Sociology
Office: 220 Newcomb Hall
Phone: (504) 865-5820
Fax: (504) 865-5544
Website: http://www.tulane.edu/~sociol/

Professors
Joel A. Devine, Ph.D., Indiana
James D. Wright, Ph.D., Wisconsin

Associate Professors
April A. Brayfield, Ph.D., Maryland
Charles J. Brody, Ph.D., Arizona (Chair)
Edward V. Morse, Ph.D., Cornell
Gerardo Otero, Ph.D., Wisconsin
J. Timmons Roberts, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins
Beth Rubin, Ph.D., Indiana
Laura Sanchez, Ph.D., Wisconsin

Assistant Professors
Carl L. Bankston III, Ph.D., Louisiana State
Timothy Brezina, Ph.D., Emory
James R. Elliot, Ph.D., Wisconsin
Kevin Gotham, Ph.D., Kansas
Melinda J. Milligan, Ph.D., California, Davis

Adjunct
Mary Ann Maguire, Ph.D., Stanford (Associate Dean, Newcomb College)

Emeritus
Fredrick Koenig, Ph.D., Wisconsin

Sociology is the study of group life. It combines scientific and humanistic perspectives in the study of urban and rural life, family patterns and relationships, social change, inter-group relations, social class, environment, technology and communications, health care and illness, social movements, organizations, and pressing contemporary social issues. Sociology is a valuable liberal arts major for students planning careers in a wide variety of fields including social research, criminology, demography, social psychology, public administration, gerontology, education, rehabilitation, and market research. It provides a useful background for those planning to enter law, business, medicine, social work, public health, community planning, architecture, and politics.

Major
To major in sociology a student must complete a minimum of 27 credits taken from courses offered by the department including the following required courses: 101, at least three credits at the 200 level, an additional three credits at the 200 level or above, 303, 304, 322, and at least nine credits at the 600 level. Additional courses from other departments in the social sciences group are to be selected in consultation with the major advisor.

Minor
A minor in sociology consists of at least five courses: 101, two courses at the 200 or 300 level, and two courses at the 600 level. None of the courses taken in fulfillment of the sociology minor may be used to fulfill the requirements of other majors or minors.
Minor Urban Sociology

The Department of Sociology requires six courses to fulfill a minor in urban sociology. The six courses cited are the minimum number required; students may take more than six courses and use the additional courses as electives. One of the required courses taken in fulfillment of the urban sociology minor may be used simultaneously to fulfill major or other minor program requirements.

I. Both of the following:
   101 Introductory Sociology
   206 Urban Sociology

II. One of the following courses from the 200 level:
   209 Contemporary American Social Problems
   218 Wealth, Power, and Inequality
   230 Criminology

III. One of the following:
   303 Introduction to Research Design
   304 Introduction to Research Analysis

IV. 619 Urban Organization

V. An additional Sociology course from the 600 level
   In consultation with the minor advisor, students may elect to substitute a single upper-level undergraduate course of urban interest from another LAS department in lieu of the second 600-level course, for example: Economics 332 Urban Economics, or History 342 Urban America.

SOCI 101 Introductory Sociology (3)
Staff. Cultural systems and group behavior; personality, community structure, population and institutional organization; social change and disorganization as social processes.

SOCI 201 Special Topics in Sociology (3)
Staff. Special topic announced each semester.

SOCI 203 Sociology of the Family (3)
Staff. Consideration of the family as a social institution and a special form of small group. Examination of theoretical and empirical research focusing upon mate selection, marital interaction, and child socialization. Topics include contemporary demographic trends and cultural practices.

SOCI 204 Gender and Society (3)
Ms. Brayfield, Ms. Sanchez. Examines the social construction of gender and the consequences of gender equality. Topics include socialization, intimate relations, paid and unpaid work, violence, and social change.

SOCI 205 Population and Society (3)
Staff. An examination of the dynamic relationship between population and society. The course focuses on the contemporary demography of developed and developing countries, with an emphasis on societal problems linked to population.

SOCI 206 Urban Sociology (3)
Mr. Elliott, Mr. Gotham. The social patterns, processes, and institutional structure of urban life.

SOCI 208 Deviant Behavior (3)
Mr. Brezina. Examines forms of human behavior that have been defined as “deviant” by the larger society. An emphasis is placed on understanding the social construction of such definitions, especially their cross-cultural variations, as well as motivations and social implications for those whose behavior is judged as deviant.

SOCI 209 Social Problems (3)
Mr. Devine, Mr. Wright. Examination of critical contemporary social problems and social policy options. Emphasis is placed on understanding the multidimensional sources of crisis, unrest, and instability as well as policy options and tradeoffs associated with ameliorative efforts. Topics vary by semester and instructor.

SOCI 213 Families and the American Welfare State (3)
Ms. Sanchez. Provides general survey of family and social welfare policy in the United States. Examines the historical development of the welfare state.

SOCI 214 Families and the Welfare State in International Perspective (3)
Ms. Sanchez. Provides a general survey of family and social welfare policies in different regions of the world. Study of the development of welfare states. The course focuses on competing social welfare demands; population pressures and needs in more and lesser developed regions of the world; recent calls for international forms of social welfare and family policies.

SOCI 215 Introduction to Social Work (3)
Staff. Introduces students to the profession and practice of social work. Examines principles, functions, knowledge base, and history of social work. Topics include the change process, levels of practice, and social problems affecting clients and practitioners.

SOCI 218 Wealth, Power and Inequality (3)
Ms. Rubin, Mr. Wright. Survey of theoretical and empirical literature on the distribution of wealth, power, and prestige within and across societies and historical periods. Emphasis is placed on the impact of social change on stratification systems.

SOCI 221 Sociology of Religion (3)
Staff. Introduces students to sociological study of religious phenomena, including religious beliefs, practices, and behaviors as conditioned by sociological factors. A key emphasis is the relationship between religious systems and other social institutions, e.g., politics, family, economy, and social stratification.

SOCI 245 Society through Cinema (3)
Mr. Devine. Examination of social organization, interaction, issues, and problems via the depiction of these issues and themes in selected commercial and documentary cinematic statements as illustrative material. Weekly class meetings are divided into lecture, screening, and discussion. Specific topical foci differ by semester.

SOCI 249 Latin American Social Structure (3)
Mr. Roberts. An historical examination of the human condition in Latin America emphasizing three primary spheres of social relations: political, economic, and ideological. Within each sphere the following themes are addressed: national-international relations, urbanization, rural social structure, demographic trends, cultural change, and stability.

SOCI 250 Organizational Behavior (3)
Ms. Maguire. An introduction to the sociological study of organizations in the private and public sectors. Topics include models for studying organizations, organization processes (communication, decision-making, negotiation, leadership), the impact of structural culture, and environmental factors on organizational behavior.

SOCI 251 Work in American Society (3)
Ms. Rubin. Examines the concepts of occupations, professions, and work organizations. It considers issues about employee selection, job involvement, alienation, satisfaction, performance, and compensation; industrial mental health, occupation safety, health and medicine; social conditions of work in bureaucratic organizations, work groups and union membership; supervision and human resource management; and the changing conditions of work resulting from technological change, social change, shifts in the occupational structure and the interface of work with other institutions such as the family.

SOCI 260 Environmental Sociology (3)
Mr. Roberts. This course examines political and economic aspects of global and local environmental problems. Topics include how societies and the environment interact, why some environmental risks have gained most attention, how support for environmental concerns can be measured, responses by environmental social movements, and visions of sustainable societies in the First and Third Worlds.

SOCI 270 Mind, Self, and Society (3)
Ms. Milligan. Introduction to sociological perspectives on social psychology. Individuals, groups, society, and their interrelationships. Formation and measurement of identity, norms, attitudes, cognition, affect/emotion, perceptions, and group processes.

SOCI 288 Writing Practicum (1)
Staff. Writing practicum. Fulfills the college writing requirement.

SOCI 303 Introduction to Research Design (3)
Staff. Prerequisite: six credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Logic and techniques of social research, the relationships between theory and method, and alternative strategies in data collection.

SOCI 304 Introduction to Research Analysis (3)
Ms. Brayfield, Mr. Brody. Prerequisite: six credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Basic training in descriptive and inferential statistics with social science applications. Topics include measurement, tabular and graphic displays of data, central tendency, dispersion, probability, estimation, hypothesis testing, and linear regression.

SOCI 322 Social Theory (3)
Mr. Gotham, Mr. Otero. Prerequisite: six credits of sociology or approval of instructor. An introduction to classical sociological theory including the work of Marx, Durkheim, and Weber.

SOCI 344 Experimental Social Psychology (4)
Staff. Laboratory and field experience in interpersonal relations, social roles, and attitude change. Same as PSYC 344.

SOCI 388 Writing Practicum (1)
Staff. Writing practicum. Fulfills the college writing practicum.

SOCI 389 Service Learning (1)
Staff. Students complete a service activity in the community in conjunction with the content of the corequisite course.

SOCI 456, 457 Internship Studies (1-3, 1-3)
Staff. Prerequisites: approval of instructor and department. Open to especially qualified upper level students.

SOCI 491, 492 Independent Studies (1-3, 1-3)
Staff. Open to especially qualified upper level students with approval of instructor.

SOCI H499-H500 Honors Thesis (3, 4)
Staff. For senior honors candidates and other qualified senior majors. Intensive reading and research in a selected field of sociology.

SOCI 601 Advanced Topics in Sociology (3)
Staff. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Special topic announced each semester.

SOCI 602 Political Sociology (3)
Ms. Rubin, Staff. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Analysis of both the distribution and institutional bases of power in society and the values which legitimate them. Class, bureaucracy, occupations, and political participation as these correlate with power.

SOCI 603 Measurement of Social Change (3)
Mr. Brody, Mr. Devine. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology including 303, or 304 or equivalent. Examination of theoretical issues pertaining to large-scale sociopolitical and economic change with emphasis on measurement techniques and manipulation of aggregate-level data.

SOCI 606 Issues in the Sociology of Gender (3)
Ms. Brayfield, Ms. Sanchez. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. This course examines research in several areas of the sociology of gender. Topics include the acquisition of gender identity, face to face interactions, the changing roles of women and men, the intersection of work and family, and social movements. Students will conduct original research in one of these areas.

SOCI 608 Symbolic Interactionism (3)
Ms. Milligan. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Explores the perspective within social psychology known as symbolic interactionism. Includes discussion of the work of pioneering scholars in the field, as well as recent theoretical and empirical studies. Topics to be covered include the self, socialization, identity, social interaction, the dramaturgical metaphor, human nature, social structure, and the definition of the situation.

SOCI 609 Sociology of Medicine (3)
Mr. Morse. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. An examination of social and psychological factors affecting the prevalence and incidence of disease in human populations. Topics also considered include the organization of the health professions, comparative medical systems, social change and health care, and social factors affecting the utilization of health services.

SOCI 611 Sociology of Work and Leisure (3)
Mr. Devine, Ms. Rubin. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. An historical analysis of both the forms and the functions of work from ancient times to the present, with emphasis on Western cultures. Projections of the nature and purposes of work in the post-industrial era.

SOCI 612 Race and Ethnic Relations in America (3)
Mr. Bankston. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Sociological examination of the dynamics of race and ethnic relations in the United States. This course provides an opportunity for students to read about, think, and discuss issues of racial and ethnic relations in society. Topics include the social construction of racial classification systems, the historical record of the interaction between the races in America, public policy, and possible mechanisms for dealing with some of the issues that many consider most problematic in our society.

SOCI 613 Sociology of Science (3)
Mr. Morse. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Examination of science as a social institution and the processes of research as sociological phenomena. Special attention to factors accounting for scientific productivity and a case analysis of sociology as an emerging scientific specialty.

SOCI 614 Problems in the Sociology of Deviance (3)
Staff. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Consideration in depth of one or more current problems of theory and research in the sociology of deviance: societal reaction theory, organizations for management of deviance, the design of prevention. Independent student research projects encouraged.

SOCI 615 Sociology of Alcohol and Drug Use (3)
Staff. Prerequisites: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Social and historical consideration of patterns of alcohol and drug use in Western and non-Western nations. Focus upon the social psychology of abuse, dependence, and addiction. Detailed attention to the bases for normative and legal reactions to the use of these substances including various types of formal and informal treatment. The consequences of these reactions within social systems are also considered.

SOCI 617 Problems in the Sociology of Inequality (3)
Mr. Devine, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Wright. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Consideration in depth of one or more current problems of theory and research in sociology in inequality: Poverty, Homelessness and the Cities; The American Underclass; Labor Markets.

SOCI 618 Wealth, Power and Inequality (3)
Ms. Rubin, Mr. Wright. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Theories of stratification, status systems in various societies, measurement and research of social classes in the United States.

SOCI 619 Urban Organization (3)
Mr. Gotham, Mr. Roberts. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. A study of the causes and social effects of urban growth and decay in rich and poor countries. An examination of contemporary urban social classes and political coalitions, and how these are changing with shifting regional economies.

SOCI 620 Issues in Sociology of the Family (3)
Staff. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. This course will consider the sociological, political, and cultural criticisms of the traditional definitions of family. The course focuses on family demography, gay/lesbian family issues, African-American families, and the “family values” wars as organizing topics.

SOCI 623 History of Social Psychology (3)
Staff. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology including SOCI 270 or approval of instructor. Theoretical systems and contributions of major European and American writers significant to contemporary social psychology.

SOCI 624 Social Structure and Personality (3)
Mr. Koenig. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology including SOCI 270 or approval of instructor. Psychological correlates of various forms of horizontal and vertical social diversity. Examination of the impact of social class, race, sex, and community on the development of personality, and of the effects of individual differences on social structure. Same as PSYC 624.

SOCI 625 Sociology of Childhood (3)
Ms. Brayfield. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. This course examines theories, methods, and empirical research in several areas of the sociology of childhood. Major themes are (1) how social structure constrains children's lives, (2) how children negotiate, share, and create culture, and (3) how children's experiences vary within and across societies. Topics include historical trends in thinking about children, cultural reproduction in early childhood, children's social worlds, contemporary attitudes toward children, and social policies for children. Students will design and carry out original research projects.

SOCI 628 Comparative Latin American Demography (3)
Staff. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology including SOCI 205 or approval of instructor. An examination of historical trends and current conditions in population structure and population processes in Central and South America.

SOCI 629 Urban Organization Laboratory (1)
Staff. Prerequisite: concurrent enrollment in SOCI 619 and approval of instructor. A community service and/or research internship with a community agency or program in the New Orleans, metropolitan area. Placement in the internship is coordinated though the course instructor and a representative of the community service agency or program.

SOCI 640 Sociology of Criminal Justice (3)
Staff. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology including SOCI 230 or approval of instructor. Various aspects of the criminal justice system are examined with special attention devoted to organizational and decision-making features. The discretionary powers of criminal justice agencies are explored in light of their effect on the composition and size of this society's criminal population. Discussed are the legislature, police, courts, and corrections agencies.

SOCI 644 Language Behavior and Communication (3)
Staff. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology and approval of instructor. An examination of the intersection of psychosocial processes and the machinery of grammar and lexicon. Examination of the areas of aphasia, mental disorders, language acquisition, and cognition with an emphasis on cross-cultural methods and experimental design. Same as PSYC 644.

SOCI 652 Environmental Struggles in the Americas (3)
Mr. Roberts. Prerequisite: SOCI 260 or approval of instructor. When it comes to protecting the public's health and the natural environment, governments find themselves in deeply contradictory positions between corporations and popular social movements. This course examines the struggle over the environment using the tools of sociology and political economic theories. It combines in seminar format the examination of case studies from around the hemisphere with a basic set of readings on political economy as used by sociologists.

SOCI 660 Social Policy and Evaluation Research (3)
Mr. Wright. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology including SOCI 203 or approval of instructor. Course focuses on the applied methods required to determine whether an intervention (or policy) achieve intended ends. Relevant topics include: problem identification, needs assessment, values clarification, policy description, evaluative tools, ethical considerations, problems and pitfalls of applied evaluative research, and efficiency and cost-benefit analysis.

SOCI 664 Sociology of Organizations (3)
Ms. Rubin. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Exploration and development of organizational structures, processes and consequences. Interdisciplinary focus drawing conceptual, theoretical, and methodological tools from sociology, management, economics, and applied fields such as law and public administration. The seminar will examine classic and current issues in the sociology of organizations and the influence of complex organizations on different contexts and institutions (e.g., economy, family, healthcare, politics).

SOCI 667 Organization Ethnography (3)
Ms. Milligan. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. Ethnographic and qualitative study of organizations, methods thereof, and research literatures thereon. Topics include qualitative data collection methods, application of these methods to organizations, and the contributions of recent ethnographic work to the study and practice of organizations. Course will take the form of comparative assessment of ethnographic and qualitative research on organizations.

SOCI 670 Sociology of Law (3)
Mr. Morse. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. An examination of the implications of law in the persistence and change of social systems, the relation of sociological theory and research to legal institutions, and law as an organization and profession.

SOCI 680 Society and Economy (3)
Mr. Devine, Ms. Rubin. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. The overall relationships of the economy to other components of society and specific institutions: economy and government, economy and family, economy and gender. The social organization of the firm, the market, organizations and economic culture and how each affects the other.

SOCI 688 Writing Practicum (1)
Staff. Writing practicum. Fulfills the college writing practicum.

SOCI 689 Field Work Methods in the Americas (3)
Staff. Prerequisite: nine credits of sociology or approval of instructor. An examination of field methods, the kind of data such methods generate, and how to analyze such data. The class will follow field research from entry into a field site to writing up the research project.

SOCI 690 Sociology of Development in Latin America (3)
Mr. Roberts. Prerequisite: six credits of sociology including SOCI 249 or LAST 101 or approval of instructor. An examination of the transitions from premodern to modern, and from modern to post-modern economies and societies in Latin America. An inquiry into the causes and social effects of rapid “modernizing” social changes such as increases in urban residence, schooling, factory work, and mass media exposure.

SOCI 691 Social Theory and Latin America (3)
Staff. Prerequisite: six credits of sociology including SOCI 249 or LAST 101 or approval of instructor. This course introduces students of Latin America to overviews of 19th- and 20th-century social theory, including conflict, rational/utilitarian, network, and cultural theory, and links these perspectives to analysis of Latin American societies, including research on peasants and urban workers, neighborhood associations, and the impact of clientelism on state bureaucracy.

SOCI 692 Social Stratification and Mobility in Latin America (3)
Staff. Prerequisite: six credits of sociology including SOCI 249 or LAST 101 or approval of instructor. An examination of the extent and social bases of wealth and power inequalities in Central and South America along lines of class, gender, race, ethnicity, and regional origin.

SOCI 693 Social Movements in Latin America (3)
Mr. Otero. Prerequisite: six credits of sociology including SOCI 249 or LAST 101 or approval of instructor. An examination of the factors shaping the emergence, development, and decline of social movements in Latin America. Issues addressed include why people join movements, what constraints there are on building of social movement organizations, and in what ways are leaders and ideologies crucial to movement development.

SOCI 694 Political Sociology of Latin America (3)
Staff. Prerequisite: six credits of sociology including SOCI 249 or LAST 101 or approval of instructor. This course examines theories of the bases and distribution of power in Latin America. Topics include the role of elites and domestic class coalitions in state formation and regime transitions, the role of civil society -labor, popular associations, political parties-in democratization, and the role of culture, including religion, in political life.

SOCI 696 Urban Latin America (3)
Mr. Roberts. Prerequisite: six credits of sociology including SOCI 249 or LAST 101 or approval of instructor. This course is a study of the causes and social effects of urban growth and decay in rich and poor countries in the Americas. Examines contemporary urban social classes and political coalitions, and how these are changing with shifting regional economies. The course discusses theories of urban societies and regional growth, and examines case studies and theories from Latin America.

SOCI 698 Brazilian Society (3)
Mr. Roberts. Prerequisite: six credits of sociology including SOCI 249 or LAST 101 or approval of instructor. This course examines Brazilian society through texts, films and speakers. The topics include Brazil’s history, politics, work and workers’ movements, squatters, the Amazon conflict, religion, gender, and the mass media.

SOCI 699 Special Topics in the Sociology of Latin America (3)
Mr. Otero, Mr. Roberts. Prerequisite: six credits of sociology including SOCI 249 or LAST 101 or approval of instructor. Course topics vary. Courses will include: Latin American Immigration, Race and Ethnicity in the Americas, Caribbean Societies, and Drugs and Alcohol in the Americas.