SOCIOLOGY

The program is designed to help students develop new frameworks for analyzing a broad array of social relations—from everyday life interactions to large-scale historical and structural transformations—and to cultivate a critical appreciation for the academic discipline of sociology.

FACULTY

Robyn Kimberley Autry
BS, University of Colorado Boulder; MS, Univ of Wisconsin Madison; PHD, Univ of Wisconsin Madison
Associate Professor of Sociology

Abigail Huston Boggs
BA, Wesleyan University; PHD, University Calif Davis
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BA, Carleton College; MA, SUNY at Stony Brook; PHD, SUNY at Stony Brook
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John E. Andrus Professor of Sociology; Professor of Sociology; Professor, Environmental Studies

AFFILIATED FACULTY

Anthony Ryan Hatch
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Associate Professor of Science in Society; Associate Professor, African American Studies; Associate Professor, Sociology

Victoria Pitts-Taylor
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Professor of Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; Professor, Science in Society; Professor, Sociology

VISITING FACULTY

Peggy Carey Best
AB, Earlham College; PHD, Union Institute Grad School
Director of Service Learning; Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology

EMERITI

Alex Dupuy
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John E. Andrus Professor of Sociology, Emeritus; Co-Director, Susan B. and William K. Wasch Center for Retired Faculty

Sue C. Fisher
BA, California State Univ - Northr; MA, University of California, San Diego; MAA, Wesleyan University; PHD, University of California, San Diego
Professor of Sociology, Emerita

DEPARTMENTAL ADVISING EXPERTS

Mary Ann Clawson; Jonathan Cutler

• Undergraduate Sociology Major (catalog.wesleyan.edu/departments/soc/ugrd-soc)

SOC151 Introductory Sociology
This course is an introduction to the systematic study of the social sources and social consequences of human behavior, with emphasis upon culture, social structure, socialization, institutions, group membership, social conformity, and social deviance.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: None

SOC202 Sociological Analysis
This course is an introduction to the major components of sociological analysis: the language of sociological inquiry, research techniques and methodology, types of explanation, and the relationship between theory and research.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC212 Sociology and Social Theory
Through close reading, discussion, and active interpretation, the course will critically examine the basic writings of classical and contemporary social theorists who have influenced the practice of sociology.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC220 Metabolism and Technoscience
This course will investigate the scientific idea of metabolism through the lens of technoscience. Metabolism is a flexible and mobile scientific idea,
one that has been applied at the micro-level of analysis within biological organisms, at the meso-level of social collectivities, and at the macro-level of global ecologies. Metabolism encompasses all of the biological and technosocial processes through which bodies (both human and not human) and societies (again, human and not) create and consume nutrients, medicines, toxins, and fuels. The lens of technoscience enables us to investigate the technological and scientific practices that define and drive metabolic processes within sciences, cultures, and political economies. These processes implicate forces of production, consumption, labor, absorption, medicalization, appropriation, expansion, growth, surveillance, regulation, and enumeration. Accordingly, as we will learn, metabolism is also a profoundly political process that is inextricably linked to systems that create structural and symbolic violence as well as modes of resistance and struggle. In these contexts, we will interpret the some of the most pressing metabolic crises facing human societies including ecological disaster, industrial food regimes, metabolic health problems, and industrial-scale pollution.

Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SISP
Identical With: SISP215
Prerequisite: None

**SOC221 Sociology of Fashion**

Clothing is a social product, carries social meanings, and modifies social interaction, thus making it into the system of symbols known as fashion. This course will introduce students to the sociological study of fashion. We will examine early theories that regarded fashion as a "superficial" display of wealth and class distinction, then move into the current moment of worldwide capitalist inequality and postmodern identity formation. We will look at how race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and ethnicity are both articulated and challenged through fashion. We will examine the relationship between fashion, clothing, the body, and body image; how fashion is a system that can discipline or exert power over others and also construct the self. We will ask whether fashion, with its artistic expression and continual reorganization of styles, has the power to exact social change, or whether it simply reinforces and reproduces social inequality. In the process of studying these ideas, we will look at many practical examples, including various fashion experiences and styles, looking for the social and political forces behind the experience of clothing. We will study Jamaican "dance hall" fashion, drag and cross-dressing, hip hop fashion, and many other examples. We will also use fashion as a means of exploring various theories of social life, including Karl Marx's theory of capitalist exploitation, Pierre Bourdieu's theories of social and cultural capital, Foucault's theory of the body as a site of social discipline, Sigmund Freud's work on the unconscious and return of repressed trauma, Roland Barthes' theory of fashion as a social code, and Erving Goffman's theories of symbolic interactionism and impression management.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prerequisite: SOC151

**SOC222 Political Sociology**

This seminar will introduce students to the major themes and debates in political sociology. We will explore a wide variety of questions, including: What is the state? How did the modern nation-state come to being? How is the state related to other societal actors? What accounts for cross-national variations in the adoption and form of public policies? What is democracy? What is citizenship? How do forms of citizenship vary across the world? What is power? What accounts for the emergence, development, form, and success of social movements?

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prerequisite: None

**SOC228 The Family**

This course explores issues in contemporary U.S. family life, as illuminated by historical experience. Guiding questions include, What different forms do family arrangements take? How and on what basis are families produced? How are gender, racial, ethnic, and class differences reflected in and produced by family life? What is and what should be the relationship between family and state, as expressed in law and public policy (e.g., divorce, welfare, and access to legal marriage)?

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Identical With: FGSS231
Prerequisite: SOC151

**SOC231 Sociology of Crime and Punishment**

This course provides an introduction to the sociological study of crime and punishment. Crime is rarely far from news headlines or the public imagination. Every day, reports of drug dealing, muggings, and homicide fuel anxiety and debate about the problems of law and order. Here, we consider such debates in the context of both a vision for a just society and the everyday workings of the criminal justice system. The course is divided into three sections. We begin with an introduction to the historical meanings and measures of crime in society. We then situate the modern U.S. within this history. In part two, we become familiar with the major ways that social scientists think about criminality and crime prevention. In part three, we turn to considerations of punishment. We ask how punishment is conceptualized in the U.S. and other nations, whether the American system of mass imprisonment is effective, and how we might envision improvements and alternatives.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prerequisite: SOC151

**SOC234 Media and Society**

This course offers an introduction to the study of media, with a focus on critical social perspectives and controversies. A variety of media formats will be considered, with particular attention to print and visual images. The course takes up questions of representation, participation, consumerism, pleasure, and power that have dominated sociological and cultural studies approaches to media since the Frankfurt School. Topics will include advertising and branding, pornography, photojournalism, alternative media, social control, stereotypes, and objectification. Students will engage historical and theoretical texts and will be asked to participate in media processes, including production, interpretation, and critique.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prerequisite: SOC151
SOC238 Sociology of Emotions
This course is the critical study of the role of emotions in social life, spanning both the macro- and micro-level. We begin with theories of the social nature of emotions from the symbolic interactionist to the social psychoanalytic to the bio-affective. After critically examining Western assumptions about emotions as private property, emotions as entirely an individual expression, we move on to examine “emotion norms” in studies of grief and compassion, and then studies of “emotional labor” and capitalism’s role in habituating emotions in everyday life. In the second half of the class, the role of emotions and affect in the issue of social inequality is theorized, as we study the emotional roles of colonizer and colonized, oppressor and oppressed through race, class, and gender inequality. The course ends with an examination of theories of collective memory and traumatic experience, focusing on accounts of ethnicity and diaspora. Throughout, the course will examine how new approaches to studying emotion, and possibly, emotions themselves, both support and challenge traditional sociological methodologies.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC239 Sociology of Music in Social Movements
It has long been noted that social movements typically create movement cultures, but the actual use of music, as one cultural form, is only beginning to receive attention. Is it used for recruiting new members or maintaining the loyalty of those already committed, for internal critique within the movement itself or to educate those who know nothing of a group’s discontent? When, where, and why do each of these, and other functions, develop? We will look at a number of theoretical and activist approaches and then apply these to movements in the U.S. (including the labor, civil rights, New Left, women’s, and current inner city movements) and elsewhere.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Identical With: MUSC280
Prereq: SOC151 OR MUSC103

SOC240 Comparative Race and Ethnicity
This course is an introduction to the sociological study of race and ethnicity in comparative and historical perspective. This is not a course about the experiences of particular races or ethnic groups in any particular part of the world. Rather, this course explores how ideas about racial difference take hold in different parts of the world in different ways and with very different consequences. Through comparisons of Western and non-Western societies, we will investigate how race and ethnicity operate as markers of social exclusion in distinctive ways.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Identical With: AMST244
Prereq: SOC151

SOC241 Mental Illness and Society
Psychiatric disorders are commonly viewed through a purely biomedical and/or a psychological framework. In this course, we will apply a sociological imagination to the topic and interrogate the ways in which mental illness, often seen as a supremely private “personal trouble,” is also a public issue. We will read the works of both classic and contemporary scholars, but we will also use memoirs and films to sensitize us to the experience of mental illness itself. We will explore mental illness as a social construction, stigma, and labeling theory, as well as explore issues of gender, race, class, and sexual orientation in mental illness.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: None

SOC242 Nonprofits and Social Change
This course explores the world of nonprofits and how they help (or don’t help) the process of social change. As nonprofits increasingly address issues and concerns that governments have previously addressed, a critical analysis of how and why they carry out their work is central to the Allbritton Center’s concern with public life. Each class session will include (1) background on a particular social issue (including global health, inner-city education, clean water, hunger, refugees, and national borders); (2) a case study of a nonprofit addressing that issue; (3) discussion with leaders of that nonprofit.
Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: OPT
Credits: 0.50
Gen Ed Area: None
Identical With: CSPL240
Prereq: None

SOC243 Queer Theory/Queer Politics
This course will explore the social construction of sexuality within the U.S. and the emergence of heterosexuality and homosexuality as sites of identity, belonging, and conflict. In the first section of the course, we will contextualize heterosexuality, homosexuality, and queer identities within the theoretical paradigms of social construction, feminist thought, intersectionality, and queer theory. We will begin to consider the relationship of sexuality to other categories of identity. The readings will help us to think about queer identities in relationship to social, cultural, and geographic arenas across space and time. The second part of the course will look more directly at the insights of queer theory and critiques of identity as a category for understanding experience and engaging in politics. Queer theory will be analyzed next to social movement literature. In this section, we will continue to concentrate on how sexuality relates to and is dependent on racial and gendered constructions and dynamics of power. In the last section of the course, using the historical and theoretical knowledge covered so far, we will question what/who exactly is a queer subject and what can be considered LGBTQ issues and politics. In this section, we will seek to expand an understanding of queer politics and LGBTQ studies to incorporate questions of social justice that include sexuality but aren’t limited to it alone. As a whole, this class will address contemporary understandings of LGBTQ studies and politics from both an intersectional and social justice framework to examine ideas of identity, political rights, and changing notions of community.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Identical With: FGSS242
Prereq: None

SOC244 Feminist and Queer Theories of Social Reproduction
This course will introduce students to the study of social reproduction and power with an emphasis on feminist, queer, and transnational approaches to inquiry and action. We will begin by exploring key methodologies and theoretical framings for understanding contemporary “American” cultural, social, and political formations both within and
beyond the territorial U.S., focusing on the effectiveness of discursive and historical modes of critical analysis. The subsequent sections of the course will turn to three case studies of the historical routes and transnational implications of U.S.-based political discourses around (1) population control and reproductive justice, (2) abolition and the prison-industrial complex, and (3) debt and higher education. By engaging with each area of inquiry through theoretical, historical, and grounded activist texts, we will think through the possibilities for utilizing academic work in concert with movement-based engaged scholarship to address the uneven distribution of life chances and the potential of imagining the world otherwise.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Identical With: FGSS244
Prereq: SOC151

SOC245 Intersectionality and Its Discontents
This course will serve as an introduction to the concept of intersectionality as a mode of theory, method, and political practice that emerged out of women of color (particularly black feminist) scholarship and activism. We will examine its origins as a theoretical framework within critical legal studies and critical race theory and how this framework traveled to, and is used within, sociology and other disciplines. In examining its theoretical use, we will also investigate intersectionality as a methodological practice, as well as the ways in which it has been used to analyze and understand multiple forms of interlocking oppressions and identities including class, sexual identity, and disability, as well as race and gender. This course will also address critiques of intersectionality that have emerged within and outside of feminist theory. Throughout the course, we will pay special attention to the sociopolitical climates in which intersectionality emerged, as well as its current usage in social media, popular culture, and grassroots activism. In this vein, we will be able to ground our discussions of intersectionality within debates around social change/mobility, activism, and social movements both past and present.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Identical With: FGSS245
Prereq: SOC151

SOC246 Social Movements
How, when, and why do social movements emerge? What motivates individuals to participate? What transforms problems into grievances and grievances to action? How should movements be organized, and what tactics should they use? What factors explain movement success and failure (and how should success and failure be defined)? What is a social movement, anyway? This course seeks to introduce you to some of the major ways scholars have approached such questions and, at the same time, to give a sense of both the high drama and the everyday details of social movement activism, using historical and sociological case studies. Course readings concentrate on U.S. movements, including racial justice, class, gender, and sexuality-based activism.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Identical With: AMST246, FGSS256
Prereq: SOC151

SOC249 Rethinking Capitalism: Prosperity, Crisis, and Reform
In this course we will discuss the historical origins and rise of capitalism, as well as its failures and its future. Capitalist economies have generated growth, innovation and wealth. They have also generated inequality and caused massive human suffering. What is the nature of capitalism? What are its moral foundations? Is there only one type of capitalism, or are there several types? Is an egalitarian capitalism possible? Can capitalism be sustainable and compassionate? How do different nations regulate capitalism? How exceptional is American capitalism? In what ways is it exceptional? Is American capitalism the best model there is? How has capitalism evolved? What was the neoliberal revolution about? How did the rise of finance in the last few decades affect state-market relations? Why do capitalist economies end up in decline and failures every so often? What do we learn from these crises? Can capitalism be reformed? How?

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC250 Sociology of Markets
This course will introduce students to some of the core theoretical and empirical works on market economies. We will explore (1) the historical and normative foundations of market economies; (2) the questions of how markets work, why they fail, what kinds of social and political institutions they depend upon; (3) the difference between sociological and economic theories of markets; (4) the role of governments, corporations, workers, consumers, epistemic communities, and international forces in the workings of markets; and (5) the different ways in which advanced nations organize the relationship among markets, states, and societies.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC256 Sex Work and Sex Trafficking: Empowerment, Exploitation, and the Politics of Sex
This course explores the history, politics, and social meaning of sex work. Focusing particularly but not exclusively upon prostitution, we will pay careful attention to the diverse range of social experiences that form sex work, as well as the way in which prostitution is utilized as a governing metaphor within sexual relations more generally. Some questions the course will consider: How has sex work changed over time, and what do these changes tell us about both the nature of sex work and about the broader society? In what ways is sex work similar to or different from other forms of service labor or other types of intimate relationship? How do questions of race, class, sexuality, and gender alter the meaning and experience of sex work? What sorts of desires and expectations do clients bring to interactions with sex workers, and in what ways have these shifted over time? Recent controversies concerning sex trafficking and underage prostitution will also be addressed, as will the effects of various regulatory schemes that have been developed around the world.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Identical With: FGSS255
Prereq: SOC151
The course explores contemporary developments in the study of media, focusing on three primary areas—music, video games, and the Internet—departing from and sometimes challenging earlier frameworks rooted in visual and narrative forms. In the first unit of the course, we will examine the relation of music to identity formation, as well as revisit media scholars’ longstanding interest in questions of meaning in light of music’s particular characteristics. In the second unit of the course, we will investigate the social dimensions of video game play, focusing on the often-overlooked seriousness of play and on the unique properties of games as rule-bound systems. In the third unit, we will review and “unpack” some of the social, psychological, economic, and bodily transformations thought to be instigated by Internet use. Overall, the course aims to revisit sociologists’ and media scholars’ preoccupation with power, inequality, freedom, autonomy, and agency in light of the contemporary prevalence and particular characteristics of sonic and interactive media.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC284 Memory and Violence
This course focuses on issues around memory—from memorialization and truth commissions to memoir and PTSD—in the aftermath of various types of violence. The central questions about the nature and politics of memory following traumatic events will entail conversations about the construction of personal and collective identities and the complexities of justice and healing.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC299 The Future Perfect
Sociology is typically preoccupied with the present and, to a lesser extent, the past, favoring empirical methods that aim to reveal a variety of truths: for example, the logics underlying social structures and systems, the causes of social inequality, and the mechanisms by which inequality is...
reproduced. Where does this leave the future? Despite the persistence of patterns of social life, the future remains always and ultimately undetermined. We cannot know it, we can only imagine, speculate, and fantasize. The future, it seems, belongs to the world of fiction: to novels, films, television shows, and music that offer visions of what it might hold. These visions are sometimes suffused with hope for a changed world and sometimes with anxiety at the prospect of change. What can we learn about the present from images of the future? Might they offer an antidote to suspicions that we are headed toward a future of increased inequality and scarcity and looming environmental catastrophe? What traps might we find ourselves in when we treat the future as a distinct category of time? This courses pairs social theory with works of fiction in addressing these questions.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151 AND SOC212

SOC302 Paternalism and Social Power
This course will consider the construction of caring and helping in the structuring of social relations. What does helping entail? How does power operate in the velvet glove? What, if anything, lies beyond paternalism? How does social change occur? Competing perspectives on paternalism from within social and political theory will be considered as vehicles for tracing power dynamics in a survey of U.S. social formations related to family, gender, sexuality, race, labor, class, medicine, criminal justice, religion, environmentalism, and international relations.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: None

SOC304 Sociology and Social Justice
This course will consider different theories on the relationship between modern capitalism and social justice. Among the central questions we will investigate are: Why does capitalism generate economic, political, and social injustices—such as those based on class, ethnic, racial, gender, environmental, and geographic divisions—and can these injustices be remedied within capitalism, or would they require the creation of a different social system, such as social democracy or democratic socialism? Some of the theorists we will consider include, among others, Karl Marx, Emile Durkheim, John Stuart Mill, Amartya Sen, Immanuel Wallerstein, David Harvey, John Rawls, Nancy Fraser, Glenn Loury, Martha Nussbaum, Ronald Dworkin, G. A. Cohen, Brian Barry, Thomas Pogge, and Jon Mandle.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151 OR SOC212

SOC308 Baby Got Back: Embodiment, Gender, and Sexuality in Black Music
This multimedia course uses a sociocultural approach to explore how black bodies continue to be sized, classified, sexed, and gendered through black musical expression. We will examine black music as a cultural object, both embedded in and responsible for steering national cultures, to argue that black music is indeed a lens through which to examine the struggles, contradictions, and triumphs of black peoples in the U.S. and abroad. Connecting theoretical frameworks of race, embodiment, socioeconomic status, gender, and sexuality with: (1) visual cultures of black bodies in motion (stemming from minstrelsy and chitlin’ circuits to musicals and music videos) and (2) a variety of songs written, produced, and/or performed by black musicians (that include but are not limited to: the blues, jazz, rock and roll, rhythm & blues, soul, afrobeat, hip hop, dancehall, pop, soca, hip life, and reggaeton), this class will seek to interrogaht how black music creates, replicates, regulates, packages, and distributes identity through a paradigm of production and consumption. We will discuss topics such as commodification, resistance, and representation while listening to artists like Nina Simone, Sir Mix-A-Lot, Las Crudas, former 2 Live Crew member Luke, Biggie Smalls, Mr. Killa, De La Soul, Lil' Kim, Outkast, Jill Scott, Ayisoba, Big Freedia, Alison Hinds, Nicki Minaj, and Fela Kuti to attempt to understand exactly what type of power (and magic) that music possesses.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC312 Advanced Social Theory Seminar
This course offers students the opportunity to pursue in-depth advanced work in sociological theory. Students develop close reading strategies to directly engage primary texts from a variety of traditions and perspectives. The seminar requires careful analysis of books and essays that frequently assume a specialized lexicon and grammar. Students enrolled in the course will have already demonstrated a command of foundational material through successful completion of SOC212 or other course work in social theory.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC212

SOC313 Time, Masks, Mirrors: Aging in America
Longevity is almost universally wished for, but its actual accomplishment may also invite fear, even dread, depending on the context in which it occurs. We will study the socio-cultural meanings of aging in the US as they are informed by history (collective and personal), cultural background, social scripts, caregiving relationships, institutional support/ constraint, and current conceptualizations of the life course and the “aging” mind & body that often rely heavily on categorization and vocabulary associated with biomedicine. In addition, we will explore the idea of age in relation to sustainability and disposability as it is applied to dwellings, objects, the natural environment, and persons. Enrolled students will be introduced to qualitative methods and analysis of qualitative data through conducting a series of interviews with an elder living in the local community that focus on the relationship between place and wellbeing over the life course, culminating in a record that can be shared with others.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC212

SOC315 The Health of Communities
Our focus will be on understanding the role of social factors (such as income, work environment, social cohesion, food, and transportation systems) in determining the health risks of individuals; considering the efficacy, appropriateness, and ethical ramifications of various public health interventions; and learning about the contemporary community health center model of care in response to the needs of vulnerable populations. We explore the concept and history of social medicine, the importance of vocabulary and the complexity of any categorization of
persons in discussions of health and illness, ethical issues related to
the generation and utilization of community-based research, the role of
place and the importance of administrative and cultural boundaries in
the variability of health risk, and the idea of just health care. Enrolled
students serve as research assistants to preceptors at the Community
Health Center (CHC) of Middletown.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.25
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Identical With: SISP315
Prereq: None

SOC316 Community Research Seminar
Small teams of students will carry out research projects submitted by
local community groups and agencies. These may involve social science,
natural science, or arts and humanities themes. The first two weeks of
the course will be spent studying the theory and practice of community
research. Working with the community groups themselves, the teams will
then move to design and implementation of the research projects.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.50
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Identical With: ENVS316
Prereq: None

SOC320 Life and Death: Relations of Biopower and Necropower
This seminar is an advanced examination of how science and technology
shape the politics of life and death. We will consider how science and
technology have become handmaidens to human (and, in some cases,
not human) life and death, impacting the social, legal, and ethical
frameworks we use to define what constitutes the embodied, relational,
and conceptual space between "alive" and "dead." Using theories of
biopower and necropower as our guides, we will cover a diverse set of
themes including sexual reproduction, birth, population, toxicity, decay,
genocide, mortality, and the afterlife as they intersect with modern
institutions of power. We will ask, How can we better understand the
ways in which social institutions and actors deploy sciences and
technologies to foster health or manufacture death?
Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SIP
Identical With: SISP320
Prereq: None

SOC325 Sociology of Medicine, Health, and Illness
This course will address the sociology of medicine, health, and illness
from a range of critical perspectives and theoretical vantage points,
including feminist social constructionism, actor network theory, the
governmentality literature, queer theory, neomaterialist feminism,
and disability studies. We will examine current manifestations of
medicalization, health and illness, and biosociality as social products
of the neoliberal context and will pursue both illness and disability as
sites of social struggle. We will consider the promise and limits of social
constructionism in understanding the sick body and the disabled subject;
we will address the medicalization of impairments as well as trends in
psychiatry; we will look at the emerging transnational trade in organs, cell
lines, and bioinformatics and consider how sociological frameworks can
contributing to understanding these.
Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-FGSS
Identical With: FGSS325, SISP325
Prereq: None

SOC326 Race, Fantasy and Fetish
What role do fantasy and fetish play in the making and unmaking of race?
How might fantasy and fetish disrupt and reinforce power differentials
in surprising or unexpected ways? From comic book heroes to 'race
play', this course explores how bodies, relationships, and space itself
are fetishized in the racial imagination. It moves beyond the basic
observation that race is socially constructed to consider how fantasy,
desire, and fetish render such constructions volatile and spectacular,
yet also banal and predictable. We will discuss the historical and social
context of race as both imagined and imaginary in relation to western
fantasies of the self and object others. This course draws on texts from
race, queer, and postcolonial theory, along with popular material, including
fantasy fiction and film, to highlight the fantastical underpinnings of the
everyday realities of racial difference.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: None
Prereq: SOC151 AND SOC240

SOC399A Advanced Research Seminar: Work and Leisure
Work and leisure represent two of the central coordinates of life
experience and personal identity. How do work and leisure differ and
what is the relationship between them? How do they vary by gender
and class? How are relations of domination and resistance enacted
in work and free time? Topics may include men's and women's work,
historical transformations in work and leisure, workplace subcultures and
workplace resistance, popular culture and the construction of gender,
class and race, sports, the mass media, and the sociology of taste and
consumption.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC399B Advanced Research Seminar: Educational Policy
In this course we will research and critique current educational policy
debates.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC399C Advanced Research Seminar: Culture Three Ways
The terms "culture" and "cultural" have taken on a wide range of
meanings in sociology, the humanities, and popular discourse. In this
course, we will consider three competing approaches to the study of
culture: cultural sociology, sociology of culture, and cultural studies.
From declarations of "culture wars" to the rise of reality television, we
will discuss the theories, production, consumption, and reception of
processes and artifacts labeled cultural. Emphasis will be placed on
how relationships among power, representation, and identity are viewed
across each approach and in a variety of social, aesthetic, ethical,
and historical contexts. This course includes a substantial writing
component.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
university budgets rapidly shrinking, tuition and student debt are

The university is in crisis, or so we are often told. With college and

Studies

SOC399G Advanced Research Seminar: Introduction to Critical University
Prereq:
Gen Ed Area:
Credits:
Grading:
Offering:

sessions focused on workshopping and presenting writing-in-progress.
students will develop a substantial and original research essay, with class
sessions focused on project-related reading, work-in-progress discussions, and
final presentations.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151 AND SOC212

SOC399E Advanced Research Seminar: Food and Society
This advanced research seminar is open to sociology majors in their senior year or in the second semester of their junior year and fulfills the capstone requirement for the major. This course is divided into two halves. In the first half, we survey a variety of food-related topics that may include food and identity (class, ethnicity, nation, gender); food systems (the global, national, and local intersections of production and consumption); food politics, policy formation, and activism. This overview will serve as a foundation for the second half of the course, in which students develop a substantial research paper, with class sessions focused on project-related reading, work-in-progress discussions, and final presentations.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC399F Advanced Research Seminar: The Social Body
This advanced research seminar is open to sociology majors in their senior year or in the second semester of their junior year and fulfills the capstone requirement for the major. The course is divided in two halves. In the first half, we will survey topics, perspectives, and approaches within the sociology of the body—a disciplinary subfield that examines the human body as a site where the social materialsizes and is rendered legible—as well as considering more generally the craft of academic scholarship. Substantive topics will include ADHD, anorexia, pain/pleasure and disability, and racial/ethnic cosmetic surgery. This overview will serve as a foundation for the second half of the course, in which students will develop a substantial and original research essay, with class sessions focused on workshopping and presenting writing-in-progress.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: None

SOC399G Advanced Research Seminar: Introduction to Critical University Studies
The university is in crisis, or so we are often told. With college and university budgets rapidly shrinking, tuition and student debt are increasing exponentially, especially for women and students of color. And yet, we’re here. Students, instructors, and staff continue to look to the university as a productive space for thinking and working. As an academic field dedicated to a collective engagement with the ways power constitutes bodies, knowledge, and ways of being in the world, sociology is a key venue for contending with these processes. This course will introduce students to the emerging field of critical university studies through a feminist, queer, and anti-racist frame. What, we will ask, does it look like to think in and about the university at this historical moment? What does it mean to consider the university’s history in relation to power and the nation-state? What are the gender, sexual, class, and racial politics of knowledge production? And how can we most productively take-up the university itself as an object of scholarly inquiry?

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC399H Advanced Research Seminar: Hot Mamas: Black Women, Sexuality, and Body Size
Black women, no matter where they were born or currently live in the world, deploy survival strategies that propel them past perceived deviances and into discursive spaces of dynamic personhood. This is especially true for fat black women and how they navigate their respective identities in the areas of social, physical, and mental health; socioeconomic status; and beauty culture. In this class, we will interrogate these areas alongside blackness, womanhood, and sexuality to fully consider the implications of body size as a substantial category of intersectional analysis. By bringing medical and sociological studies into conversations with political and feminist theory, while also engaging with literary pieces and popular culture, this interdisciplinary course aims to equip all of us with a deeper understanding of sexuality and body size and their significance in the lives of black women. We will journey our way through this course using the works of black feminists such as Patricia Hill Collins, theorists such as Michel Foucault, sociologists like Samantha Kwan, political scientists such as Cathy Cohen, lawyers like Dorothy Roberts and Paul Campos, and writers such as Lucille Clifton and Alice Walker. In addition, we will bring our lived experiences and proximity to popular culture (think magazines, music, films, and online resources such as personal blogs) to stake out our own truths and fill out any gaps that we believe are present in the literature. The class will mix lecture, class discussion, group presentations, and small-group work to advance mastery of the material.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: SOC151

SOC399I Advanced Research Seminar: Assembling the Self
This advanced research seminar is open to sociology majors in their senior year, or in the second semester of their junior year, and fulfills the capstone requirement for the major. The course is divided in two halves. In the first half, we will read a variety of autoethnographic texts, in which the authors use personal experience as a foundation for sociological reflection and insight. We will spend time thinking about the political and methodological benefits and limitations of autoethnography, surveying a range of approaches to incorporating one’s experience into scholarship, and attending to the ways that autoethnographic texts respond to existing research and theory. In the second half of the class, students will develop a substantial and original autoethnographic essay, with class sessions focused on workshopping and presenting writing-in-progress.
SOC401 Individual Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SOC402 Individual Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SOC403 Department/Program Project or Essay
Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

SOC404 Department/Program Project or Essay
Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

SOC405 Sociology Thesis Seminar
The purpose of the seminar is to help senior sociology majors develop their senior thesis projects by introducing them to the conceptual challenges and practical problems of sociological research. The seminar meetings will be devoted primarily to helping students advance their own research projects.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: (SOC151 AND SOC212 AND SOC202)

SOC406 Sociology Thesis Seminar
The purpose of the seminar is to help senior sociology majors develop their senior thesis projects by introducing them to the conceptual challenges and practical problems of sociological research. The seminar meetings will be devoted primarily to helping students advance their own research projects.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-SOC
Prereq: (SOC151 AND SOC202 AND SOC212)

SOC407 Senior Tutorial (downgraded thesis)
Downgraded Senior Thesis Tutorial - Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor. Only enrolled in through the Honors Coordinator.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

SOC408 Senior Tutorial (downgraded thesis)
Downgraded Senior Thesis Tutorial - Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor. Only enrolled in through the Honors Coordinator.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

SOC409 Senior Thesis Tutorial
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host

SOC410 Senior Thesis Tutorial
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SOC411 Group Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SOC412 Group Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SOC419 Student Forum
Student-run group tutorial, sponsored by a faculty member and approved by the chair of a department or program.
Offering: Host
Grading: Cr/U

SOC420 Student Forum
Student-run group tutorial, sponsored by a faculty member and approved by the chair of a department or program.
Offering: Host
Grading: Cr/U

SOC420A Student Forum
Student-run group tutorial, sponsored by a faculty member and approved by the chair of a department or program.
Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: Cr/U

SOC465 Education in the Field, Undergraduate
Students must consult with the department and class dean in advance of undertaking education in the field for approval of the nature of the responsibilities and method of evaluation.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SOC466 Education in the Field, Undergraduate
Students must consult with the department and class dean in advance of undertaking education in the field for approval of the nature of the responsibilities and method of evaluation.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

SOC467 Independent Study, Undergraduate
Credit may be earned for an independent study during a summer or authorized leave of absence provided that (1) plans have been approved in advance, and (2) all specified requirements have been satisfied.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SOC468 Independent Study, Undergraduate
Credit may be earned for an independent study during a summer or authorized leave of absence provided that (1) plans have been approved in advance, and (2) all specified requirements have been satisfied.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SOC469 Education in the Field, Undergraduate
Students must consult with the department and class dean in advance of undertaking education in the field for approval of the nature of the responsibilities and method of evaluation.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: None
Prereq: None

SOC491 Teaching Apprentice Tutorial
The teaching apprentice program offers undergraduate students the opportunity to assist in teaching a faculty member's course for academic credit.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

SOC492 Teaching Apprentice Tutorial
The teaching apprentice program offers undergraduate students the opportunity to assist in teaching a faculty member's course for academic credit.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT