a Health and Medicine concentration for Sociology majors. These options are designed to offer training to those interested in pursuing a career in serving the aging. Both the concentration and the minor provide a strong basis in critical issues of the field, and practical hands-on experience through the internship. Graduates with a minor or concentration in gerontology will have the foundation for pursuing a variety of careers.

Student Learning Objectives

Graduates with a concentration in Health and Medicine should demonstrate:

- Competency in the basic components and knowledge involving the services involving medical care, research and health issues for a global population and the population in the U.S.
- An understanding of the contemporary issues in healthcare facing the population and the social issues involved
- An awareness of global healthcare issues facing a world population

Assessment of Learning Objectives:

Sociology majors graduating with a concentration in gerontology are required to successfully complete the capstone senior seminar, research and defend a senior paper as well as pass a major field exit examination. Through these requirements, students must demonstrate their mastery of the major's objectives.

For a Sociology major with a Health and Medicine concentration, a total of 36 semester hours is required:

15 hours of *Health and Medicine* courses

- SOCI 2000 Social Issues and Policy
- SOCI 2350 Death and Dying
- SOCI 3700 Medical Sociology
- SOCI 3975 Program Evaluation
- SOCI 3430 (Phil 3430) Bioethics

15 hours of required Sociology major courses

- SOCI 1000 Introduction to Sociology
- SOCI 3900 Methods I: Introduction to Methodology
- SOCI 3950 Methods II: Understanding Data Analysis
- SOCI 4000 or 4475 Theory I or Theory II
- SOCI 4950 Presenting Social Analysis (Senior Seminar)

6 hours in Sociology electives

These courses must be satisfied with a grade of "C" or higher

B.A. in Sociology - B.A. in Sociology

Type:Major

Sociology majors are required to complete the following courses, totaling 33 (five (5) required and six (6) electives) semester hours. All courses for the major must be completed with a grade of "C" or higher. Under no circumstances will a "D" grade count toward the major.

The only exception is as follows:

One grade of "C-" will be allowed to count toward the major so long as it does not occur with any of the following five required courses:

SOCI 1000 Introduction to Sociology
SOCI 3900 Methods I: Introduction to Methodology
SOCI 3950 Methods II: Understanding Data Analysis
SOCI 4000 or 4475 Theory I or Theory II
SOCI 4950 Presenting Social Analysis (Senior Seminar)

Sociology Courses

Foundation Sociology Courses (15 hours)

SOCI 1000 Introduction to Sociology (3)
SOCI 3900 Methods I: Introduction to Methodology (3)
SOCI 3950 Methods II: Understanding Data Analysis (3)
SOCI 4000 or 4475 Theory I or Theory II (3)
SOCI 4950 Presenting Social Analysis (Senior Seminar) (3)

Major Electives (18 hours)

Students may complete the major by electing six other courses from the following list:

SOCI 2000 Social Issues and Policies in Global Perspective (3)
SOCI 2200 Social Work: Introducing Theory and Practice (3)
SOCI 2250 Introduction to Gerontology (3)
SOCI 2300 Sociology of Sports (3)
SOCI 2350 Death and Dying (3)
SOCI 2500 Kinship and Families (3)
SOCI2700 Introduction to Poverty Studies (3)
SOCI 3000 Social Change & Social Movements (3)
SOCI 3307 Criminology (3)
SOCI 3340 Sociology of Religion (3)
SOCI 3360 Globalization in the 21st Century (3)
SOCI 3400 Deviance and Criminology (3)
SOCI 3430 Bioethics (3)
SOCI 3450 Social policy and Aging (3)
SOCI 3500 Race, Ethnicity and Gender in Society (3)
SOCI 3550 Drugs and Society (3)
SOCI 3600 Sociology of Education (3)
SOCI 3700 Medical Sociology (3)
SOCI 3800 Special Topics in Sociology (3)
SOCI 3850 Corrections and Society (3)

SOCI 3975	Methods of Program Evaluation (3)
SOCI 4200	Social Inequality & Stratification (3)
SOCI 4475	Theory II (3)
PSYC 1101	Introduction to Psychology (3)
PSYC 3302	Human Growth and Development (3)
PSYC 3321	Social Psychology (3)
HIST 3000	Public History (3)
HIST 3416	Twentieth Century America (3)

One (1) Interim courses taught by Sociology faculty may be counted as electives if approved by Discipline Coordinator.

Minor in Sociology - Minor in Sociology

Type:Minor

Sociology minors are required to complete the following courses, totaling **15** semester hours

- SOCI 1000 Introduction to Sociology (3)
- SOCI 4000, 4475, or 3900 Option of Theory or Methodology (3)
- SOCI Electives Must be SOCI courses (9)

These courses must be satisfied with a grade of "C" or higher. Under no circumstances will a "D" grade count toward the minor.

SOCI 1000 - Introduction to Sociology

Introduction to Sociology is a study of the fundamental concepts and principles of the discipline, with emphasis on socialization, social institutions, social interaction, social stratification and inequality, as well as mechanisms of social control. Familiarization with the distinction between macro- and micro-level sociological processes will be emphasized.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

Restrictions:

- Fall and Spring

SOCI 2000 - Social Issues and Policies in Global Perspective

Using a special topics approach, this course provides the most current assessment of social problems and the policies created in an attempt to remedy these social ills.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 2200 - Social Work: Introduction to Theory and Practice

Social Work introduces the prospective social worker to underlying theories associated with the field and provides an overview of the history and practice of social work.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 2250 - Introduction to Gerontology

Introduction to Gerontology explores the sociological aspects of aging including how the elderly affect society and how society affects the elderly. We examine the interaction of the elderly with society and with many of our social institutions such as religion, healthcare, government, and the economy. We look at the issues associated with our aging population and how those issues affect people of all ages as well as examining several current controversies associated with our changing population structure. Current theories, policies, and practices in gerontology are introduced and provide exploration of the field as a possible career choice.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 2300 - Sociology of Sports

Sports have made an enduring impact on the social world in which we all live and represent an important aspect of our everyday lives and our leisure time. The organization of sports is a reflection of the organization of society. By critically studying the relationship between sports and society we will gain a greater understanding of society as a whole. The goal of this course is to apply a sociological lens to the world of sports and athletics (a distinction that will be examined) through the incorporation of academic writing, popular media, and personal experiences. Using these tools, the student will explore the ways in which sports are entangled in social, cultural, political, and economic forces operating at many different levels (local and global).

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 2350 - Death and Dying

Everything that is alive eventually dies, thus death is a part of life. Understanding death can help us to understand and experience life more fully, and it can help us to make appropriate, compassionate responses to death and dying. The question of death, with or without religious guidance, is essentially ethical – what to do in recognition of the fact that we, everyone we love, and everyone who loves us, is going to die. In order to better understand ourselves and others, and the diversity of loss experiences, this course examines how social, cultural, and historical factors influence individuals' coping responses during loss and the last stage of life. Difficult and controversial health care, end of life, care giving needs, and after life issues are also be explored.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 2500 - Kinship and Families

Kinship and Families offers a multi-disciplinary perspective on contemporary marriages, families, and other intimate relationships. Students will become familiarized with competing models and theories on family relationships. In addition, the course explores cross-cultural variation in family systems as well as diversity and change within the American population. Topics to be covered include: mate selection, sexuality, marital structure, marital happiness, divorce, parenting, and alternative family forms.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 2700 - Introduction to Poverty Studies

Introduction to Poverty Studies exposes students to the causes and effects of poverty and allows them to begin thinking about how they can help alleviate it. Readings and discussions will encourage students' understanding of how disciplines can come together to help eradicate poverty, increase their understanding of what it means to be poor in both the U.S. and globally, and begin to think of solutions to complex problems.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 3000 - Social Change & Social Movements

An analysis of the sources, patterns, and consequences of social and cultural change. The roles of socio-economic, political, technological and other factors in processes of change at institutional and societal levels are investigated.

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 3200 - Social Responsibility and Civil Society

Students of Social Responsibility and Civil Society will examine past social justice movements as well as the meaning of civil society. In addition, students will examine the 21st century idea of social entrepreneurship. Combining these approaches, students will determine the meaning of a civil society and its implications for social responsibility and policy.

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 3302 - Social Work Theory and Application

Focus is on theories needed for generalist social work practice with individuals and small groups. Critical evaluation of the value base of the social work profession and basic practice concepts for understanding a variety of intervention models in diverse settings will be explored.

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 3307 - Criminology

Criminology examines the nature and impact of crime in the United States. We will focus on the following topics: 1) historical foundations of crime; 2) theoretical perspectives of criminology; 3) characteristics of victims and offenders; 4) different types of crime; and 5) an analysis of policies concerning crime and control.

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 3.0

Restrictions:

- Spring
-

SOCI 3340 - Sociology of Religion

A sociological analysis of the interplay between religion and culture.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 3352 - Essentials of Human Behavior: Social Work and Applied Sociology

An examination of the lifecourse of human populations with an emphasis on at-risk members within the population. Using Applied Sociology concepts and Social Work best practices, students will examine processes for engaging at risk individuals and to provide services that might lessen or remove risk and hardships from their lives. Students will also develop a lifespan approach to biopsychosocial examination of behavior and early development through old age emphasizing social influences.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 3360 - Globalization in the 21st Century

Globalization in the 21st Century focuses on the social structure, economics, politics, and culture of the United States in a global context. It examines many of the common assumptions about American society, especially global influence, relationships. An overview of current and past theory is examined at an interdisciplinary level.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 3400 - Deviance and Criminology

Deviance and criminology is a multi-disciplinary examination of deviant behavior and corrections, with an emphasis on competing theories regarding the origins and incidence of deviance. Special attention will be given to the social forces underlying criminal and deviant behavior.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

Restrictions:

- Spring
-

SOCI 3430 - Bioethics

A study of the ethical issues raised by the practice of nursing, medicine, and biomedical research.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 3450 - Social Policy and Aging

Social Policy and Aging examines aging-related social policy topics in more depth than Introduction to Gerontology. We begin the class by looking at some of the important contexts in which aging policy occurs - social, economic, and political. We also look at the relationship between policy and diversity of the older population both as domestic and global issues. We then turn to specific policy areas, including employment, retirement, housing, health care and long-term community and family care. We also study the debate about generational equity - are older people benefitting at the expense of the young?

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 3500 - Race/Ethnicity and Gender in Society

Students will become aware of the impacts of race, ethnicity and gender in a global society. The norms, values, and patterns of communication associated with each category and how these affect personal life choices and social status will be examined. Specifically, students will become aware of how our basic social institutions, such as the economy, the family, education, religion, and the political system are biased institutions with differing ideals and expectations for women and men as well as different race and ethnic groups.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 3550 - Drugs and Society

Drugs and Society focuses on drug use and abuse as a social phenomenon. This course will examine the following: 1) The history behind drug laws; 2) The relationship between drugs and race/gender/class; 3) Use patterns related to specific drugs; 4) Drug policy, legislation, and enforcement; and 5) Drug use subcultures

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

Restrictions:

- Fall
-

SOCI 3600 - Sociology of Education

Sociology of Education examines the structure and process of education in contemporary society and the effects on society. The primary focus will be on U.S. public education. An examination of current controversies in education will also be covered. These controversies include but are not limited to school funding, curriculum approaches, violence, bullying and educational reform movements.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 3700 - Medical Sociology

This course will provide an introduction to central topics in the sociology of medicine while also suggesting how that field is being redefined and reinvigorated by science and technology studies. Students will seek to understand health, health care, and biomedicine by exploring multiple domains: (1) the work sites in which health professionals interact with one another and with their clients; (2) the cultural arenas within which ideas of health and disease circulate; (3) the market relations that produce health care as a commodity; the institutions that transform social inequalities into health disparities; and (4) the social movements that challenge biomedical practices and the authority of experts.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 3800 - Special Topics in Sociology

Special Topics will involve in-depth exploration into a unique topic in Sociology. The course content will rotate from year to year. Students may repeat the course for credit so long as the topic changes and with departmental approval.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

Prerequisites:

- [SOCI 1000](#) - Introduction to Sociology

Restrictions:

- On demand
-

SOCI 3850 - Corrections and Society

Corrections and Society examines the history and background of the American corrections system. Specific attention will be placed on law, policies, issues, and controversies, as well as an examination of how race, class, and gender intersect within the criminal justice system. Alternatives to incarceration, capital punishment, and community based treatment plans will be discussed.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

Restrictions:

- Fall
-

SOCI 3900 - Methods I: Introduction to Methodology

Methods I is a study of basic social science research methodology. Topics considered include: research design and data collection, writing a literature review, measurement and causality, fitting models to data with various methods, graphic analysis, and the use of statistical software. An emphasis is placed on designing a research project.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

Prerequisites:

- [SOCI 1000](#) - Introduction to Sociology

Restrictions:

- Fall
-

SOCI 3950 - Methods II: Understanding Data Analysis

Methods II expands on the concepts, techniques, and interpretation of quantitative methods. Includes, but not limited to: measurement, hypothesis testing, bivariate and multivariate techniques, and application with SPSS.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

Prerequisites:

- [SOC 3950](#) - Methods II: Understanding Data Analysis

Restrictions:

- Spring
-

SOCI 3975 - Methods of Program Evaluation

This course provides an introduction to the basic tools of program evaluation thereby allowing students to assess and build higher quality programs and policies. An overview of the theoretical foundations and techniques of program evaluation including need assessments, outcome evaluations, surveys, program outcomes and impact evaluations. Topics covered include reasons for and uses of evaluations, evaluation design, comparisons of qualitative, quantitative and mixed method approaches, practical challenges in data collection and analysis, estimation of program impacts, dissemination of findings, and integration of findings into policy and organizational strategy as well as cost estimations for quality evaluations. Students will analyze the evaluations of a variety of programs and policy instruments through exercises and case studies.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 4000 - Theory I

Theory I is an introduction to the development of sociological theory. It focuses on the most influential figures in the development of sociological theory and their legacy in contemporary sociology. Major schools of social thought are covered.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

Prerequisites:

- [SOC 1000](#) - Introduction to Sociology

Restrictions:

- Junior Status Preferred
-

SOCI 4200 - Social Inequality & Stratification

Inequality and Stratification will examine social inequality, a topic which is at the core of sociological analysis and research. The classical perspectives on inequality will be examined, as well as the contemporary extensions of these approaches. Particular attention will be paid to class, race, and gender as separate and as intersecting axes of inequality.

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 4475 - Theory II

Theory II is an introduction to classical, 20th century, and current social theorists. It focuses on the most influential figures in the development of sociological theory and their legacy in contemporary sociology.]

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 3.0

SOCI 4500 - Sociology Internship

This course requires 120 hours of supervised experience (per 3 credit hours) in a local agency or office, selected readings, as well as an oral presentation given in one of the SOCI courses. Applications for internships must be submitted to the department chair in the term or semester prior to placement. Students may select a graded or Pass/No Credit option. Course may be repeated twice (for 3 hours credit) for a maximum of 6 hours credit.

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 3.0

Prerequisites:

- [SOCI 1000](#) - Introduction to Sociology

Restrictions:

- Grade C or higher in SOCI1000
 - On demand
 - Two other SOCI courses with grades of C or higher
-

SOCI 4950 - Senior Seminar

The Senior Seminar is designed to assess the student's mastery of the discipline and to determine their ability to use Mills' sociological imagination. Students are required to complete a research project and make a public presentation.

Grade Basis: AL

Credit hours: 3.0

Lecture hours: 3.0

Restrictions:

- Spring

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LaGrange College

601 Broad Street

LaGrange, GA 30240

706-880-8000