SOCIOLOGY

Courses

All courses are 3.0 credit units, except SOCY 898, 899 and 999, which are 6.0 credit units.

SOCY 881,891,892,893,894,895,896,897  Directed Special Studies
Courses arranged especially for those whose interests are not met by other courses.

SOCY 898  Master's Essay Research
Required in Program ii.

SOCY 899  Master's Thesis Research
Required in Program i.

SOCY 900  Professional and Pedagogical Skills
This course is designed to acquaint doctoral students with some aspects of the teaching and research responsibilities of a sociologist and faculty member. It has both theoretical and practical components, and will cover course planning, presentation and preparation as well as planning, organizing, funding and publishing research. Grading is on a Pass/Fail basis. Course is compulsory for doctoral students and is offered every other year. Three term hours. Offered 2021-22.

SOCY 901  Sociological Theory
Core Course: All M.A. and Ph.D. students will normally be required to take this course. Ph.D. students who have already taken the course shall choose an appropriate replacement in consultation with the Graduate Coordinator. This course critically examines the main tenets of contemporary sociological theory. Key sociological concepts are studied in a variety of contexts spanning from the micro to macro levels of social action. Although heavily reliant on the main historical developments in sociology (Marx, Weber and Durkheim), emphasis is place on post Second World War II developments in sociological theory. Three term hours. Fall; M. Hand.

SOCY 902  Sociological Methodology
All M.A. and Ph.D. students will normally be required to take this course. Ph.D. students who have already taken the course shall choose an appropriate replacement in consultation with the Graduate Coordinator. This course deals with the main contemporary methodological approaches to the explanation of social phenomena. It will critically examine the strengths and weaknesses of the major strategies of social research (qualitative, quantitative and historical). The selection of specific problems areas may vary from year to year. Three term hours. Fall; V. Sytsma

SOCY 903  Surveillance Studies
Surveillance is sociologically significant as a central means of governance. Surveillance is both a cultural and technical invention, especially dependent today on digital infrastructures and neo liberal policy. Personal data are gathered by many means and processed to create categories by which risks and opportunities are assessed, and through which people’s life chances and choices are influenced and managed. Three term hours. Not offered 2021-22.

SOCY 911  Contemporary Sociological Theory
This course enables an advanced engagement with contemporary sociology. It will focus on recent developments in sociological theorizing, directing these toward specific problem areas. The precise topics will vary from year to year in response to instructor expertise, student interest and need. Not offered 2021-22.

SOCY 916  Qualitative Methodology

SOCY 917  Quantitative Methodology
This course serves as an introduction to a broad range of quantitative methods typically employed in the Social Sciences in a manner suitable for students at the graduate level. Students will learn to prepare data for analysis, carry out analyses, and interpret research results using a variety of statistical techniques. Students will be acquainted with the assumptions that are made while employing various methods, as well as the problems that arise with the use of such methods. Three term hours. Fall; V. Sytsma.

SOCY 918  Current Developments in Socio Legal Theory
This course will focus upon a variety of macro, middle and micro level theories in the socio legal area. The emphasis will be on historical and comparative critical analysis and evaluation using appropriate empirical evidence and studies. Not offered 2021-22.

SOCY 919  Current Developments in Socio Legal Methodology

SOCY 920  Advanced Issues in Socio Legal Studies
This course will examine issues and controversies in the socio legal area. Topics will vary, but may include some or all of the following: corporate crime, victimology, crime and the elderly, feminist criminology. Three term hours. Winter; A. Saulnier.

SOCY 921  The Social Construction of Science and Technology
The evolution of science and technology is neither linear nor cumulative. By drawing upon theories of sociology of science and technology, the course argues through the use of case
studies that, like other forms of knowledge, scientific and technical knowledge is socially constructed and is embedded in general social relations. Not offered 2021-22.

**SOCY 925  Feminist Sociological Theory**
This course deals with feminist critiques of sociological theories, how such theories have been revised and appropriated by feminists and the various perspectives that feminists have developed for interrogating and transforming social hierarchies informed inter alia by gender, class, racism, and heterosexism. Three term hours. Not offered 2021-22.

**SOCY 931  New Media Cultures**
We live in cultures which are increasingly organized around or saturated with digital information or new media. In this advanced course we will engage with some of the major commentators on relationships between new media and culture, working through a series of key ideas and problems focused around intersections of theory and practice. Instead of maintaining a domination/resistance conception of cultural industries and practices, we will explore complex dynamics of innovation and consumption across a variety of arenas. There will be scope to engage with notions of mobility, speed, reflection, reflexivity, information, virtuality, consumption, in the context of different spaces or objects (city; home; archive; gallery; brand, memory, sounds, visions, events, body, etc.) and practices (photography, art, writing, listening, tourism, learning, etc.) which exemplify contemporary debates about new media in cultural sociology. Three term hours.

**SOCY 932  Transnational Theories of Race, Gender and Sexuality**
This course is designed for graduate students interested in questions surrounding the construction and perpetuation of categories of social difference. It explores current theories of concerning social relations of race, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, class and other dimensions of difference, and the ways in which these social relations are intersecting and interlocking. The aim of this course is to bring an intersectional analysis to contemporary social concerns, but also to ground that analysis historically. These questions are addressed through a range of theoretical approaches, including critical race theory, transnational feminism, anti racist feminism, anti racist theory, postcolonial theory and queer theory. Not offered 2021-22.

**SOCY 934  Special Topics**
This course explores a range of special topics in the area of surveillance, critical big data studies, and/or digital media. Topics vary from year to year. See the Departmental Graduate Studies website for details.

**SOCY 935  Special Topics**
This course explores a range of special topics in the area of criminology or sociolegal studies. Topics vary from year to year. See the Departmental Graduate Studies website for details.

**SOCY 999  Ph.D. Thesis Research**