

# Department of Sociology

Professor: *Cuba<sup>A2</sup>, Cushman (Chair), Hertz, Imber, Levitt*

Visiting Professor: *Turner*

Assistant Professor: *Radhakrishnan, Rutherford*

Lecturer: *Swingle*

Sociology is the systematic and scientific study of social life, including informal and formal organizations and the multiple ways that people collectively give meaning to their behavior and lives. The scope of sociology ranges from the analysis of passing encounters between individuals in the street to the investigation of broad-scale global social change. Sociology brings a unique perspective to the study of institutional and collective forms of social life, including the family, human rights, mass media and popular culture, social movements, migration, the professions, and global systems and processes. Research is conducted across many cultures and historical periods in order to illuminate how social forces such as class, gender, race, and ethnicity, age, group membership, and culture shape human experience. Sociologists use multiple methods including surveys, interviews, participant observation, and material and textual analyses.

## Goals for the Major

To develop in students an appreciation for the sociological imagination, which is the ability to see the interrelations between personal biography, history, and social structure.

To teach students basic sociological concepts and research methods that will allow them to analyze and understand aspects of social life independently, with intellectual originality and rigor.

To develop the capacity for analytical and reasoning skills through hands-on experience with both qualitative and quantitative data.

To help students think critically about "taken-for-granted" information and knowledge about social life and provide assessments based on sociological analysis.

To introduce students to the major ideas of classical and contemporary sociological theory and to apply these theories to the interpretation of social life on a global scale.

To teach students to be careful analysts, eloquent writers, and articulate speakers.

To provide students with the analytical, interpretive, and research skills that will serve as a foundation for graduate school, professional school, or any career.

To foster a climate of open intellectual exchange by organizing public lectures and seminars and strongly encouraging collaborative student-faculty research.

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## SOC 102 The Sociological Perspective: An Introduction to Sociology

*Rutherford*

Thinking sociologically enables us to understand the intersection of our individual lives with larger social issues and to grasp how the social world works. Students in this course will become familiar with the background of sociology and the core analytical concepts employed by sociologists. Students will also gain familiarity with the major substantive topics explored by sociology, with focused attention given to the study of cultural formation, social identities, social control, social inequality, and globalization.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Fall

Unit: 1.0

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## SOC 103 Social Problems of Youth: An Introduction to Sociology

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10.** Perspectives on the creation of and response to the problems of young people. The problem of generations and relations between young and old. Perceptions of personal freedom and social responsibility with respect to public issues that directly affect youth including alcohol, tobacco, drugs, gambling, guns, and sexuality.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: N/O

Unit: 1.0

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## SOC 105 Doing Sociology—Applying Sociological Concepts to the Real World

*Levitt*

The goal of this course is to learn to analyze real life situations using sociological tools. The course is organized around a series of exercises that will teach students different analytical techniques and explore sociological theories and concepts. Projects may include reading novels, analyzing films, working with census data, interviewing, conducting surveys, participant observation, debating, and a small independent research project. Each project will focus on a subfield in the discipline and will serve as a platform from which students can explore basic theories, analytic categories, and methods. Students will work individually, in pairs, and in small groups.

Prerequisite: Open to first-year students only.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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## SOC 108 Thinking Global: An Introduction to Sociology

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10.** How are your personal problems related to larger issues in society and the world? In what ways do global economic and political shifts affect your personal trajectory as a college student in the United States? In this course, you will come to un-

derstand sociology as a unique set of tools with which to interpret your relationship to a broader sociopolitical landscape. By integrating classic readings in the discipline of sociology with the principles of global political economy, we will analyze and contextualize a range of social, economic, and political phenomena at the scales of the global, the national, the local, and the individual.

Prerequisite: None  
Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis  
Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 138 Deviance and Conformity: An Introduction to Sociology**

*Cuba*

Why are some behaviors, differences, and people considered deviant or stigmatized while others are not? This introductory sociology course examines several theories of social deviance that offer different answers to this question. We will focus on the creation of deviant categories and persons as interactive processes involving how behaviors are labeled as deviant, how people enter deviant roles, how others respond to deviance, and how those labeled as deviant cope with these responses.

Prerequisite: None  
Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis  
Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 190/ECON 103 Introduction to Probability and Statistical Methods**

*Levine (Economics), McEwan (Economics), Swingle, McKnight (Economics)*

An introduction to the collection, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of quantitative data as used to understand problems in economics and sociology. Using examples drawn from these fields, this course focuses on basic concepts in probability and statistics, such as measures of central tendency and dispersion, hypothesis testing, and parameter estimation. Data analysis exercises are drawn from both academic and everyday applications. *Students must register for a laboratory section which meets an additional 70 minutes each week. Students may register for either SOC 190 or ECON 103 and credit will be granted accordingly.*

Prerequisite: One course in sociology or ECON 101 or 102 and fulfillment of the basic skills component of the quantitative reasoning requirement. Not open to students who have taken or are taking MATH 220, PSYC 205 or POL 199.  
Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis. Fulfills the Quantitative Reasoning overlay course requirement. Does not satisfy the laboratory requirement.  
Semester: Fall, Spring, Summer Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 200 Classical Sociological Theory**

*Rutherford*

A survey of the origins of sociology through the works of the classical founders of the discipline. Focused attention is given to the writings of Marx, Weber, and Durkheim, with emphasis on learning to read and interpret primary texts. Students will understand foundational sociological concepts as used by classical theorists and will also apply these concepts to understand contemporary social life. Students will also explore the development of the canon of classical sociological theory with special emphasis on the place of women and African Americans in the history of that canon.

Prerequisite: One 100-level unit. Required of all majors.  
Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis  
Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 201 Contemporary Sociological Theory**

*Cushman*

An overview of important twentieth-century social and cultural theories. Focus on functionalist analysis, social conflict theory, dramaturgical theory, theories of modernity, and cognitive sociology. Class lectures and written work will focus on the application of sociological theories to the interpretation of a wide range of empirical phenomena.

Prerequisite: 200. Required of all majors.  
Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis  
Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 202 Introduction to Human Rights**

*Cushman*

Human rights is one of the most powerful approaches to social justice in the contemporary world, yet it is a rapidly developing and changing system. This course offers a critical analysis of human rights as a social, cultural, and legal system. It explores the historical and philosophical origins of the contemporary human rights system and its growth and development as a global social movement over the last few decades. This includes the diversification of rights to include social, economic and cultural rights and the collective rights of indigenous peoples. The course examines the ongoing controversy between human rights' claims to universalism in contrast to assertions of cultural difference. Special topics include the rise of nongovernmental human rights organizations, humanitarianism as an ideology, debates on military humanitarian interventions, the emergence of violence against women as a human rights issue, and the forms and types of justice in societies that have experienced large-scale violence.

Prerequisite: None  
Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis  
Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 204 Social Problems**

*Silver*

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10.** This course investigates why certain problems become matters of significant public and policymaking concern while others do not. We do not focus on a pre-defined list of social problems, but rather on the process by which some issues capture more attention than others. Our discussions analyze the actions of those institutions involved either in calling public attention to or distract-

ing public attention away from particular problems in our society. This focus enables students to acquire a perspective on social problems that they are unlikely to gain from other forums, such as journalism or politics.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: N/O

Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 205/WGST 211 American Families and Social Equality**

*Hertz*

American families are undergoing dramatic changes in social, political, and economic arenas: the rise of the dual-worker family, the increasing number of single mothers, the demands of family rights by gay and lesbian families, and the growing numbers of couples having children at older ages. The new economy poses real challenges for American parents as the social and economic gaps between families continues. As women dedicate a greater proportion of their time to the workplace, more children are cared for outside the home. How do children view parents' employment? How do families function when they have only limited hours together? What does fatherhood mean in these families? Using a provocative blend of social science, novels, and memoirs, we will examine how gender, race, ethnicity, and social class shape the experience of family life in the contemporary United States. *Students may register for either SOC 205 or WGST 211 and credit will be granted accordingly.*

Prerequisite: None. Not open to students who have taken [WoSt 211].

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Fall, Spring

Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 209 Social Inequality: Class, Race, and Gender**

*Rutherford, Silver*

This course examines the distribution of social resources to groups and individuals, as well as theoretical explanations of how unequal patterns of distribution are produced, maintained, and challenged. Special consideration will be given to how race, ethnicity, and gender intersect with social class to produce different life experiences for people in various groups in the United States. Consideration will also be given to policy initiatives designed to reduce social inequalities and alleviate poverty.

Prerequisite: One 100-level unit or permission of instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Spring, Summer

Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 217 Power: Personal, Social, and Institutional Dimensions**

*Cuba*

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10.** The study of power extends far beyond formal politics or the use of overt force into the operation of every institution and every life: how we are influenced in subtle ways by the people around us, who makes controlling decisions in the family, how people get ahead at work, whether democratic governments, in fact, reflect the "will of the people." This course explore some of the major theoretical issues involving power (including the nature of dominant and subordinate relationships and types of legitimate authority) and examines how power operates in a variety of social settings: relations among men and women, professions, corporations, cooperatives, communities, nations and the global economy.

Prerequisite: One 100-level unit or permission of the instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: N/O

Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 221 Globalization**

*Levitt*

McDonald's®, Starbucks®, and the Gap® are now common features on the street corners of Europe, South America, and Asia. Arnold Schwarzenegger enjoys unprecedented popularity in the Far East while Americans are fascinated by karaoke and Indian films. Does this globalization of production and consumption mean that people all over the globe are becoming the same? In this course, we will explore the globalization of social organization. We will examine the different ways in which economic, political, and cultural institutions are organized in the increasingly interdependent world in which we live, compare them to those in the past, and explore their consequences.

Prerequisite: One 100-level unit or permission of instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Fall

Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 231 The Sociology of Art, Media, and Culture—Comparative Perspectives**

*Levitt*

In this era of globalization, many aspects of social life span national boundaries. In his book, *Imagined Communities*, Benedict Anderson stressed the role of the media in creating nations. How does the relationship between art, culture, and society change when communities cross national borders? What role does the media play in creating new kinds of publics? This course examines the globalization of the artistic and cultural worlds and how artistic products change in response. We will look at high and popular cultural forms of painting, music, film, and writing. We will explore the interactions between artists, their audiences, and the curators, editors, and music industry moguls who are the gatekeepers of the culture industry.

Prerequisite: One 100-level unit or permission of instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 233 Gender and Power in South Asia**

*Radhakrishnan*

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10.** How do issues of gender continue to figure into the political agendas of contemporary South Asia? In this

course, we will address the gendered dimensions of contemporary social, political, and economic debates in South Asia, while coming to grips with changing roles and representations of South Asian women. Topics to be covered will include women's movements, the legal system, contemporary regional politics, the new economy, and popular culture.

Prerequisite: One 100-level unit or permission of instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: N/O

Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 234 Gender and International Development**

*Radhakrishnan*

As theoretical approaches to studying gender have shifted in the academic world, practical approaches to international development have changed to reflect them. In this course, we will focus on the relationship between theories of gender and their translation into policies and programs designed to ameliorate the lives of the world's poorest over the past several decades. In so doing, we will discuss the major trends in feminist theorizing, particularly in the postcolonial world, as well as the shifting paradigms of local and global organizations in designing and implementing "local" development projects. Topics to be addressed include microfinance, water distribution, land reform and economic liberalization in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Prerequisite: One 100-level unit or permission of instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 245 Asian Societies**

*Turner*

This course examines modern Asian societies in comparative-historical perspective. The main emphasis will be on: cultures, including religion; changes in gender and sexual relationships; changing political structures with special reference to citizenship and human rights; and finally the impact of globalization on Asia. The course will not cover every country that can be considered as "Asian" and it presupposes no prior knowledge of Asian society and history. Asian societies will be examined through the lenses of some of the most important classical and modern anthropologists and sociologists in the study of Asia: Max Weber, Edward Said, Gunnar Myrdal and Clifford Geertz as well as modern writers such as Robert Bellah, Robert Hefner, Benedict Anderson and Anthony Reid.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 249/AMST 249 Celebrity, Fame and Fortune**

*Imber*

A critical examination of the concept of status in sociological and social-scientific thinking. Focus on the historical rise of fame and its transformation into celebrity in the modern era. The relationship of status and violence. The meaning of sudden changes in good and bad fortune as attributes of status, including contemporary examples such as lottery winners, disgraced politicians, and media-driven attention to the powerful and pathetic. Fame and celebrity among women and minorities. The psychopathologies of leadership and conformity in political, religious, and educational institutions. *Students may register for either SOC 249 or AMST 249 and credit will be granted accordingly.*

Prerequisite: One 100-level unit or permission of instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Fall

Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 251 Sociology of Race**

*Radhakrishnan*

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10.** Racial categorization is an abstraction, yet its effects on our individual and collective lives are acutely real. How can we understand the mechanisms of racial domination in our society? In this class, we will move towards the formulation of a sociological conception of race by examining race comparatively in societies around the world. We will question and examine our own notions of race made in the United States, even as we explore institutions of racial domination in other parts of the world. Case studies will include the penal system in the United States, apartheid and post-apartheid states in South Africa, Brazil's "racial democracy," Chicago's Black Metropolis, and caste systems in India and Japan, among other examples.

Prerequisite: Any 100-level social science course or permission of instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: N/O

Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 275 The Sociology of the Body**

*Turner*

The sociology of the body is a relatively recent development in modern sociology. The course will explore the many ways in which the question of the body obtrudes into our daily lives: Modern consumerism employs the body as a dominant mode for articulating the desire for goods, and in the process, the body itself becomes a commodity. The exploitation of women's bodies raises the question of whether the gendered body is "socially constructed." In addition, developments in modern medicine, specifically microbiological revolutions, have raised the issue of the "posthuman body" and the development of cloning. Stem-cell research and regenerative medicine have suggested to some that human longevity has no natural limits, and hence, we could "live forever." The course will examine a range of substantive topics: gender and sexual identity; illness and disease; dance and performance; body and consumerism; body and sport; medical interventions and old age; the body and religion; body, cognition and emotions; human vulnerability and human rights.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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**SOC 277 Masculinities***Cushman, Imber*

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10.** An examination of the complexities and transformations of male identity and manhood, beginning with basic biological accounts and exploring the historical, philosophical, political, economic, psychological, cultural, and ideological nature of the idea of maleness and masculinity. Topics include: the social construction of masculinity; men and war; feminist perspectives on patriarchy, male-dominance, and pornography; the feminized male and metrosexual; social movements that challenge traditional masculine identities; heterosexuality and homosexuality; male bonding and friendship; male stereotyping and manliness.

Prerequisite: Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: N/O

Unit: 1.0

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**SOC 301 Methods of Social Research***Swingle*

Focus on quantitative methods of data collection and analysis. Beginning with modes of data presentation, students will practice with existing data sets to describe and explain social variation in different populations. Building on this extension of basic statistics (SOC 190/ECON 103 or [QR 199]), this course will be devoted primarily to an examination of the logic of survey analysis from the development of hypotheses and construction of a survey instrument to the analysis and reporting of results. Discussion sessions and exercises will address issues of sampling, validity, and reliability; models of causation and elaboration; data coding, cleaning, and analysis. The course will also review multiple methods of research, content analysis, triangulation, and case studies.

Prerequisite: 190/ECON 103, [QR 199] or permission of instructor. Required of all sociology majors.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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**SOC 302 Seminar. Advanced Topics in Human Rights***Cushman*

This course focuses on central human rights problems and issues in contemporary global society from a social science perspective. The seminar is topical and the following issues will be examined: humanitarianism, genocide and genocide prevention, global slavery, sex and organ trafficking, stateless peoples, and the persistence of torture in the modern world. The seminar will rely on case studies of each of the topics and aims to provide students with a concrete sociological understanding of these global social problems.

Prerequisite: 202 or permission of instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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**SOC 303 Comparative Perspectives on Religion and Politics***Levitt*

This course examines the relationship between religion and politics in the United States and around the world. How does religiosity shape political participation in different contexts? How do different countries manage religious pluralism and the relationship between church and state? How do global religious movements influence religious life in local contexts? The course will be organized around comparative case studies from around the world chosen to highlight the effect of history, demography, and economic development on religious and political life. At the end of the semester, we will compare what we have learned to the U.S. context.

Prerequisite: One 100-level course in a social science discipline or permission of the instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Fall

Unit: 1.0

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**SOC 304: Seminar in Advanced Sociological Theory***Turner*

This seminar continues the themes and issues raised in classical and contemporary sociological theory. Topics will vary each semester around a basic core of themes, including: sociological theories of modernity and postmodernity, cultural sociology, social inequality, and the sociology of the future. Special attention is given to theories which help to explain social and cultural phenomena in the twenty-first century such as terrorism, the rise of new forms of power and autocracy, globalization and new forms of social inequality, and social environments of risk and danger.

Prerequisite: Open to junior and senior sociology majors only. SOC 200 and SOC 201 are required.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Fall

Unit: 1.0

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**SOC 306/WGST 306 Seminar. Women and Work***Hertz*

The biggest force for change in the U.S. economy has been the growing diversity of the American labor force. The first half of the course emphasizes the impact of gender and racial diversity on the nature of work in America. We will discuss four key aspects: the dynamics of gender and race in the workplace; the tensions between work/family and gender equity; the struggle to integrate women into male-dominated occupations and professions; and the challenges for women in leadership roles. The second half of the course will focus on women as critical to the "new" global workforce in selected regions. We will discuss: women's migration and domestic work; the paradox of caring for others while leaving one's children behind; women in global factories; and women's activism in their home communities. *Students may register for either SOC 306 or WGST 306 and credit will be granted accordingly.*

Prerequisite: One course in ANTH, SOC, ECON, or WGST [WOST] at the 200-level or permission of the instructor. Not open to students who have taken WOST 306.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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## **SOC 309 Seminar. Topics in Inequality**

### **Topic A for 2009-10: Critical Intersections: Race, Class, Gender, and Nation**

*Radhakrishnan*

In an increasingly borderless world, does the nation still inspire a sense of community and belonging? How are nations built and sustained? In this course, we tackle these questions through the vocabularies of feminism, critical race theory, and postcolonial critique. By focusing on the mutual constitution of race, class, and gender, we will think about the nation as a tenuous patchwork of meanings that work together in different ways across various historical and spatial contexts, such as the U.S, India, and South Africa.

Prerequisite: At least one course in the social sciences or permission of instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Fall

Unit: 1.0

### **Topic B: Language, Power, and Society**

*Rutherford*

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10.** Language is critical in the formation of social groups and struggles for power and prestige among groups. This course will survey language diversity in American society, based on such variables as class, ethnicity, race, gender, religion, age and region. Examination of language policy issues that illuminate the ways that dominant usages of language reinforce structured differences in social power and prestige among cultural groups. Political uses of language both legitimize and challenge key aspects of the social order, with particular attention to discursive attempts by both liberals and conservatives to appropriate the American narrative in staking their territory on contested issues.

Prerequisite: At least one course in the social sciences or permission of instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: N/O

Unit: 1.0

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## **SOC 310 Comparative Perspectives on Immigration**

*Levitt*

Each year, approximately 5 million people cross a national border to settle in a new land. This course looks comparatively and historically at the social and cultural aspects of the immigrant experience. We will begin with an overview of immigration in the United States, paying particular attention to the experiences of the children of immigrants. We will then look at how relatively new countries of settlement (such as Europe) compare to long-term plural societies (such as Malaysia). How is ethnic, racial, and religious diversity managed in each of these contexts? What do we learn about the nation by looking at how it "encounters the other?" We will also focus on how national cultural institutions represent the immigrant experience by looking at novels, films, art exhibitions, the media, and museums. Class projects will include oral histories, media and literary analyses, and a major research paper on a topic of students' choice. Some class time will be devoted to how to design, carry out, and analyze qualitative research.

Prerequisite: At least one prior social science course.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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## **SOC 311/WGST 311 Seminar. Family and Gender Studies: The Family, the State, and Social Policy**

*Hertz*

Analysis of problems facing the contemporary U.S. family and potential policy directions for the new millennium. Discussion of the transformation of the American family including changing economic and social roles for women and expanding varieties of family types (such as single mothers by choice and lesbian/gay families). Sexuality, teen pregnancy, reproductive issues, day care, the elderly, divorce, welfare, the impact of work on the family, equality between spouses, choices women make about children and employment, and the new American dreams will be explored. Comparisons to other contemporary societies will serve as a foil for particular analyses. Students are expected to work in groups to analyze the media's portrayal of family/gender stories and selected legal cases. *Students may register for either SOC 311 or WGST 311 and credit will be granted accordingly.*

Prerequisite: One 200-level course in family or gender in SOC, ANTH, HIST, POL, PSYC or WGST, or by permission of instructor. Not open to students who have taken WOST 311.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Fall

Unit: 1.0

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## **SOC 314 Medical Sociology and Social Epidemiology**

*Imber*

Definition, incidence, and treatment of health disorders. Topics include: differential availability of health care; social organization of health delivery systems; role behavior of patients, professional staff, and others; attitudes toward terminally ill and dying; movements for alternative health care.

Prerequisite: One 200-level unit or permission of instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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## **SOC 321 Globalization: A Research Seminar**

*Levitt*

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10.** This course uses the topic of globalization to teach students to carry out research. Following a basic introduction to the topic, each student will design and carry out a research project of her own. She will learn how to define research questions, identify and carry out appropriate methodologies, use various types of data sources, collect and analyze data, and write a final report. Course readings are tailored to students' questions. Interview and field-work based projects are strongly encouraged. *Enrollment limited to 15 students.*

Prerequisite: 100-level sociology course or permission of instructor.

### **SOC 334 Consumer Culture**

*Rutherford*

How and why does consumerism exercise so great an influence on global culture today? How are our institutions and relationships shaped and transformed by the forces of commodification and consumerism? Are there any realms of life that ought to be free from the market-driven forces of commodification? Can consumerism offer a positive means of cultural critique to processes we wish to resist? In this seminar, we explore the history of consumer culture in the U.S. and globally, with special attention to understanding the effects of commodification upon the self, human relationships, and social institutions. We will consider both classical and contemporary critiques of liberatory dimensions of consumer society.

Prerequisite: 100-level sociology course or permission of instructor.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 344/AMST 317 Greed in America**

*Cushman*

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10. OFFERED IN 2010-11.** A sociologically grounded examination of acquisitiveness in American society, examining the history of social thought on the “sin” of avarice and the “virtues” of thrift and self-control, as a backdrop for understanding the ongoing tension between morality and acquisition of material wealth in the United States from its earliest history to the present. Focus on the moral critique of greed; the representation of greed in popular culture; and the cultural contradictions of American capitalist society in which the profit motive competes with values and norms of restraint and temperance. Students will read classical and contemporary theoretical social science texts—Adam Smith, Karl Marx, Max Weber, Thorstein Veblen, R.H. Tawney—and apply the insights to the interpretation of acquisitiveness in American life. *Students may register for either SOC 344 or AMST 317 and credit will be granted accordingly.*

Prerequisite: Open to juniors and seniors only. Permission of the instructor required. Enrollment is limited and preference is given to sociology and American studies majors.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis or Historical Studies

Semester: N/O. Offered in 2010-11. Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 348 The Sociology of Conservatism**

*Imber*

An examination of conservative movements and ideas in terms of class, gender, and race. Historical survey and social analysis of such major conservative movements and ideas as paleoconservatism, neoconservatism, and passionate conservatism. The emergence of conservative stances among women, minorities, and media figures. The conservative critique of American life and its shaping of contemporary national discourse on morality, politics, and culture.

Prerequisite: A 100-level sociology course or permission of the instructor. Open to juniors and seniors only.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 350 Research or Individual Study**

Prerequisite: Open by permission to juniors and seniors.

Distribution: None

Semester: Fall, Spring Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 350H Research or Individual Study**

Prerequisite: Open by permission to juniors and seniors.

Distribution: None

Semester: Fall, Spring Unit: 0.5

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### **SOC 360 Senior Thesis Research**

Students must complete all major requirements prior to enrolling. Students are encouraged to take SOC 350 (Research or Individual Study) and SOC 301 (Methods of Social Research) with an instructor of their choice in preparation for thesis work.

Prerequisite: By permission of department. See Academic Distinctions.

Distribution: None

Semester: Fall, Spring Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 365/ENG 365 Images of the American City**

*Cuba and Brogan (English)*

This course considers how literary representations and sociological studies of urban life variously respond to the astonishing growth of cities in the twentieth century, helping to shape newly emergent and highly contested cultural meanings of the city. In considering the interplay between mind and urban forms, we'll explore the relationship between the individual and the urban environment, how life in cities is socially organized, patterns of immigration and tensions between ethnic groups, the creation of the slum and ghetto and efforts to gentrify them, cognitive mapping, and the legibility of the cityscape. We'll also discuss how literary and sociological perspectives on the city meet and diverge. Authors may include Stephen Crane, Georg Simmel, Robert Park, Ann Petry, James Baldwin, Anselm Strauss, Paule Marshall, Kevin Lynch, Anna Deavere Smith, and Elijah Anderson. *Students may register for either SOC 365 or ENG 365 and credit will be granted accordingly.*

Prerequisite: One 200-level course in either literature or sociology or by permission of the instructor to other qualified students.  
Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis or Language and Literature  
Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

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### **SOC 370 Senior Thesis**

Prerequisite: 360 and permission of department.  
Distribution: None  
Semester: Fall, Spring Unit: 1.0

## **Requirements for the Major**

A major in sociology consists of at least nine units. The core of the major consists of four required courses (SOC 190, 200, 201, and 301, plus an additional unit of 200-level work, excluding 350, 360, and 370) which emphasize basic concepts, theory, and research methods that are the foundation of the discipline, but are also useful in a range of social sciences and professions. Permission to take a required unit elsewhere for the major must be obtained from the department chair in advance. Students must take at least five additional units exploring the range of substantive topics in sociology (e.g., social problems, deviance, immigration, social change and development, race and ethnicity, medicine and epidemiology, religion, gender, mass media, and popular culture).

Choosing courses to complete the degree and the major requires careful thought and planning. Sociology majors are encouraged to explore the full range of disciplines and subjects in the liberal arts, and they should consult a faculty member to select courses each term and to plan a course of study over several years. It is recommended that students complete the sequence of theory and methods courses by the end of their junior year if they want to conduct independent research or honors projects during their senior year. If a major anticipates being away during all or part of the junior year, the theory (SOC 200 and 201) and research methods course (SOC 301) should be taken during the sophomore year, or an alternative plan should be arranged with her advisor.

## **Requirements for the Minor**

A minor in sociology (six units) consists of: any 100-level unit, SOC 200, and four additional units, one of which must be a 300-level unit, excluding 350. The plan for this option should be carefully prepared; a student wishing to add the sociology minor to the major in another field should consult a faculty advisor in sociology.

## **Honors**

The only route to honors in the major is writing a thesis and passing an oral examination. To be admitted to the thesis program, a student must have a grade point average of at least 3.5 in all work in the major field above the 100 level; the department may petition on her behalf if her GPA in the major is between 3.0 and 3.5. See Academic Distinctions.