

SOCIOLOGY, BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.)

The field of Sociology emerged as a scientific enterprise focused on a comprehensive understanding of the modern world, its origins, basic components, and central tendencies. As a member of this tradition, the Sociology Program at ECU provides students with an advanced understanding of the modern social structure and its institutions (politics, economics, religion, mass media, the family, labor markets), human group dynamics, social inequalities of class, gender, race, and sexuality, forms of human interaction, and social deviance (crime, juvenile delinquency). Sociologists also study regional issues such as social change in Appalachia and environmental concerns. Sociology faculty are skilled in teaching the theoretical foundations of sociology and methods of social research, while they teach students to think critically.

Students who major in Sociology can pursue one of two concentrations. The General Sociology concentration gives students a broad knowledge base within the field, emphasizing electives in a variety of areas of the students' own choosing. Combined with basic skills in research methods and analysis, the General Sociology widens students' job opportunities in a rapidly changing economy where specialized jobs often become outdated. Students who major in sociology are taught to think critically, communicate effectively, and respond constructively to the challenges and opportunities they will encounter. A concentration in General Sociology provides a gateway to many different professions.

The Diversity in Society Concentration equips students with a sociological understanding of social diversity through a variety of lenses including, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality, as well as the intersections of these identities. Students who pursue this concentration will also gain a broad knowledge base and research and data analysis training through required courses in the major. Their additional coursework will focus more specifically on gaining knowledge and competencies related to issues of diversity and equity. This concentration allows students to signal desirable skills to future employers such as cultural competency and the ability to interact effectively with people from diverse backgrounds.

Many sociology graduates move into careers in the following areas: social services, social media, data mining and analysis, human relations, Law and legal services, policy analysis, teaching, and health fields. Others find employment in management and administrative careers in government agencies as well as in a wide range of private sector firms. Still others work to achieve their goals in less traditional careers such as grassroots activism or private entrepreneurship.

Program Requirements

CIP Code: 45.1101

Major

Code	Title	Hours
University Graduation Requirements		
General Education (https://catalogs.ecu.edu/undergraduate/general-academic-information/general-education-requirements/)		36
<i>Foundations of Learning</i>		
Foundations of Learning (waived for transfers with 30+ hrs.)		1
Upper division courses (42 hrs. distributed throughout Major/Supporting/Gen Ed/Free Electives categories)		

Major Requirements		
<i>Core Courses</i>		
SOC 131	Introductory Sociology	3
SOC 232	Social Statistics	3
SOC 301	Immersion in Sociological Thought	3
SOC 395	Research Methods in Sociology	3
SOC 470	Capstone Seminar in Sociology	3
Choose from one of the following:		3
SOC 135	Living in a Diverse World	
SOC 205	Sexualities and Social Issues	
SOC 245	Sociology of the Family	
Upper-division Sociology electives		3
Concentrations		
Students must select one of the following Concentrations:		9-12
Diversity in Society		
General		
<i>Free Electives</i>		
Choose from 50-56 hours of free electives		50-56
Total Hours		120-123

Diversity in Society Concentration

Code	Title	Hours
Choose from two of the following:		6
SOC 135	Living in a Diverse World	
SOC 205	Sexualities and Social Issues	
SOC 399	Gender and Society	
SOC 400	Race and Ethnicity	
6 additional hours from the following		6
SOC 135	Living in a Diverse World	
SOC 205	Sexualities and Social Issues	
SOC 330S	Sociology of Migration	
SOC 399	Gender and Society	
SOC 400	Race and Ethnicity	
SOC 425	Social Inequality	
Total Hours		12

General Concentration

Code	Title	Hours
Upper division Sociology electives		9
Total Hours		9