Queen's University Department of Sociology

Fourth Year Courses
Fourth year courses are designed as seminars with a maximum enrolment of 25 undergraduate students in their fourth year. The following courses may be offered in 2018-2019:

SOCY 403/3.0 units  Fall 3.0S
Race, Sex, and the Body
This course explores the body as a site for the production of social and cultural meaning and social inequality. Drawing on sociological theories of the body, critical race theory, queer theory, feminist theory and postcolonial theory to highlight and ask questions about the ways that bodies are racialized, gendered and sexualized. Topics covered may include sexual diversity and desire, racism, eugenics, colonialism, nation-building, disability, body image, popular culture and reproduction.

SOCY 422/3.0 units  Winter 3.0S
Advanced Studies in Communication and Information Technology
The aim of this course is for students to obtain a more nuanced understanding about the various ways in which information and communication technologies are involved in maintaining or disrupting social order, paying particular attention to questions of power and social inequalities.

SOCY 425/3.0 units  Winter 3.0S
Applied Sociology
Applied sociology translates sociological knowledge into practice. This course expands understanding of the scope of applied sociology and provides firsthand experience in some of its forms that encompass applied social research, community based research, clinical sociology, policy research and analysis, organizational assessment and program evaluation, advocacy, activism, and public sociology. Initiating a repertoire of professional activities grounded in sociological theory and methods, the course involves practical considerations of principles, approaches, techniques, resources, ethics, and exemplars. Students build skills for future careers as they learn what it means to think sociologically in real world settings.

SOCY 426/3.0 units  Fall 3.0S
Selected Topics: Perspectives on Policing
Through the use of empirical evidence and academic literature, this course will present the various, and often contrasting, perspectives surrounding a number of contemporary North American policing innovations; including community policing, broken-windows policing, hotspots policing, intelligence-led policing, and the use of modern technologies such as body cameras.

SOCY 427/3.0 units  Winter 3.0S
Identification, Surveillance & Citizenship
IDs of all kinds (driver’s licences, workplace badges, citizenship cards, passports, internet sign-on) are needed for access, eligibility and exchange. At the same time, they are key means of
surveillance that can lead to social disadvantage or exclusion. In a digital era they proliferate. Sold as solutions, they can easily become a nexus of power. Sociological approaches enable critical assessments of IDs in a technically dependent, post-Snowden world.

SOCY 429/3.0 units  
**Sociology of Medicine**  
No course description at this time.

SOCY 430/3.0 units  
**Sociology of Consumer Culture**  
A critical engagement with theories of consumer culture with emphasis upon the material, symbolic, and practice-orientated aspects of consumption in sociological context; substantive focus upon shopping, taste, brands, tourism, services, digital communication.  
*Prerequisite:* SOCY 306/3.0 units

SOCY 475/3.0  
**Advanced Studies in Deviance and Social Control**  
Critical study of theories and practices of social control in Canada and comparable societies insofar as they are implemented by law or regulation and rely on coercion; main agencies of social control and assumptions of their operation emphasized.  
*Prerequisite:* SOCY 275 and SOCY 276

SOCY 476/3.0 units  
**Surveillance, Privacy and Social Control**  
Processes and responses to growth of surveillance in the 20th century; use of new technologies in government, industry and commerce, and the role of resistance is emphasized.  
*Prerequisite:* SOCY 309/3.0.

SOCY 511/3.0 units  
**Children, Youth and the Law**  
This seminar examines the development of juvenile justice in Canada and the sociological study of youth crime. Students will critically examine the theory and empirical research that has developed in sociology and criminology focussing on juvenile offenders.

SOCY 512/3.0 units  
**Contemporary Issues in the Administration of Justice**  
This advanced seminar will examine a variety of contemporary and controversial issues that impact the administration of justice in Canada. Select topics from each stage of the criminal process will be explored, including racial profiling and carding practices, use of force and accountability, bail and pre-trial detention, plea bargaining, specialized courts, sentencing, community-based sanctions, prison labour, solitary confinement, Indigenous peoples in custody, women in custody, family visits, parole and re-entry.
Thesis Option
An intensive study of a particular topic or question, usually consisting of a number of sections or chapters which form a single coherent work. The topic is chosen by the student in consultation with an academic advisor, and the work covers both terms. A brief giving details of the requirements is available in the Department; students should read this before the end of their third year. Before enrolling in this course, students must secure a faculty supervisor. A meeting between the Undergraduate Chair and students is normally held in the Fall Term to discuss questions about the thesis.

Please Note: Other Fourth Year Seminar courses or Reading courses may subsequently be offered, depending on availability of teaching resources and student interest/demand. Conversely, a fourth year seminar course originally listed as being offered could be removed.