

School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

Sociology (B.A.)

Sociology offers a scientific approach to examining social groups, human interactions and social change. Sociologists are interested in a wide range of topics and issues related to social life. Some examples of sociological questions include: Why do some groups have more resources and power than others in society and what explains these inequalities? What factors influence marriage and divorce rates? How do families, schools, churches, and corporations affect social control? What are the functions of welfare programs? How do cities grow and transform to reflect changing technologies and population trends? How does law interact with society and social institutions? What are the causes and consequences of crime and deviant behavior?

The mission of the B.A. program in Sociology is to provide undergraduate students (both majors and non-majors) with broad knowledge of the theoretical concepts, empirical research findings, and methodological approaches of the discipline of sociology, with an emphasis on theory and research related to social inequality. As part of this program, sociology majors should gain mastery of these concepts, findings, and approaches central to sociology, as well as develop basic skills in empirical analysis and professional communication.

At The University of Texas at Dallas, sociology majors are encouraged to go beyond scholarly study to ways that sociology can be utilized in corporations, government agencies, or voluntary organizations. Sociology graduates of the university have pursued careers or graduate study in a variety of areas including policy research, social services, business, law, education, law enforcement, and other social sciences.

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

Degree Requirements (120 semester credit hours)

I. Core Curriculum Requirements¹: 42 semester credit hours

Communication (6 semester credit hours)

3 semester credit hours Communication ([RHET 1302](#))

3 semester credit hours Communication Elective ([SOC 3306](#))²

Social and Behavioral Sciences (15 semester credit hours)

6 semester credit hours Government ([GOVT 2301](#) and [GOVT 2302](#))

6 semester credit hours American History ([HIST 1301](#) and [HIST 1302](#))

3 semester credit hours Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective ([SOC 1301](#))²

Humanities and Fine Arts (6 semester credit hours)

3 semester credit hours Fine Arts ([ARTS 1301](#))

3 semester credit hours Humanities ([HUMA 1301](#))

Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (6 semester credit hours)

3 semester credit hours Mathematics (at or above level of College Algebra, recommend [MATH 1306](#) or [MATH 1314](#))

4 semester credit hours Quantitative Reasoning ([EPPS 3405](#))^{2, 3}

Science (9 semester credit hours including at least one course with a substantial laboratory component)

II. Major Requirements: 46 semester credit hours

Major Preparatory Courses (4 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum)

[ECON 2301](#) Principles of Macroeconomics

or [ECON 2302](#) Principles of Microeconomics

[EPPS 3405](#) Introduction to Social Statistics with Lab^{2, 3}

Major Core Courses (15 semester credit hours)

[SOC 2319](#) Race, Gender, and Class

[SOC 3303](#) Classical Social Theory

[SOC 3325](#) Race, Ethnicity, and Community

or [SOC 4369](#) Public Health and Society

[SOC 3306](#) Research and Writing for Sociological Practice²

[SOC 4302](#) Class, Status, and Power

One of the following:

[SOC 3333](#) Religion in Society

[SOC 3336](#) Culture Regions

[SOC 4361](#) Law and Society

Major Related Courses (27 semester credit hours)

18 semester credit hours upper-division Sociology courses

9 semester credit hours Major and Related electives⁴

III. Elective Requirements: 32 semester credit hours

Advanced Electives (6 semester credit hours)

All students are required to take at least six semester credit hours of Advanced Electives outside their major field of study. These must be either upper-division classes or lower-division classes that have prerequisites.

Free Electives (26 semester credit hours)

This requirement may be satisfied with lower- and upper-division courses from any field of study. Students must complete at least 51 semester credit hours of upper-division credit to qualify for graduation.

Minor in Sociology (18 semester credit hours)

For a minor in Sociology, students must take [SOC 1301](#), [SOC 3303](#), [SOC 4302](#), and nine semester credit hours of upper-division classes with a SOC prefix, with the exception of [SOC 4V97](#), [SOC 4V98](#), and [4V99](#).

1. Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from accredited institutions of higher education. The courses listed in parentheses are the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at UT Dallas.
2. A Major requirement that also fulfills a Core Curriculum requirement. Semester credit hours are counted in Core Curriculum.
3. Three semester credit hours are counted under Quantitative Reasoning core, and one semester credit hour is counted under Major Preparatory Courses.
4. Most students take upper-division SOC courses. However, subject to advisor approval, courses from other disciplines may be used to satisfy this requirement.

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