

SOCIOLOGY, BALAS

for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts & Sciences Major in Sociology

department website: <https://sociology.illinois.edu/>

department faculty: Sociology Faculty (<https://sociology.illinois.edu/directory/faculty/>)

advising: Sociology advising (<https://sociology.illinois.edu/academics/academic-advising/>)

overview of college admissions & requirements: Liberal Arts & Sciences (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/schools/las/academic-units/>)

college website: <https://las.illinois.edu/>

Large-scale societal change begins with individuals like you – hungry for knowledge and ready to make a real difference; in the Department of Sociology you will study the inner workings of society with a focus on either Inequalities or Global Sociology.

Sociologists explore human social life at every level, from personal relationships to global society. Major topics of study include inequality, social movements, criminology, race and class relations, gender, social institutions such as religion and education, and fundamental population processes like immigration and mortality. Sociologists use a range of methods and theories to develop and evaluate ideas about social life.

As a student of Sociology, you will train in research methods and become fluent in social statistics while understanding the complexity of societal diversity and social change. These skills are usable in a wide variety of work settings and are skills that employers value.

Recent graduates have pursued careers with the FBI, as Human Resource Specialists, with non-profit organizations, as policy officers, and have earned advanced degrees in Social Work, Sociology, Law, Medicine, and more. The career paths of Sociology alumni are as diverse as our student population – who represent the best and the brightest from a variety of backgrounds.

In the Department of Sociology you can choose the major in Sociology, the minor in Sociology, or the minor in Criminology, Law and Society (CLS). Whereas the major and minor in Sociology provide an overview into the broader disciplines of Sociology, the minor in CLS is a more specialized approach for those students interested in law and justice related careers and occupations.

Each student should see a Sociology departmental advisor at least once a year to choose sociology courses and to monitor their progress.

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A Major Plan of Study Form must be completed and submitted to the LAS Student Academic Affairs Office before the end of the fifth semester (60-75 hours). Please see your adviser.

Departmental distinction: In order to achieve distinction, high distinction, or highest distinction, a sociology major must meet the following requirements:

- Have completed SOC 490 *or* SOC 495
- Attain a UIUC GPA of 3.25 or higher
- If both these requirements are met, then the MAJOR GPA distributes as follows:
 - 3.25 – Distinction
 - 3.50 – High Distinction
 - 3.75 – Highest Distinction

General education: Students must complete the Campus General Education (<https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/>) requirements including the campus general education language requirement.

Minimum required major and supporting course work: Normally equates to 44 hours including 32 hours of Sociology courses.

Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level in the major must be taken on this campus.

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours.

Code	Title	Hours
SOC 100	Introduction to Sociology	4
SOC 200	Introduction to Sociological Theory	3
SOC 280	Intro to Social Statistics ¹	4
SOC 380	Social Research Methods	4
Select one of the following capstone experiences:		3
SOC 400	Internships	
SOC 450	Senior Capstone Seminar	
SOC 495	Senior Honors Seminar	

Students may select any sociology courses to fulfill the requirement of 32 hours in Sociology	14
Supporting course work taken outside the Department of Sociology ²	12

1

If a statistics course is taken outside the Department of Sociology to fulfill this requirement, that course does not count toward the 32 hours of Sociology courses.

2

Supporting course work is designed to expand the student's education, and should be taken outside of Sociology. A student may take supporting course work from one department, such as psychology, economics, history, or statistics, or from a cohesive selection of courses in various units. With an advisor's approval, departmental or interdisciplinary minors, or a double major, may be used to fulfill the requirements of supporting course work.