

# SOCIOLOGY

School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

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## Curriculum

Sociology focuses on patterns of human behavior within social contexts, seeking to understand both the forces that mold us as individuals and the elements that govern our social existence. Sociology's subject arena ranges from the intimate family to the hostile mob, from crime to religion, from the divisions of race, gender, and social class to the shared beliefs of a common culture. Courses offered in the curriculum may be taken to fulfill general education requirements in the social sciences; and they may be applied toward a major in sociology for the Associate in Arts degree.

## Major

In studying sociology, students develop an understanding of the cultural and social influences that interact in the world and that affect people's lives. Thus those who are considering careers in such professions as law, business, education, architecture, medicine, social work, politics, public administration, or related areas will find that the sociology major provides a rich fund of knowledge directly concerning each of these fields.

## Career Options

According to the American Sociological Association, a bachelor's (B.A./B.S.) degree in sociology provides an excellent liberal arts foundation. Undergraduate training in sociology can open a variety of doors in business and the human services. Sociology majors who enter the business world work in sales, marketing, customer relations, or human resources. Those who enter human services work with youths at risk, the elderly, or people experiencing problems related to poverty, substance abuse, or the justice system.

An advanced degree (M.A./M.S. or PhD) qualifies a student to compete for a position teaching and/or conducting research in academic settings, or for a wide variety of research, policy, and applied sociology positions in the private and public sectors.

Examples of specific industries in which a graduate of sociology may choose to work are the following:

- Business
- Business consultation
- Child welfare
- City management

- Consulting—education
- Criminal justice
- Education—administration
- Evaluation research
- Federal government
- Gerontology
- Health care
- International relations
- Law
- Military
- Public Relations
- Seminar and workshop consultations
- State agencies
- State government
- Urban social work

## Associate Degree

### Associate in Arts Degree in Sociology

Students must complete a minimum of 60 units of credit, including the courses in the major ("Major Requirements") and general education requirements (pages 43-49), with an overall GPA of 2.0 or better, and a grade of "A," "B," "C," or "P" in all courses to be counted toward the major. A minimum of 12 units must be completed at Irvine Valley College. See pages 34-35 for further information.

## Transfer Preparation

Courses that fulfill major requirements for an associate degree at Irvine Valley College may not be the same as those required for completing the major at a transfer institution offering a bachelor's degree. Students who plan to transfer to a four-year college or university should schedule an appointment with an IVC counselor to develop a plan of study before beginning their program. It may be helpful to meet with the department faculty at IVC.

### ASSOCIATE IN ARTS DEGREE Major Requirements: Sociology

Complete the following courses:		Units
<b>SOC 1</b>	Introduction to Sociology	3
<b>SOC 2</b>	Social Problems	3
<b>SOC 10</b>	Marriage and Family Relations	3
<b>SOC 30</b>	Social Psychology	3
<b>ANTH 2</b>	Cultural Anthropology	3
<b>MATH 10</b>	Introduction to Statistics	3
<b>OR</b>		
<b>PSYC 10</b>	Statistical Methods in the Behavioral Sciences	3
<b>PSYC 1</b>	Introduction to Psychology	3
<b>TOTAL UNITS:</b>		<b>21</b>

**Recommended electives:**  
SOC 19, 20

## COURSES

**SOC 1: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY****3 Units****3 hours lecture****Transfers: CSU, UC**

This course explains how society shapes people's lives and how individual behavior is largely shaped by the groups to which we belong. The course investigates the structure and function of groups, organizations and societies and how people interact within these contexts. Since all human behavior is social, the subject matter of sociology is vast, ranging from the intimate family to the hostile mob; from organized crime to religious cults; from the division of race, gender and social class to the shared beliefs of a common culture; and from the sociology of work to the sociology of the media. NR

**SOC 2: SOCIAL PROBLEMS****3 Units****3 hours lecture****Transfers: CSU, UC**

The course examines major social phenomena in contemporary society. Subjects such as population growth, environmental degradation, the global assembly line, racism, ageism, economic inequality, urban poverty, domestic violence and drugs are emphasized. Students explore, evaluate and seek solutions to world problems. NR

**SOC 10: INTRODUCTION TO MARRIAGE AND FAMILY****3 Units****3 hours lecture****Transfers: CSU, UC**

This course is designed to give the student a sociological understanding of the family in a historical and cultural context. The focus is on the family as a social institution—a set of structured social arrangements for meeting certain human needs—and the larger social forces that shape its structure. The course explores how wealth, race, gender and sexuality produce diverse family forms and household arrangements, especially within late twentieth century U.S. society. Topics covered include dating, marriage, cohabitation, divorce, single-parent families, blended families, issues related to work and the family, children and parents, divorce, remarriage and public policy. NR

**SOC 15: SOCIALIZATION OF THE CHILD****3 Units****3 hours lecture****Transfers: CSU, UC***Recommended Preparation: PSYC 1*

This course examines the influence of major socializing agents—family, school, peers, media, and community—on the developing child the course addresses historical, cultural, and socioeconomic factors that affect a child's socialization, as well as issues confronting children with special needs and resources available for interventions. Emphasis is placed on the importance of respectful, reciprocal relationships that support and empower families. This course is of particular interest to students preparing for a career working with children. It also meets Title 22 licensing requirements for child-care providers. Sociology 15 is also listed as Human Development 15; credit will be given in either area, not both. NR

**SOC 19: THE SOCIOLOGY OF SEX AND GENDER****3 Units****3 hours lecture****Transfers: CSU, UC**

The course introduces students to the discipline of sociology and to the specific area of gender roles. Focusing on research, both in the United States and globally, it provides an in-depth, multidiscipline survey of gender stressing the interlocking nature of race, class, and gender. The course highlights other disciplines to demonstrate their influence on the thinking of gender roles and the creation of beliefs about women and men, masculinity and femininity. NR

**SOC 20: ETHNIC AND MINORITY GROUP RELATIONS****3 Units****3 hours lecture****Transfers: CSU, UC**

This course introduces the principles and processes that shape the patterns of relations among racial, ethnic, and other groups in society. Students are introduced to basic terms, the latest findings on prejudice and discrimination, and an overview of immigration and ethnicity, as well as, a sociological framework to address the growing diversity in the United States. NR

**SOC 30: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY****3 Units****3 hours lecture****Transfers: CSU, UC***Recommended Preparation: PSYC 1*

This course is a survey of major theories, concepts, and empirical research findings in social psychology. The course examines the relationship between the individual and the group, and engages such topics as social beliefs and judgments, social influence, conformity, persuasion, prejudice, aggression, and altruism. Sociology 30 is also listed as Psychology 30; credit will be given in either area, not both. NR