

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
AND ANTHROPOLOGY

Handbook for Sociology Majors & Minors 2021-2022



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[Department's Webpage](#)

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AN INVITATION TO SOCIOLOGY

We invite you to major in sociology at the College of Charleston! Sociology is the scientific study of human social behavior. It focuses on the factors that organize and structure social activities, as well as those that disorganize and threaten to dissolve them. As a social science, sociology applies objective and systematic methods of investigation to the discovery and identification of patterns in social life and to the understanding of the processes by which they are established and changed.

A major in sociology is attractive to persons preparing for further study and for professional careers, as well as to those seeking a liberal arts education and immediate employment. As part of a liberal arts program, sociology enables students to understand the social environment in which they live and the social forces that shape their personalities, actions, and interactions with others.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A BACHELORS OF SCIENCE (B.S.) DEGREE IN SOCIOLOGY?

Sociology graduates from the College of Charleston pursue a variety of careers in human services, education, law, business and sales, research, law enforcement, government, the ministry, the military and other areas. Here are a few of the ways in which our graduates have used their Sociology degrees:

- Social Worker and President, Local Chapter of National Organization for Women
- Director of Business Development, The MC Group of Companies
- Nursing Home Administrator
- State-wide Field Director, Arkansas Democratic Party
- College Professor
- Outdoor Recreation Coordinator, Parks and Recreation Commission
- Child Victim Advocate, People Against Rape
- Restaurant Owner and Manager
- Guidance Counselor
- Document Reviewer at Passport Center, U.S. State Department
- Research Analyst in Epidemiology
- Police Officer
- Preschool Teacher
- Federal Litigator
- Pharmaceuticals Sales Representative
- Methodist Minister
- Chiropractor
- Mental Health Counselor, County Detention Center

REQUIREMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAJORS IN SOCIOLOGY

The major in Sociology requires thirty-three (33) credit hours of course work, consisting of required core courses, capstone experience and electives.

Sociology majors must take the following four core courses to provide students with a shared foundation in the discipline.	
	SOCY 101: Introduction to Sociology OR HONS 167 OR SOCY 102: Contemporary Social Issues
	SOCY 260: Big Ideas and Big Thinkers in Sociology
	SOCY 271: Introduction to Social Research
	SOCY 272: Making Sense of Sociological Data
Sociology majors must take at least one course from the following options.	
	SOCY 381 Internship
	SOCY 390 Senior Seminar
	SOCY 391 Senior Seminar on Social Organization
	SOCY 392 Senior Seminar on Crime and Justice Policy
	OR
	Complete the following Bachelor’s Essay sequence. Note that 499A will count toward your electives and 499B will count toward the capstone.
	SOCY 499A Bachelor’s Essay
	SOCY 499B Bachelor’s Essay
Complete an additional 18 credit hours, of which 15 credit hours must be at the 300 or 400-level from SOCY 103-499B	
GPA Requirement: 2.0 within the major	

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SOCIOLOGY SENIORS AND FACULTY

- Get to know your professors. Make it a point to meet with one professor outside of the classroom each semester. This will ensure that you are getting advice on careers and/or graduate and professional programs. You will also have faculty members who know you well enough to serve as references for you when you apply for jobs or graduate school.
- Students majoring in Sociology are encouraged to include courses in Anthropology, History, Psychology, Political Science, International Studies, Philosophy, Economics, Communication and Computer Science.
- Interdisciplinary minors which incorporate one or more Sociology courses include African American Studies, Crime, Law and Society; Public Health; Urban Studies; and Women’s and Gender Studies; among others.

- SOCY 260, 271, and 272 are core foundational courses for the major. Students who do not do well in these courses should seriously reconsider whether Sociology is the right major for them.
- Internships are an invaluable opportunity for you to get hands-on experience in the field. The Sociology program offers a range of internship opportunities for Juniors and Seniors (for more information on who is eligible to complete an internship, see below).

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN SOCIOLOGY

Though a minor is not required for graduation at the College of Charleston, a student may choose to minor in one or more areas of study. Students choosing the minor in sociology need to complete eighteen (18) hours.

The required courses for the minor are:	
3 hours	SOCY 101: Introduction to Sociology or SOCY 102: Contemporary Social Issues or HONS 167
3 hours	SOCY 260: Development of Social Thought OR SOCY 271: Introduction to Social Research OR SOCY 272: Making Sense of Sociological Data
ELECTIVE REQUIREMENT (12 HRS): SOCY 103-SOCY 499B . A maximum of 3 credit hours from SOCY 103 - SOCY 109 can count toward the electives and GPA for the Sociology minor. See course listings for a complete list of courses offered.	
GPA REQUIREMENT: 2.0 within the minor	

SUGGESTED CLASS SCHEDULE BY SEMESTER

A [Program Planner](#) is available to use a suggested semester-by-semester planning guide for the Sociology major. Please talk with your Sociology advisor to discuss a long-term scheduling plan that fits your strengths and interests.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOCIOLOGY MAJORS AND MINORS

[INTERNSHIPS IN SOCIOLOGY AND GERONTOLOGY](#)

An internship will enable you to achieve one of the primary goals of our curriculum—the ability to apply what you have learned in the classroom. An internship will help you learn the concepts you are studying in class by providing opportunities to link theories and ideas to concrete situations, and to apply the perspective of the discipline in a workplace setting as we hope you will after graduation. Internships are a real life laboratory within a supportive environment. Depending on the placement, you may be involved in a variety of hands-on activities while you test your ability to act as a participant observer. Internships allow you to use your classroom knowledge in the analysis and interpretation of what you observe. In addition, internships can help you in both the job market and in applications to graduate school. For a listing of current placement possibilities, check the sociology program's home page.

As currently described in the undergraduate bulletin, the prerequisites for an academic credit internship in sociology (SOCY 381) are junior standing, a B average in sociology, an overall average of C+, a major or minor in sociology, and permission of the Internship Coordinator, Dr. David Morris (morrisds@cofc.edu 843-953-4485) for Crime, Law and Society internships; and Professor Brenda Sanders (sandersb@cofc.edu) for Sociology & Gerontology internships. It is expected that students will have completed at least 12 hours of Sociology major/minor courses before attempting an internship. This is important because an internship is not just on-the-job training; it is also an opportunity to meaningfully apply and use your knowledge and thus should come near the end of your academic career. Other prerequisites may vary depending on the nature of the placement (e.g., background checks, TB tests, etc.).

Students interested in completing an internship should schedule the internship the semester before you plan on completing the internship. For example, if you want to complete a Fall internship, meet with the Internship Coordinator the preceding Spring semester. Similarly, if you want to complete a Spring internship, contact the appropriate professor the preceding Fall semester. We suggest doing this because many internship sites require background checks or special training before you begin the internship.

All interns keep a journal and attend required periodic class sessions and communicate individually with their faculty advisor to report on their progress. They are also evaluated by their placement supervisor. The grade is based on a combination of the placement supervisor's evaluation and the evaluation of the faculty advisor. Credit is variable, ranging from one to six hours. Generally, three hours of internship per week are required for one hour of academic credit; a typical three hour course requires nine hours of internship placement per week or 120 hours per semester over at least eight weeks. Internships are available in both fall and spring semesters; summer internships are possible only under unique circumstances. Students can earn up to a total of six hours of credit for an internship, thus it is possible to do more than one.

OTHER INTERNSHIPS

Sociology students wishing to participate in non-credit internships or volunteer work are encouraged to contact Career Center at 953-5692 or check out the [Career Center website](#) to review a large number of internship listings, both national and local.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Sociology students are encouraged to take advantage of opportunities for study or work in other countries. Check out the [Center for International Education](#) for information on a wide range of programs.

INDEPENDENT STUDY AND RESEARCH

All sociology majors will complete a significant research project in one of the required SOCY 390's Senior Seminar courses, SOCY 381 Internship or SOCY 499 Bachelor's Essay.

Other opportunities to build research skills include: SOCY 382: Student Research Apprenticeship, SOCY 399: Tutorial, SOCY 381: Internship or SOCY 490: Independent Study and/or SOCY 499: Bachelor's Essay. With each of these, the student must identify an area of interest, develop a plan for the project, and find a faculty member willing to supervise the project. All require Individual Enrollment, the permission of the sponsoring faculty member, and the permission of the department chair (i.e. you will not be able to enroll in these courses on Banner).

Tutorials generally involve intense reading in an area of special interest and frequent meetings with the faculty supervisor. Independent Studies and Bachelor's Essays most often involve field or library research resulting in the production of a major paper. Independent Study is one semester in length; Bachelor's Essays are expected to extend over two semesters and to result in a more significant piece of original research. Recent pieces of student independent research have included a study of college students' attitudes toward cigarettes and smoking, volunteerism at rape crisis centers, a photo essay on social stratification on King Street, an analysis of the social movements concerned with male circumcision, and a study of low income peoples' access to health care.

Students planning to undertake independent research are encouraged to consult with their faculty supervisor about applying for competitive research grants set aside for undergraduates. The grants are of four types: Academic Year Research Awards (AYRA), Major Academic Year Support (MAYS) grants, Summer Undergraduate Research with Faculty grants (SURF), and Research Presentation Grants (RPG). Consult [Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities \(URCA\)](#) for more information.

All students who produce excellent written research in any sociology course are encouraged to submit their work for presentation at professional meetings (e.g., the Carolina Undergraduate Social Sciences Symposium, the Southeastern Undergraduate Symposium, and the Southern Sociological Society meetings).

ACADEMIC APPRENTICESHIP IN SOCIOLOGY

Sociology majors interested in becoming college professors have the opportunity to work as an academic “apprentice” with a faculty member for course credit through SOCY 383. Normally, students will be an Academic Apprentice for three academic credit hours in a course the student has previously taken; although credit hours vary between 1 and 6 credit hours. As an Academic Apprentice, students will have the opportunity to write and deliver lectures, advise students, develop test questions and learn about the most effective pedagogical practices, all under the close mentorship of a faculty member.

DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

In order for students to be awarded with Departmental Honors they must:

- Hold an average major GPA of 3.500 or above;
- Complete a Bachelor’s Essay or two (2) independent studies with comparable disciplinary expectations.

These students are recognized at the Department’s annual Honors Reception.

**Please note that departments retain discretion to award Departmental Honors*

ALPHA KAPPA DELTA

Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD), the national honor society in sociology, has a chapter at the College of Charleston. Students who meet the following qualifications will be invited to join AKD:

1. A minimum GPA of 3.4 in sociology courses
2. Overall GPA of 3.3
3. At least junior standing, and a sociology major with at least 15 hours in Sociology at the College of Charleston

Alpha Kappa Delta inductees are recognized at the Department’s annual Honors Reception.

FINANCIAL AWARDS

The Department is fortunate to have the Richard A. and Shannon W. Haddad Internship Award available to Sociology majors. Rich Haddad ’75 and his wife Shannon ’78 generously established this award for Sociology majors because of their affection for the College and appreciation for the opportunities their education made possible. As a Sociology student, Mr. Haddad was specifically impacted by a trip to study and spend time in a South Carolina juvenile detention center. With this experience in mind, this annual award is given to a College of Charleston student who is a declared Sociology major completing a for-credit internship with troubled or at-risk youth through the Sociology Internship Program or the Crime, Law and Society Program. The recipient must have a demonstrated interest in helping troubled youth through previous volunteer experience, activities, research, etc.; and/or an interest in pursuing a career working with troubled youth in the future. Guidelines for competing for this award will be announced via email early in the Spring semester and well in advance of the deadline for application.

TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Sociology majors can obtain certification to teach social studies in grades 9-12. Requirements include admission to, and successful completion of, an approved teacher education program. After declaration of a major in Sociology, students interested in teacher certification must contact the coordinator of certification and student teaching, School of Education. For more information, visit [Teacher Education Program's webpage](#).

INFORMATION ON GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

Sociology graduates enter a variety of graduate and professional school programs. Some go to graduate school immediately after completing their undergraduate degree but most work for a few years before deciding on the type of graduate degree they wish to pursue. The *Guide to Graduate Departments of Sociology* can be found in 19 St. Phillip Street, room 102. The College of Charleston Library and Career Center have written guides to other types of graduate programs as well. Of course, nearly all universities with graduate programs have a webpage with extensive information describing their programs and many have on-line applications. Your academic advisor is also a good source of information about graduate schools.

The Career Center, located at 160 Calhoun Street, Lightsey Center, Room 216, offers a variety of services to students at all points of their college careers. The Career Center conducts seminars on choosing a major, the job search process, writing resumes, and interviewing, as well as providing information on a variety of career options. In addition, the Career Center hosts a number of job fairs during the year and provides facilities for employers to interview on campus. For updated information on what the Career Center can offer you, phone 953-5692 or check out their [webpage](#).

SOCIOLOGY FACULTY

Arroyo, Julia, Ph.D. (University of Florida), Assistant Professor of Sociology

- *Contact Information*: 88 Wentworth, Rm. 203, arroyojm@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests*: Child Welfare, Introduction to Sociology and Research Methods
- *Research Focus*: Family and Child Well-Being, Racial and Ethnic Relations, Research Methods, Social Inequalities

Auriffeille, Deborah, Ph.D. (Northeastern University), Associate Professor of Sociology & Associate Chair

- *Contact Information*: 88 Wentworth, Rm. 202, 953-6513, auriffeilledm@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests*: Qualitative Research Methods, Environmental Sociology, Urban Sociology, Introduction to Sociology and Sociology of Sustainability and Consumption.
- *Research Focus*: Community and Urban Sociology, Alternative Transportation and Active Living, Environmental Sociology, Environmental Lifestyles, Inequality and Qualitative Methods.

Bakanic, Von, Ph.D. (University of Illinois), Associate Professor of Sociology

- *Contact Information*: 88 Wentworth, Rm. 102, 953-7105, bakanicv@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests*: Prejudice, Individual and Society, Sociology of Family and Research Practicum.
- *Research Focus*: Gender Stratification, Family, Research Methods and the Sociology of Science.

Burkett, Tracy, Ph.D. (University of South Carolina), Professor of Sociology

- *Contact Information*: 19 St. Philip St., Rm. 204, 953-7143, burkettt@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests*: Political Sociology, Contemporary Social Issues, Social Network Analysis and Environmental Sociology.
- *Research Focus*: Environmental Sociology, Research Methods, Political Sociology, Network Analysis and the Sociology of Teaching and Learning.

Dickinson, George E., Ph.D. (Louisiana State University), Professor of Sociology

- *Contact Information*: 88 Wentworth, Rm. 201, 953-4163, dickinsong@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests*: Death and Dying, Medical Sociology, Aging and the Family, Development of Social Thought and Cross-cultural Perspectives on Death and Dying.
- *Research Focus*: End-of-life emphasis in the US and UK in health professional schools and end-of-life issues with practicing physicians and veterinarians.

Hatteberg, Sarah J., Ph.D. (Indiana University), Assistant Professor of Sociology

- *Contact Information*: 88 Wentworth, Rm. 302, 953-4484, hattebergsj@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests*: Sociology of Sport, Statistics for Sociology, Research Methods, Social Psychology, Sociology of Mental Health/Illness, and Public Health/Medical Sociology.
- *Research Focus*: Social Stress Theory, Social Support, Mental Health/Illness, Sociology of Sport, International Migration, and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.

Hoffmann, Heath C., Ph.D. (University of Georgia), Professor of Sociology

- *Contact Information:* 19 St. Phillip, Rm. 302, hoffmannh@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests:* Criminology, Sociology of Alcohol and Drug Use and Prison and Prisoners.
- *Research Focus:* Criminal Justice Policy, Prison, Alcohol and Drug Use and Deviance.

McReynolds-Pérez, Julia, Ph.D. (University of Wisconsin, Madison), Assistant Professor of Sociology

- *Contact Information:* 19 St. Philip St., Rm. 301, mcreynoldsperezja@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests:* Medical Sociology, Global Health, Race & Ethnicity, Quantitative and Qualitative Methods, Latino/a Experiences, Immigration, Latin America, Sociology of Development, Sexualities.
- *Research Focus:* Medical Sociology, Global Health, Race & Ethnicity, Quantitative and Qualitative Methods, Latino/a Experiences, Immigration, Latin America, Sociology of Development, Sexualities.

Morris, David, Ph.D. (University of Virginia), Assistant Professor of Sociology

- *Contact Information:* 88 Wentworth St., Rm. 204 953-4485, morrisds@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests:* Introduction to Social Statistics, Sociology Research Workshop, Schools and Society, Death and Dying, Introduction to Sociology, Law and Society
- *Research Focus:* Education and Schooling, Criminology and the Justice System, Juvenile Delinquency, Political Behavior, Racial/Ethnic and Class Inequality, Quantitative Methods, Family.

Sanders, Brenda, M.S. (Baylor University), Senior Instructor of Sociology

- *Contact Information:* 19 St. Philip, Rm. 103, sandersb@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests and Academic Focus:* Introduction to Sociology, Social Gerontology, Aging and the Family and Gerontology Internships.

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Acton, Daniel, Ph.D. (University of Florida)

- *Contact Information:* actond@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests and Academic Focus:* Introduction to Sociology and Criminology

Boan-Lenzo, Christopher (University of Georgia, University of Alabama)

- *Contact Information:* boanlenzoc@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests and Academic Focus:* Introduction to Sociology and Big Ideas and Big Thinkers in Sociology

Parker, Reba (Graduate work in Sociology, Univ. of Northern Iowa and Appalachian State)

- *Contact Information:* parkerr@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests and Academic Focus:* Introduction to Sociology and Sociology of Peace.

Roof, Paul, Ph.D. (University of South Carolina)

- *Contact Information:* 88 Wentworth St., Rm. 205 953-4487, roofp@cofc.edu
- *Teaching Interests and Academic Focus:* Introduction to Sociology and Pop Culture

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Christine Finnan, Ph.D., Chair and Professor of Anthropology

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Crystal Matthews, Administrative Coordinator, Department of Sociology and Anthropology

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