

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

College of the Sciences and Mathematics

102 Old Library
610-436-2556

Department of Anthropology and Sociology (<http://www.wcupa.edu/anthropologySociology/>)

Heather Wholey (hwholey@wcupa.edu), *Chairperson*

Miguel Ceballos (mceballos@wcupa.edu), *Assistant Chairperson*

The Department of Anthropology and Sociology offers two programs leading to the bachelor of arts degree.

- The **B.A. in Anthropology** focuses on the study of humankind in all of its diversity, paying equal attention to the biological and cultural aspects of being human in the past and in the present. Anthropology majors take courses in each of the four overlapping sub-disciplines: archaeology, biological anthropology, linguistics, and socio-cultural anthropology; minors take courses in at least two sub-disciplines. Archaeology is the study of the ancient and recent human past through biological and material remains; biological anthropology examines human biological variation and its evolution over time; linguistic anthropology focuses on the bio-cultural aspects of language and communication; and, socio-cultural anthropology is the study of cultural patterns and their expression through ideas, beliefs, norms, values, interactions, worldviews, and behavior. Students in the anthropology program have the option to concentrate their coursework in the areas of archaeology, biological/medical anthropology, museum studies, or ethnographic study to prepare for a variety of jobs, including possible careers in archaeology and preservation; conservation work; consulting and market research; global health and nutrition; museum work; or the tourism and heritage industry. Students completing an anthropology degree are also well prepared for graduate school in anthropology or related fields.
- The **B.A. in Sociology** focuses on the scientific study of society, social life, social change, and human behavior. Students develop the knowledge and skills needed to understand the influence of social forces on human development and action, the workings of society and its components, reasons that societies change in some ways while staying the same in others, and the causes and effects of social power and inequality. Courses examine the influence of social contexts like culture, politics, the economy, and the environment; social processes like socialization, stratification, urbanization, conflict, and change; social structures and statuses like class, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality; and social institutions like the family, education, healthcare, religion, the workplace, and mass media. Students develop a foundation in quantitative and qualitative research methods, including digital approaches, as well as classical and contemporary theories for investigating the social world, preparing them for work in many professional fields. Further, students have opportunities to gain real-world experience through participation in original research and data analysis, experiential learning, community engagement, internships, and study abroad. Because sociology unifies multiple disciplines, the B.A. in Sociology prepares students for work and further studies in areas such as education, public policy, social and human services, criminal justice and victim advocacy, urban affairs, community organizing, legal and health professions, social science research, and more.

Majors in the two B.A. programs should consult this catalog, the appropriate department handbook, and their advisor for current requirements. Students planning to major in one of these programs are

advised to take ANT 102 and SOC 100 no later than their sophomore year.

Minor Programs

Students may minor in anthropology, sociology, or museum studies. A minimum of 18 credits is required. Students may take anthropology or sociology as one of the minors in the B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/university-college/interdisciplinary-academic-support-programs/interdisciplinary-ba/>), B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies - STEM-H Concentration (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/university-college/interdisciplinary-academic-support-programs/interdisciplinary-studies-bs-stem-h/>), or B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies - Professional Concentration (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/university-college/interdisciplinary-academic-support-programs/interdisciplinary-studies-bs-professional/>) programs. The Minor in Museum Studies can be applied to the B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/university-college/interdisciplinary-academic-support-programs/interdisciplinary-ba/>) or B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies - Professional Concentration (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/university-college/interdisciplinary-academic-support-programs/interdisciplinary-studies-bs-professional/>) programs.

Programs

Majors

- B.A. in Anthropology (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/sciences-mathematics/anthropology-sociology/anthropology-ba/>)
- B.A. in Sociology (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/sciences-mathematics/anthropology-sociology/sociology-ba/>)

Minors

- Anthropology (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/sciences-mathematics/anthropology-sociology/anthropology-minor/>)
- Museum Studies (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/sciences-mathematics/anthropology-sociology/museum-studies-minor/>)
- Sociology (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/sciences-mathematics/anthropology-sociology/sociology-minor/>)

Graduate Opportunities

See the graduate catalog for more information on the Anthropology and Sociology programs. (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/graduate/sciences-mathematics/anthropology-sociology/>)

Policies

- See undergraduate admissions information. (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/general-information/admissions-enrollment/undergraduate-admissions/>)
- See academic policies. (<http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/>)

All undergraduate students are held to the academic policies and procedures outlined in the undergraduate catalog. Students are encouraged to review departmental handbooks for program tips, suggested course sequences, and explanations of procedures. When applicable, additional policies for specific department programs may be listed below.

Faculty

Professors

Michael A. Di Giovine (mdigiovine@wcupa.edu) (2013)
B.S., Georgetown University; A.M., Ph.D., The University of Chicago

Susan L. Johnston (sjohnston@wcupa.edu) (2001)
B.A., University of Pennsylvania; B.S., Hahnemann University; Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania

Paul Stoller (pstoller@wcupa.edu) (1980)
B.A., University of Pittsburgh; M.S., Georgetown University; Ph.D.,
University of Texas at Austin

Heather Wholey (hwholey@wcupa.edu) (2005)
Chairperson, Anthropology and Sociology
B.A., State University of New York at Albany; M.A., Ph.D., Catholic
University of America

Julie B. Wiest (jwiest@wcupa.edu) (2013)
B.S., University of Tennessee; M.A., University of Georgia; Ph.D.,
University of Tennessee

Jacqueline Zalewski (jzalewski@wcupa.edu) (2007)
B.A., University of Wisconsin-Parkside; M.A., Ph.D., Loyola
University, Chicago

Associate Professors

Miguel Ceballos (mceballos@wcupa.edu) (2012)
Director, Ethnic Studies Program
Assistant Chairperson, Anthropology and Sociology
B.A., University of California, Berkeley; M.A., University of Texas at
Austin; M.S., Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison

Rebecca L. Chancellor (rchancellor@wcupa.edu) (2013)
B.A., University of Nevada; M.A., Ph.D., University of California,
Davis

Valerian Desousa (vdesousa@wcupa.edu) (2008)
Assistant Chairperson, Anthropology and Sociology
B.A., Bombay University; M.A., Xavier Labour Relations Institute
(India); Ph.D. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

John Leveille (jleveille@wcupa.edu) (2006)
B.A., University of Rhode Island; M.A., Ed.M., Columbia University;
Ph.D., University of California, San Diego

Aliza D. Richman (arichman@wcupa.edu) (2014)
B.A., Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University; M.A., M.P.H.,
Northwestern University

Assistant Professor

Leon Arredondo (larredondo@wcupa.edu) (2011)
Director, Latin American and Latino/a Studies Program
B.A., Montclair State University; M.Phil., Ph.D., City University of
New York

Courses

ANT

ANT 101. Introduction to Biological Anthropology. 3 Credits.

Fundamentals of human biological variation and evolution, including evolutionary theory and processes, human genetics, the nature of human biological diversity, adaptation, primate biology and behavior, the human fossil record, the evolution of disease, and population processes.

Gen Ed Attribute: Behavioral and Social Science Distributive.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

ANT 102. Introduction to Cultural Anthropology. 3 Credits.

This course introduces students to the fundamental concepts and methods in cultural anthropology--the study of humanity in all of its diversity. Focusing on how culture makes us think and act, organize ourselves, and understand the surrounding world the way we do, the course explores social and cultural diversity through a range of topics including race and ethnicity, sex and gender, kinship and families, religion, economic and political organization, and globalization.

Gen Ed Attribute: Behavioral and Social Science Distributive.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

ANT 103. Introduction to Archaeology. 3 Credits.

This course provides an overview of methods and strategies involved in archaeological research and the interpretation of culture through the analysis of archaeological remains.

Gen Ed Attribute: Behavioral and Social Science Distributive.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

ANT 199. Transfer Credits. 1-10 Credits.

Transfer Credits.
Repeatable for Credit.

ANT 213. Archaeological Field Techniques. 3 Credits.

Implementation of archaeological principles and theory in laboratory and field studies.
Pre / Co requisites: ANT 213 requires a prerequisite of ANT 103.
Typically offered in Summer and Winter.
Repeatable for Credit.

ANT 220. Cultures of Ethnic Groups in America. 3 Credits.

Survey of the cultural history and traditions of ethnic groups in America.
Typically offered in Spring.

ANT 224. Native People of South America. 3 Credits.

This course will introduce the student to the study of native peoples of South America after the European contact. Geographically, the course will cover the cultural characteristics, similarities, and differences among South American natives including the Amazonia.
Gen Ed Attribute: Foreign Language Culture Cluster, Spanish Culture Cluster.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

ANT 230. Introduction to Primatology. 3 Credits.

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the taxonomy, distribution, morphology, and behavior of human beings' closest living relatives, the nonhuman primates. This course is designed to provide students with the background to take more advanced courses within the interdisciplinary subject of primatology as well as provide them with a deeper understanding of nonhuman primates, evolution, and where humans fit in the world.
Gen Ed Attribute: Interdisciplinary Requirement.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring, Summer, Winter.
Cross listed courses ANT 230, PSY 230.

ANT 260. Artifacts and Culture. 3 Credits.

Critical exploration of the role of material items in the analysis and interpretation of human culture.
Gen Ed Attribute: Interdisciplinary Requirement.
Typically offered in Summer and Winter.

ANT 277. Sustainable Food Systems. 3 Credits.

This course, team taught by an anthropologist and a registered dietitian, examines the interrelationship of nutrition ecology, anthropology and the political economic underpinnings of sustainable food systems.
Gen Ed Attribute: Interdisciplinary Requirement.
Typically offered in Spring.
Cross listed courses ANT 277, NTD 277.

ANT 310. Human Paleontology. 3 Credits.

Human origins and evolution, including evolutionary thought, the evolution of non-human primates, and the hominin fossil record.
Pre / Co requisites: ANT 310 requires prerequisite of ANT 101 or permission of instructor.
Typically offered in Fall.

ANT 312. Medical Anthropology. 3 Credits.

This course provides an overview of the field of medical anthropology, including theory, general methodology and concepts. The approach of the course is biocultural, focusing on the evolutionary and ecological bases of disease and health as well as how culture affects the definition and treatment of illness -- highlighting the interplay between biology and culture in human health and disease.
Pre / Co requisites: ANT 312 requires a prerequisite of ANT 102.
Gen Ed Attribute: Writing Emphasis.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

ANT 314. Biocultural Perspectives on Food and Nutrition. 3 Credits.

This course acquaints students with the field of nutritional anthropology, including its various methods and areas of focus. The overall perspective in this course is a biocultural one. Students gain an appreciation for the evolutionary and ecological bases of human diets, as well as for how culture and society affect food choice, availability, and preparation. We examine the relationship between diet and disease and the role of belief and of political and economic forces in shaping human foodways, and we explore the ways in which nutritional anthropological knowledge can be applied to address nutrition problems in the contemporary world.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 314 requires a prerequisite of ANT 101 or ANT 102 or permission of instructor.

Distance education offering may be available.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

ANT 321. American Indian Today. 3 Credits.

Native Americans in contemporary Anglo-America.

Gen Ed Attribute: Diversity Requirement.

Typically offered in Spring.

ANT 322. Ethnology of Central America. 3 Credits.

Survey of the modern cultures of Central America: relationships to ancient peoples; the process of modernization in this area.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 322 requires prerequisite of ANT 102.

Gen Ed Attribute: Foreign Language Culture Cluster, Spanish Culture Cluster.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

ANT 324. Native People of the Andes. 3 Credits.

This course provides a comprehensive survey of the historical formation and development of the Andean society before and after the Spanish conquest.

Gen Ed Attribute: Foreign Language Culture Cluster, Spanish Culture Cluster.

Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

ANT 327. Cultures & Peoples of India. 3 Credits.

Provides a broad understanding of India using a framework that examines the intersection of culture and society, economy, politics, and art and literature.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 327 requires a prerequisite of ANT 102.

Typically offered in Spring.

ANT 329. Problems in Ethnology. 3 Credits.

Survey of the ethnographic literature pertaining to specific geographic regions. Area of focus to be announced in advance.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 329 requires prerequisite of ANT 102.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

ANT 330. Professionalization in Anthropology. 1 Credit.

This course supports the professional development of anthropology students by providing instruction and practice in such topics as preparing resumes or curriculum vitae, searching and applying for jobs, writing and sending professional letters, and exploring and preparing for graduate education. Course meetings will also be used for presentations by professional anthropologists and others able to provide students with a broad perspective on postgraduate career and educational options.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 330 requires a prerequisite of a minimum of 6 credits in anthropology.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

ANT 340. Folklore in Society. 3 Credits.

Survey of basic American folklore genres. Emphasis on folklore as process, tradition, and as an element of culture.

Typically offered in Fall.

ANT 344. Magic, Religion & Witchcraft. 3 Credits.

An analysis of supernaturalistic ideology and ritual in both tribal and civil society.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 344 requires prerequisite of ANT 102.

Typically offered in Fall.

ANT 347. The Cultures of Cities. 3 Credits.

This seminar introduces students to the cultural dynamics of city life in the era of globalization. Topics of study include globalization, the politics of urban space, informal economies, and immigration.

Gen Ed Attribute: Diversity Requirement.

Typically offered in Spring.

ANT 348. Dimensions of Ethnographic Film/Video. 3 Credits.

This course will introduce students to the study of ethnographic film/video. Topics to be considered include visual anthropology, ethnographic representation, and film theory.

Typically offered in Fall.

ANT 349. Ethnographic Research Methods. 3 Credits.

This hands-on course teaches students how to conduct ethnographic research in an increasingly globalizing and digitally connected world. Methods instructed include participant observation, ethnographic interviews, kinship and social network mapping, oral history elicitation, multi-sited/global and virtual ethnographies, and audio-visual documentation; ethics in research practice will also be covered.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 349 requires a prerequisite of ANT 102.

Typically offered in Spring.

Repeatable for Credit.

ANT 352. Cultural Heritage: Creating and Preserving the Past. 3 Credits.

What is cultural heritage, and how do societies remember, preserve, and transmit it? This seminar-style class explores the history and politics of cultural heritage and conservation movements, examining the ways in which 'patrimony' (heritage) is used to create or contest cultural identities across the world. Through case studies, we will discuss why tangible and intangible heritage stir such emotion among diverse peoples, mobilizing political organizations, NGOs, tourists, museums, tomb raiders, and even armies to celebrate, protect, loot, commodify, efface, contest, and even go to war over artifacts and practices rooted in the past.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 352 requires prerequisite: ANT 102 or ANT 103, or permission of instructor.

Typically offered in Fall.

ANT 355. Anthropology of Tourism. 3 Credits.

This seminar examines tourism as a complex social phenomenon in which a variety of encounters and exchanges occur, and which impacts the culture, politics and economics of mobile and immobile people around the world. It provides a comprehensive introduction to the field, touching on its history, scope and methods of research associated with what is considered one of the largest and fastest-growing industries in the world. The course also uses tourism as a lens for understanding fundamental anthropological and ethical concepts.

Typically offered in Spring.

ANT 360. Historical Archaeology. 3 Credits.

This course emphasizes the archaeological record of the past 400 years in North America, especially the Middle Atlantic region. Students learn how archaeologists utilize the archaeological record to study broad 'ism's including imperialism, colonialism, mercantilism, nationalism, urbanism, and racism. The course offers case studies for examining how the archaeological record illuminates the lives of diverse, marginalized, and "invisible" people, as well as practical research skills development and an understanding of archaeology in the public and private sectors, including cultural resources management, historic preservation, and heritage planning.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 360 requires a prerequisite or corequisite of ANT 103.

Gen Ed Attribute: Diversity Requirement.

Typically offered in Fall.

ANT 362. Archaeology of Central America. 3 Credits.

The archaeological record of Central America, covering the significant features of each culture area from modern Mexico to Panama.

Gen Ed Attribute: Foreign Language Culture Cluster, Spanish Culture Cluster.

Typically offered in Spring.

ANT 364. Archaeology of Native North America. 3 Credits.

This course takes a topical approach to the early human cultures of North America (~13,500-1,000 years ago), covering subjects from Ice Age peoples to early horticultural societies, and from the significance of grand cultural landscapes to the development of centralized political institutions. It addresses concerns of descendant communities regarding cultural heritage and applies a decolonizing perspective to archaeological practice and the archaeological record of early North America.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 364 requires a prerequisite of ANT 103.

Gen Ed Attribute: Writing Emphasis.

Typically offered in Spring.

Cross listed courses ANT 364, ANT 564.

ANT 366. Archaeological Lab Methods. 3 Credits.

An overview of analytical methods used to process, describe and interpret archaeological materials. Emphasis on practical hands-on laboratory research through the implementation of qualitative observation and quantitative methodologies.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 366 requires prerequisite of ANT 103.

Typically offered in Fall.

ANT 367. Archaeology and the Environment. 3 Credits.

In this course students will learn about how archaeologists study the relationships between human culture and the natural world, and how archaeology can be applied to some of today's environmental concerns. Grounded in archaeological research, the course covers topics such as past human impacts on the environment, environmental impacts on the archaeological record, spatial modeling and remote sensing in archaeology, and human ecology, including the role of cultural memory in current conservation practices.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 367 requires a prerequisite of ANT 103.

Gen Ed Attribute: Writing Emphasis.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

ANT 368. Archaeological Field School. 3-6 Credits.

Application of archaeological recovery techniques through field investigation. Students participate in the gathering, processing and study of archaeological site data.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 368 requires prerequisite ANT 103.

Typically offered in Summer.

ANT 375. Ethnographic Field School. 3-6 Credits.

This is an anthropological field school in which students gain in-depth, hands-on training and experience in conducting qualitative ethnographic research at a fieldsite, and is intended to provide students with instruction in multiple ethnographic methods and procedures as they design and carry out their own research project. In the course of their research, students will familiarize themselves with relevant social theories and will be given an intensive and interactive look at the culture and history of the people at their research site.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 375 requires a prerequisite of ANT 102.

Typically offered in Summer.

Repeatable for Credit.

ANT 380. Language & Culture. 3 Credits.

This course provides a comprehensive overview of anthropological approaches to the study of language, culture, and society. Topics of study include anthropological theories of language, linguistic relativity, language diversity and inequality, language shift, and the creative use of language in performance. Students also will gain experience conducting original research on the social and interactional role of language in our everyday social life.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 380 requires a prerequisite of ANT 102 or ENG 230.

Typically offered in Fall.

Cross listed courses ANT 380, LIN 380.

ANT 405. Topical Seminar in Anthropology. 3 Credits.

Selected topics in the subdisciplines of anthropology. Topics announced in advance.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 405 requirement: juniors and seniors only.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

Repeatable for Credit.

ANT 410. Independent Studies in Anthropology. 1-3 Credits.

Special research projects, reports, and readings in anthropology.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 410 requirement: Permission of department chairperson; juniors and seniors only.

Consent: Permission of the Department required to add.

Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

Repeatable for Credit.

ANT 420. Anthropology Internship. 3 Credits.

This internship is intended to augment student learning through practical professional experiences. Student interns will gain exposure to contemporary anthropological practice outside the classroom and will be provided an opportunity to acquire new skills, develop professional contacts, and gain first-hand knowledge of potential workplaces. The internship program is designed to enhance student preparedness for a future in their area of interest within the discipline while exploring potential workforce matches. Internships can be within any of the subfields of anthropology and will vary according to student interests and the needs and opportunities of the sponsoring organization.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 420 requires prerequisite of ANT 102, at least 80 semester hours of college credit, an additional 12 hours in courses in the anthropology program, and a minimum 2.3 GPA in anthropology and overall.

Consent: Permission of the Department required to add.

Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

ANT 459. History of Ethnological Theory. 3 Credits.

Development of ethnological theory with emphasis on the nature of explanation in ethnology.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 459 requires six hours in ethnology and junior or senior standing.

Typically offered in Fall.

ANT 495. Senior Seminar in Anthropology. 3 Credits.

Discussion and supervised research designed to integrate conceptual and methodological skills. The research paper for the seminar must be acceptable as a required departmental senior research paper.

Pre / Co requisites: ANT 495 requires senior anthropology majors only.

Typically offered in Spring.

MST**MST 258. Introduction to Museum Studies. 3 Credits.**

Exploring the rich diversity of museums in the world, and including behind-the-scenes visits to local museums with their directors and curators, this course compares and contrasts the history, development, culture, needs, and values of the museum in contemporary society.

Gen Ed Attribute: Interdisciplinary Requirement.

Typically offered in Fall.

MST 280. Museum Techniques. 1-3 Credits.

This course involves practical learning for the purposes of technical skills acquisition. Students will learn about and practice one or more museum techniques or procedures in a pre-professional setting. The course is taught in a lab, repository, or museum context. Students will learn to execute proper museum technique and record keeping and follow ethical standards of performance while being involved with project-based learning.

Pre / Co requisites: MST 280 requires a prerequisite of MST 258.

Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

Repeatable for Credit.

MST 350. Collections Care and Management. 3 Credits.

This course addresses the responsibilities, standards, and practical skills involved in managing and caring for humanities and science object and specimen collections for museums and other curation facilities. Students learn the fundamental areas of collections management, including artifact handling, cataloging procedures, curatorial standards, archival storage methods, and collections accessibility. Students also address the procedures and issues related to preservation and preventative conservation.

Pre / Co requisites: MST 350 requires a prerequisite of MST 258.

Typically offered in Spring.

MST 358. Museum Exhibit Curation. 4 Credits.

This course provides a high-impact learning experience on the theoretical and practical workings of museums and museum curation by empowering students to co-curate an exhibit in the West Chester University Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology. Students will engage in the entire process of museum curation, from planning the exhibit to acquisition and cataloging artifacts for display, from writing museum labels to publishing an exhibit catalog.

Pre / Co requisites: MST 358 requires a prerequisite of MST 258.

Typically offered in Spring.

SOC

SOC 100. Introduction to Sociology. 3 Credits.

This course introduces students to the sociological study of society. Sociology focuses on the systematic understanding of social interaction, social organization, social institutions, and social change.

Gen Ed Attribute: Behavioral and Social Science Distributive.

Distance education offering may be available.

Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

SOC 199. Transfer Credits. 1-10 Credits.

Transfer Credits.

Repeatable for Credit.

SOC 225. Digital Social Research. 3 Credits.

An introduction to digital data and the scientific research methods used to study the digital social realm, with an emphasis on the opportunities, challenges, and ethics of using digital data to examine social life. This course is especially suitable for students in the social sciences, health sciences, communication studies, and business fields.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 225 requires a prerequisite of MAT 103 or higher.

Distance education offering may be available.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

SOC 240. Sociology of the Family. 3 Credits.

This course will help students to understand the family as a social institution that is a product of social forces. Family forms are not fixed but are socially constructed and historically changing. Families vary by economic, political, and cultural conditions that shape people's lives, behaviors, and family patterns.

Gen Ed Attribute: Behavioral and Social Science Distributive.

Distance education offering may be available.

Typically offered in Fall.

SOC 245. Environmental Sociology. 3 Credits.

Human society is currently threatening the environmental resources necessary to maintain life on Earth. This course unravels the deeper roots of our environmental crises and investigates potential ethical solutions from a domestic and global perspective. Through lecture, films, and discussion we will focus on the interplay between social theories, social structure, social institutions, social inequality, social stratification, and the environment. Themes in this course will emphasize how culture shapes environmental processes and everyday life; articulate demographic theoretical perspectives of population growth; examine the social structure of society to better understand the social dynamics of sustainability; analyze environmental inequality along the bases of social class, gender, and race/ethnicity; and explore ethical, sustainability-related decision-making within a societal context. This course is an introduction to the field, suitable for both majors and non-majors with interest in sustainability and society.

Gen Ed Attribute: Behavioral and Social Science Distributive.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

SOC 250. The Social Contexts of Substance Use. 3 Credits.

Analysis of the structural causes and social impact of substance use and dependency including: alcohol, illegal drugs, and prescription drugs.

Gen Ed Attribute: Writing Emphasis.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

SOC 300. Sociological Theory. 3 Credits.

Historical development of the sociological perspective on human behavior, with emphasis on the perennial issues in sociological explanation.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 300 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

SOC 302. Sociology of Everyday Life. 3 Credits.

How people interact in everyday settings, examined from the dramaturgical perspectives of Goffman, Douglas, Burke, and others.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 302 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Summer.

SOC 309. Sustainable WCU & Beyond. 3 Credits.

Project-based and research-driven sustainable action. Grounded in the sociological perspective, students will work together to advance sustainable initiatives at WCU and/or in the broader community.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 309 requires a prerequisite of SUS 100, SOC 100, or SOC 245.

Gen Ed Attribute: Speaking Emphasis.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

SOC 321. Statistics in Sociological Research. 3 Credits.

The application of statistical methods to sociological hypothesis testing.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 321 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Fall.

SOC 322. Methods of Sociological Research. 3 Credits.

The logic of social research. Fundamentals of research design, data collection and reduction, and nonstatistical analysis.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 322 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Spring.

SOC 333. Self and Society. 3 Credits.

A symbolic interactionist perspective on social psychology which focuses on the self in social interaction.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 333 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Fall.

SOC 335. Racial and Cultural Minorities. 3 Credits.

Analysis of the implications of racial differences, the factors affecting prejudice and discrimination, and structural aspects of group conflicts.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 335 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Fall.

SOC 340. Sociology of Work. 3 Credits.

Survey of work theory, history of work in America, inequalities at work, and the contingencies in work today.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 340 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Distance education offering may be available.

Typically offered in Spring.

SOC 341. Social Stratification. 3 Credits.

Analysis of inequalities in wealth, power, and prestige in contemporary societies.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 341 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Spring.

SOC 342. Urban Sociology. 3 Credits.

A descriptive study of the form and development of the urban community with respect to demographic structure, spatial and temporal patterns, and functional organization.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 342 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Spring.

SOC 343. Sociology of Organizations. 3 Credits.

Analysis of the social structure in small groups and formal organizations and an examination of organizational change with an emphasis on bureaucracy and markets.

Distance education offering may be available.

Typically offered in Spring.

SOC 344. Sociology of Religion. 3 Credits.

Theoretical analysis of social functions of religion, the history and internal structure of religious institutions, and their relationship to other institutions.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 344 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

SOC 345. Sociology of Education. 3 Credits.

Sociological dimensions of educational institutions.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 345 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Spring.

SOC 346. Sociology of Gender. 3 Credits.

Analysis and evaluation of sociological research on sex roles.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 346 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Fall.

SOC 349. Perspectives on Mental Illness. 3 Credits.

An interdisciplinary examination of mental disorders- their definition, cause, and treatment.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 349 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Gen Ed Attribute: Interdisciplinary Requirement.

Typically offered in Fall.

SOC 351. Deviance. 3 Credits.

Causes and consequences of the construction and violation of social norms.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 351 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

SOC 360. Sociology of Culture. 3 Credits.

An exploration of the meaning and significance of culture in sociology, with an emphasis on the cultural context of social change.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 360 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

SOC 361. Sociology of Medicine. 3 Credits.

A sociological perspective on health, illness, and medical care.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 361 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Fall.

SOC 362. Sexuality in Society. 3 Credits.

The social dimensions of human sexuality.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 362 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Spring.

SOC 364. Sociology of Aging. 3 Credits.

An examination of the problems, adaptations, and contributions of the aging population.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 364 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Spring.

SOC 366. Gender, Labor and Globalization. 3 Credits.

This course uses sociological and women's and gender studies theories to understand, analyze, and present on domestic work, care work, sex work, and reproductive work as invisible and gendered labor that contributes to global economies. Through critical reading, writing, discussion, and speaking assignments, students will learn how to analyze and speak about how the experiences of international women workers change mainstream definitions of gender, labor, family, immigration, and globalization.

Gen Ed Attribute: Speaking Emphasis.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

Cross listed courses SOC 366, WOS 366.

SOC 368. Violence, Systems, and Resistance. 3 Credits.

This course will teach students how to recognize, understand, and resist three primary forms of power-based violence that are interrelated: (1) those perpetrated by individuals, e.g. sexual assault, partner violence, mass shootings; (2) those perpetrated by hate groups, e.g. lynching, bombing, violence against trans and non-binary people; and (3) those perpetrated by the state, e.g. war, police violence. Students will study multiple forms of violence to understand the root causes and dynamics of violence (how it happens); the effects on people, families, and communities (what is the cost); and personal, community, and national resistance methodologies (what can be done about it).

Gen Ed Attribute: Interdisciplinary Requirement.

Typically offered in Spring.

Cross listed courses SOC 368, WOS 368, WOS 568.

SOC 369. Social Movements. 3 Credits.

An introduction to the study of social movements, both historical and contemporary.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 369 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Spring.

SOC 370. Social Problems. 3 Credits.

Analysis of current social disorders: urban unrest, racial tension, poverty, addictions, crime, and mental illness.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 370 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

SOC 371. Applied Social Change. 3 Credits.

Strategy and tactics of planning and guiding change in small and large-scale social systems.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 371 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Spring.

SOC 372. Globalization Across Societies and Cultures. 3 Credits.

This course draws from sociological and related theories to examine globalization as part of a larger historical process that is reshaping the global economic system and changing the role and power of nation states. We examine the mass migration of people in response to changing labor markets, the formation of new global diasporas, the emergence of a global cultural order marked by hybridity and creolization, and how globalization is experienced as a complex process in which people participate and respond in ways that shape, resist, absorb, or avoid globalization.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 372 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100 or permission of instructor.

Typically offered in Fall.

SOC 383. The Digital Self. 3 Credits.

A symbolic interactionist perspective on self development and self presentation in the digital age.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 383 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Distance education offering may be available.

Typically offered in Spring & Summer.

SOC 401. Social Change. 3 Credits.

Critique of the leading models of social order and change; analysis of major transformation in Western civilization.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 401 requires a prerequisite of SOC 100.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

SOC 402. Sociology Internship. 1-3 Credits.

In an approved internship, students will gain practical experience and develop skills in professional roles while exploring potential workforce matches. Internships also provide opportunities to develop mentoring relationships, professional contacts, and they enhance student preparedness for a future in their area of interest.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 402 requires prerequisites of SOC 100, 80 credits earned, 9 credits in sociology beyond SOC 100, a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or higher, and a cumulative GPA in sociology courses of 3.0 or higher.

Consent: Permission of the Department required to add.

Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

SOC 410. Issues in Sociological Thought. 3 Credits.

Analysis of several of the key philosophical issues underlying sociological thought.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 410 requires prerequisite of SOC 300.

Typically offered in Spring.

SOC 490. Independent Studies in Sociology. 1-3 Credits.

Individual research projects, reports, and/or readings.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 490 prerequisite: Seniors only.

Consent: Permission of the Department required to add.

Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

Repeatable for Credit.

SOC 491. Topical Seminar in Sociology. 3 Credits.

Special topics in theory or methodology. Topics announced in advance.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 491 requirement: Permission of instructor; juniors and seniors only.

Consent: Permission of the Department required to add.

Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

Repeatable for Credit.

SOC 492. Senior Seminar in Sociology. 3 Credits.

Preparation of senior research paper.

Pre / Co requisites: SOC 492 requires a prerequisite of senior status as a sociology major.

Gen Ed Attribute: Writing Emphasis.

Typically offered in Spring.