

SOCIOLOGY (BA)

Department Website (<http://as.nyu.edu/sociology/>)

NYSED: 08423 HEGIS: 2208.00 CIP: 45.1101

Program Description

The discipline of sociology and the Sociology major at NYU examine how our individual lives are embedded in families, groups and social networks, neighborhoods and schools, and organizations and institutions. Sociologists focus on the ways in which our own biographies are influenced and constrained by broader social, political, and economic forces which can be very localized, but are increasingly global in scale.

We study sociology to understand the social world and to create change that will make it a better place. It is a discipline that gives students the tools to think critically about public issues of the day and to analyze many different kinds of evidence about the world that surrounds us. It pushes students to see the world differently, and to look beyond individuals to see the ways in which power, inequality, and social hierarchies operate beneath the surface of everyday life.

Honors Program

Students with both cumulative and major GPA of at least 3.65 (or who have permission of the director of undergraduate studies) may apply to our honors program. The honors program consist of two semesters (two 4-credit courses) over the span of one year (fall & spring).

The honors program in Sociology provides senior Sociology majors who meet the eligibility criteria the opportunity to graduate with honors by writing a thesis through the department's year-long Honors Seminar.

During their senior year, each honors student develops an original research project and writes a thesis based on that research. The Honors Seminar—led by a faculty member, with additional individualized support for students from a teaching assistant—prepares and guides the students through this process. Students also may have a mentor in another faculty member who advises them and oversees their work on the thesis.

Students may apply for the honors program in the spring of their junior year. Applications are announced via email to all sociology students and linked on our departmental website (<https://as.nyu.edu/departments/sociology/undergraduate/sociology-honors-program-.html>). In the fall of senior year, honors students register for the first term of SOC-UA 950 Senior Honors Research Seminar to develop and structure their research projects. In the spring of senior year, honors students take the second term of SOC-UA 951 Senior Honors Research Seminar and work under the supervision of their selected faculty adviser and/or instructor. For Sociology majors, the first term of SOC-UA 950 Senior Honors Research Seminar will be used to satisfy the capstone requirement. The second semester of SOC-UA 951 Senior Honors Research Seminar counts as one of the elective courses for the major. For GPH/Sociology major students, both semesters can be used to satisfy sociology electives. Students must complete both semesters to be eligible to graduate with honors.

Admissions

New York University's Office of Undergraduate Admissions supports the application process for all undergraduate programs at NYU. For additional information about undergraduate admissions, including application requirements, see How to Apply (<https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html>).

Program Requirements

The major in Sociology requires nine 4-credit courses (36 credits) as outlined below. All courses for the major must be completed with a grade of C or better.

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
First-Year Seminar		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing as Inquiry	4
Foreign Language ¹		16
Physical Science		4
Life Science		4
Texts and Ideas		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
Expressive Culture		4
Major Requirements		
SOC-UA 1	Intro to Sociology	4
SOC-UA 111	Sociological Theory	4
SOC-UA 301	Research Methods	4
SOC-UA 302	Statistics for Social Research	4
Select one of the following: ²		4-8
SOC-UA 940	Seminar:	
or SOC-UA 941	Seminar:	
SOC-UA 950	Senior Honors Research Seminar	
& SOC-UA 951	and Senior Honors Research Seminar ³	
Electives		
Select four SOC-UA electives ⁴		16
Other Elective Credits		48
Total Credits		128

¹ The foreign language requirement is satisfied upon successful completion through the Intermediate level of a language. This may be accomplished in fewer than 16 credits, but those credits must then be completed as elective credit.

² Note that the prerequisite for the senior capstone is SOC-UA 301 Research Methods.

³ Please see honors program information on the department website (<https://as.nyu.edu/departments/sociology/undergraduate/sociology-honors-program-.html>).

⁴ Students may substitute up to two social science courses taken in other departments with the approval of the director of undergraduate studies. The second semester of SOC-UA 951 Senior Honors Research Seminar counts as an elective for the major.

Graduate Courses Open to Undergraduates

Under special circumstances, courses offered in the sociology graduate program are open to qualified Sociology majors with the permission of the instructor. These can substitute for required sociology elective courses for majors or minors.

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
Texts and Ideas		4
First-Year Seminar		4
Foreign Language I		4
Other Elective Credits		4
	Credits	16
2nd Semester/Term		
SOC-UA 1	Intro to Sociology	4
Cultures and Contexts		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing as Inquiry	4
Foreign Language II		4
	Credits	16
3rd Semester/Term		
SOC-UA 111	Sociological Theory	4
Expressive Culture		4
Foreign Language III		4
Other Elective Credits		4
	Credits	16
4th Semester/Term		
SOC-UA 301	Research Methods	4
Foreign Language IV		4
Other Elective Credits		4
Other Elective Credits		4
	Credits	16
5th Semester/Term		
SOC-UA 302	Statistics for Social Research	4
Physical Science		4
Other Elective Credits		4
Other Elective Credits		4
	Credits	16
6th Semester/Term		
Major Elective (#1 of 4)		4
Major Elective (#2 of 4)		4
Life Science		4
Other Elective Credits		4
	Credits	16
7th Semester/Term		
Major Elective (#3 of 4)		4
Major Elective (#4 of 4)		4
Other Elective Credits		4
Other Elective Credits		4
	Credits	16
8th Semester/Term		
SOC-UA 940 or SOC-UA 941	Seminar: or Seminar.	4
Other Elective Credits		4
Other Elective Credits		4
Other Elective Credits		4
	Credits	16
	Total Credits	128

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of program requirements, students are expected to have acquired:

1. An understanding of key concepts in the field of sociology, including class, status, capitalism, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, culture, power, stratification, rationalization, anomie, alienation, etc.

2. An understanding of the key ideas of leading sociological theorists, including Marx, Weber, Durkheim, Du Bois, and others.
3. Knowledge of the ways in which the field of sociology complements or intersects with other scholarly disciplines.
4. The ability to analyze data and employ both qualitative methods (ethnography, interviewing, archival research, and experiments) and statistical methods to conduct rigorous investigations of a wide range of social institutions and phenomena.
5. Expertise in one particular area of sociological inquiry, leading to a senior capstone (or honors) research paper.

Policies

Program Policies

Major Policies

Advanced Placement or other advanced standing credit in statistics does not satisfy the required course SOC-UA 302 Statistics for Social Research. This policy applies to students who matriculate in CAS in and after fall 2020.

Policy Applying to Transfer Students

Of the nine courses required for the major, transfer students must take at least seven (28 credits) in the College of Arts and Science.

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

College of Arts and Science Policies

A full list of relevant academic policies can be found on the CAS Academic Policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/arts-science/academic-policies/>).