The Social Sciences Department offers bachelor’s degrees and minors in Anthropology-Geography and Sociology, as well as a minor in Latin American studies.

Within each major, students are required to choose a concentration relevant to their future career endeavors. The Anthropology-Geography major concentrations include cross-cultural studies and international development, environmental studies and sustainability, and human ecology. Sociology majors can choose a concentration in criminal justice, organizations, or social services.

The strength of our department lies in its focus on practical training, critical thinking, and “Learn by Doing” experiences. Students are trained in applied technical skills including GIS, remote sensing, research design, social data collection, and qualitative/quantitative methodology.

Alongside these skills, students are encouraged to critically investigate contemporary issues, asking hard questions about society, behavior, and the environment in an increasingly diverse and global world. Finally, students are required to bridge classroom learning with the real world through hands-on practical experience such as internships, service learning, study abroad, and senior projects.

Undergraduate Programs

BS Anthropology and Geography

The Anthropology and Geography major provides students with the skills for understanding and examining patterns of human activity and resource utilization across space and time, as well as the interactions between humans and the natural environment. Interdisciplinary in nature, this program focuses on the applied areas of cross-cultural studies, international development, ecological research design and method, the evolution of humans, environmental assessment, and sustainability. Courses in Anthropology and Geography train students to examine human ecology from the ancient past to the modern present through courses in biological evolution, cultural adaptations, behavioral ecology, environmental impacts, and the ecology of human health and disease. In addition, students gain an understanding of the physical environment in which humans are placed, through courses in physical geography, resource management, biogeography, and climatology. Students are trained in relevant skills, including Geographic Information Systems, remote sensing, and quantitative methods.

Students interested in this major should be curious about the relationships between humans and the environment (including biology, behavior, climate and landscapes) from a broad hands-on perspective. Our students typically have particular interest in study abroad and involvement in international opportunities.

The program offers a four-year curriculum leading to a BS degree that prepares students for careers in environmental and regional planning, cultural resources management, archaeology, international development, climatology, science education, international health research, and federal government work in behavioral analysis.

Internship or Study Abroad Requirement

As a means of promoting relevant job skills, hands-on learning, and field experience, majors are required to complete either an approved internship or study abroad program. Students who do an internship will receive a minimum of 3 units of credit (ANT 465 or GEOG 465). The department will assist students in identifying suitable internships. However, students are encouraged to explore options for themselves based on their interests. In place of an internship, students may choose to participate in a study abroad program. Four units of approved coursework taken while studying abroad will be substituted for the internship course.

Concentrations

Students may select one of the following concentrations or the individualized course of study.

International Development

Provides students with the theoretical knowledge and applied skills necessary for the study and practice of international development in cross-cultural settings. Students attain an in-depth knowledge of the social, political, economic, and ecological dimensions of international development and gain practical skills through research projects, international study, and applied internships. The concentration provides expertise and training for internationally focused careers, including public and private development institutions, the Peace Corps, the public health field, education, and numerous other careers where cross-cultural and international understanding are essential.

Environmental Studies and Sustainability

Provides students with an understanding of human environmental relationships, resource utilization, and human impact on the Earth. Current environmental issues are explained and evaluated in a global and historical context. Students learn the importance of sustainable land use practices and techniques for their successful implementation. Applied and technical skills important to assessing the environment and promoting sustainability are emphasized.

Human Ecology

Students learn about the natural environment, human behavioral and cultural systems, and the complex interrelationships between the three. Major concepts and practice emphasize broad spatial and temporal perspectives. Students acquire knowledge and skills related to global and regional climate and physical geography, human evolution, cultural ecology, behavioral ecology, prehistoric and recent environmental change, indigenous cultures of the New World, methods for analyzing climate change and related human responses in the past and present.

Other Concentration Options

With prior approval of the Social Sciences Department and the Political Science Department, students may select one of the following concentrations: Pre-Law, or Global Politics.
Individualized Course of Study

One of the two opportunities to pursue a course of study which meets a student’s individual needs and interests. As their course of study, students may pursue an academic minor or create a program, with faculty approval, based upon their interests and career goals. The coursework may be specifically tailored for a career in industry, education, government, or as preparation for graduate school.

BA Sociology

Sociology explores the nature and dynamics of human society and the interrelationship between individuals and their social groups. The goal of sociological study at Cal Poly is twofold. The first objective is to develop a sociological imagination that enables students to see their personal circumstances and problems in context of the broader, local, national, and global forces that shape their lives. The second objective is to prepare students for graduate studies and careers in such fields as criminal justice, law, social services, complex organizations, and teaching. Sociology also offers general education courses that provide an understanding of the complexity and diversity of the world’s peoples and their problems. Some courses focus on American society, emphasizing issues of class, race, ethnicity and gender. Other courses have a global orientation dealing with both the past and present diversity of the world’s societies, economies, politics and religions.

Internship Requirement

As a means of promoting relevant job skills, hands-on learning, and field experience, majors who select the criminal justice or social services concentrations are required to complete an approved internship. Majors who select the organizations concentration will be encouraged to complete an internship, but will not be required to do so. These internships in criminal justice or social services will be up to one year, but with a minimum of two quarters, and count for 8 to 12 units of credit (SOC 440). The department will assist students in identifying suitable internships. However, students are encouraged to explore options for themselves based upon their interests.

Concentrations

Students are required to take one of the following concentrations or the individualized course of study.

Criminal Justice

Prepares students for careers in law, law enforcement, corrections, detention, probation, parole and other criminal justice agencies.

Organizations

Students learn to apply the general principles of human behavior to the understanding of modern organizations. It prepares them for careers in business, government or non-governmental organizations.

Social Services

Provides the general principles of human social behavior and specialized professional courses to prepare for careers in the helping professions such as social work and counseling.

Other Concentration Options

With prior approval of the Social Sciences Department and the Political Science Department, students may select one of the following concentrations: Pre-Law, or Global Politics.

Individualized Course of Study

One of two opportunities to pursue a course of study which meets a student’s individual needs and interests. As their course of study, students may pursue an academic minor or create a program, with faculty approval, based upon their interests and career goals. The course of study may be specifically tailored for a career in industry, education, government, or as preparation for graduate school. When creating an individual program, it should consist of 28 units, with 16 of the 28 at the 300-400 level. Courses are selected by the student in consultation with an advising faculty member. The student must also provide a written justification for the courses and the way they constitute a cohesive, integrated course of study. The list of courses is a contract between the student and the Department.

Anthropology and Geography Minor

The minor develops broad spatial and cultural knowledge of our world. The program consists of foundation courses and directed electives that allow flexibility for students to tailor the program to meet their individual interests and goals. The objectives of the minor are to increase student awareness of the: (1) cultural and ecological diversity of the Earth’s surface; (2) inter-relationships between peoples of varying cultures; (3) interactions of different cultures with their resource habitats and environmental alteration; and (4) methodologies and technologies used to evaluate cultures and environments. The goal is to instill a respect for cultural diversity and environmental sustainability. A minimum of 14 units must be upper division and taken at Cal Poly.

Latin American Studies Minor

Latin America is a region of critical importance to the United States, and California in particular. Students gain an interdisciplinary understanding of Latin America, as well as its cultural, political, and economic connections to California and the United States. This knowledge is increasingly important for a number of careers. The minor also promotes critical thinking skills and enhances the appreciation of diversity as students confront issues relevant to Latin America and US-Latin American relations.

Sociology Minor

The minor provides students with a broad understanding of contemporary society with a focus on the analysis of social change. The objectives of the program are to increase awareness of the: (1) nature of international social, economic and political structures and their consequences; (2) social results of emerging technology; (3) changes in family life, especially the role of women; and (4) changing ethnic mix in California and the United States and its implications. Coursework includes the study of the shifting demographic patterns in society, emerging life styles, the increase in the percentage of elderly in the population, and the nature of specific subculture influences.

ANT Courses

ANT 200. Special Problems for Undergraduates. 1-4 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Consent of department head.

Individual investigation, research, studies, or surveys of selected problems. Total credit limited to 8 units, with a maximum of 4 units per quarter.
ANT 201. Cultural Anthropology. 4 units  
GE Area D3  
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP  
Contemporary human cultures throughout the world. General patterns sought within the diversity of individual cultures. Includes such topics as: family organization; gender roles; adaptation to the environment; systems of economic exchange; political organization and leadership; religious beliefs and values; ethnicity and cultural pluralism; impact of Western culture on the developing world. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D3.

ANT 202. World Prehistory. 4 units  
GE Area D3  
Term Typically Offered: F  
Development of the diverse human cultures of both the Old and New Worlds from the emergence of the first human ancestors (hominins) to the dawn of history; biological evolution, global cultural development, and adaptation before the advent of writing. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D3.

ANT 250. Biological Anthropology. 4 units  
GE Area B2  
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP  

ANT 270. Selected Topics. 1-4 units  
Term Typically Offered: TBD  
Prerequisite: Open to undergraduate students and consent of instructor.  
Directed group study of selected topics. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 1 to 4 lectures.

ANT 309. Elements of Archaeology. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: ANT 202 or consent of instructor.  
Archaeological method and theory covering the history and development of archaeological thought, approaches to data recovery, dating and analysis of artifacts and ecofacts, the construction of models of prehistoric human behavior through application of archaeological and anthropological theories. 4 lectures.

ANT 310. Archaeological Field Methods. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: SP  
Prerequisite: ANT 202 or ANT 309, or consent of instructor.  
Hands-on introduction to the methods and techniques of archaeology with an emphasis on excavation. Training in artifact and ecofact identification with a focus on lithic technology. Practical field experience with hand tools, and stratigraphic interpretation. Methodological approaches to both academic research questions and compliance with environmental planning mandates. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory.

ANT 311. Archaeological Laboratory Methods. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: ANT 309 or ANT 310.  
Hands-on introduction to the methods employed in post-field processing, classification, analysis, and preservation of archaeological materials. Compilation of quantitative and qualitative information in data base format to assist in the classification and interpretation of faunal remains and artifacts. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory.

ANT 312. Introduction to Cultural Resources Management. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: SP  
Prerequisite: ANT 201, ANT 202 or ANT 309, or consent of instructor.  
Introduction to federal, state, and local legislation pertinent to the identification, evaluation, and treatment of cultural resources. A history of preservation legislation, culminating with detailed discussion of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the California Environmental Quality Act. Practical experience in orienteering, map-reading, and simple cartography. 4 lectures.

ANT 320. California's Native Past. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: ANT 202 or consent of instructor.  
Overview of the paleoenvironment, prehistory, archaeology, and ethnography of Native California. The last 12,000 years of California's past from the arrival of the first human beings to the establishment of Spanish settlements in 1769, and the demise of native societies. 4 lectures.

ANT 325. Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica. 4 units  
GE Area D5  
Term Typically Offered: F  
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Area A, one course in D2 and one course in D3.  
Cultures of Mesoamerica (Mexico and Central America) from earliest times to the Spanish Conquest. Olmec, Teotihuacano, Zapotec, Maya and Aztec civilizations. Major topics include religion, politics, warfare, art, writing, calendrics, ecology and trade. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Anthropology/Geography and Social Sciences majors.

ANT 330. Indigenous South Americans. 4 units  
GE Area D5  
Term Typically Offered: TBD  
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Area A and two lower-division Area D courses.  
Indigenous peoples of South America from the past to the present. Cross-cultural study of small band societies, tribes and large civilization states located from the Amazon basin to the Altiplano. Comparison of current state of indigenous rights and place in modern society. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Anthropology/Geography and Social Sciences majors.

ANT 344. Sex, Death, and Human Nature. 4 units  
GE Area D5  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Areas A, D3, and B2.  
How Darwinian processes of differential reproduction and mortality influence human interests, passions and behaviors. Theories of inclusive fitness, parental investment and senescence. Sex differences, sexual attraction, life histories, violence and aggression, including rape, homicide and infanticide. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Anthropology/Geography and Social Sciences majors.
ANT 345. Human Behavioral Ecology. 4 units
GE Area D5
Term Typically Offered: SP
Prerequisite: Junior standing; completion of GE Area A, one course in B2 and one lower-division Area D course.

Biological and cultural influences of natural and sexual selection on individual behavior. Ecological effects on human behavior to reproduce and acquire resources. Scientific method for understanding foraging behavior, group living, social skills, kinship, parenting, religion, and mating. Cross-cultural, cross-sex, and cross-species comparisons. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Anthropology/Geography and Social Sciences majors.

ANT 360. Human Cultural Adaptations. 4 units
GE Area D5
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Area A, one course in D2 and one course in D3.

Social and cultural evolution from Paleolithic times to the present. Interactions of demographic, economic and ecological factors are emphasized. Main topics include human nature/culture, sex and gender, cooperation and conflict, the 'agricultural revolution', state formation, social inequality and globalization. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Anthropology/Geography and Social Sciences majors.

ANT 400. Special Problems for Advanced Undergraduates. 1-4 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Consent of department head.

Individual investigation, research, studies, or surveys of selected problems. Total credit limited to 8 units, with a maximum of 4 units per quarter.

ANT 401. Culture and Health. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: W
Prerequisite: Junior standing, ANT 201, and one of the following: ANT 250, BIO 160, or BIO 263; or graduate standing.


ANT 402. Nutritional Anthropology. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: SP
Prerequisite: Junior standing; completion of GE Area A and ANT 201, or consent of instructor. Recommended: ANT 250.

Interrelationships of sociocultural and ecological factors and their influence on nutrition and human health in developing and developed country contexts. Topics include human adaptation, nutritional assessment, food production and allocation, the effect of development on diet and health. 4 lectures.

ANT 415. Native American Cultures. 4 units
USCP
Term Typically Offered: SP
Prerequisite: One upper division ANT course or consent of instructor.

Survey of Native American cultures from earliest times to present, emphasizing regional diversity in traditional lifeways. Origins of New World peoples, domestication, war, social organization, trade and gender roles. 4 lectures. Fulfills USCP.

ANT 425. Meaning, Gender, and Identity in Anthropological Theory. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: SP
Prerequisite: Completion of GE Area A, D3 and junior standing. Recommended: ANT 201.

Exploration of the intersection of anthropological theory with meaning, gender/sexuality, and identity formations within and between cultural contexts. Situate and analyze anthropological discourses regarding social meanings and cultural identities as defined by oppositions of us and other, male and female, normal and abnormal, natural and unnatural. Provide a potential source of comparative cultural reflection and critique. 4 lectures.

ANT 455. Anthropology-Geography Research Design and Methods. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: F
Prerequisite: Completion of one GE B2 and two upper division ANT or GEOG classes.

Development of knowledge and skills needed to conduct original scientific anthropology-geography research and prepares students for senior projects. Various empirical methodologies highlighted, with a focus on quantitative design and measurement of human culture, biology, behavior, environment and ecology. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Crosslisted as ANT/GEOG 455.

ANT 461. Senior Project I. 2 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W
Prerequisite: Senior standing or consent of instructor.

Selection and completion of a project under faculty supervision. Projects typical of problems which graduates must solve in their fields of employment. Project results are presented in a formal report. Minimum 120 hours total time.

ANT 462. Senior Project II. 2 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W
Prerequisite: Senior standing or consent of instructor.

Selection and completion of a project under faculty supervision. Projects typical of problems which graduates must solve in their fields of employment. Project results are presented in a formal report. Minimum 120 hours total time.

ANT 464. Professional Preparation for Anthropologists/Geographers. 1 unit
CR/NC
Term Typically Offered: TBD
Prerequisite: Junior standing, ANT 201, GEOG 150.

Preparation for professional advancement in the fields of anthropology and geography. Supervised career planning emphasizing resume development, selection of an internship or international experience, exploration of career options and graduate programs. Lectures from outside, practicing professionals. Credit/No Credit grading only. 1 seminar.
ANT 465. Internship. 3-8 units
CR/NC
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: ANT 464, senior standing and/or consent of instructor.
Supervised training, research, and work in public and private organizations. Credit/No Credit grading only. Total credit limited to 18 units.

ANT 470. Selected Advanced Topics. 1-4 units
Term Typically Offered: TBD
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Directed group study of selected topics for advanced students. Open to undergraduate and graduate students. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 1 to 4 lectures.

GEOG Courses

GEOG 150. Introduction to Cultural Geography. 4 units
GE Area D3
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
The interplay of cultures, places, and environments, with emphasis on the diversity, interrelationships, and spatial features of global cultures. Topics include characteristics and patterns of population, ethnicity, agriculture, geopolitics, language, religion, urbanization, industry, and folklore and popular culture. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D3.

GEOG 200. Special Problems for Undergraduates. 1-4 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Consent of department head.
Individual investigation, research, studies, or surveys of selected problems. Total credit limited to 8 units, with a maximum of 4 units per quarter.

GEOG 250. Physical Geography. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: F
Addresses the origins and patterns of the earth's diverse assemblage of climates, landforms, biota and soils. A major focus on relationship between human cultures and these earthly environments. 4 lectures. Crosslisted as ERSC/GEOG 250.

GEOG 270. Selected Topics. 1-4 units
Term Typically Offered: TBD
Prerequisite: Open to undergraduate students and consent of instructor.
Directed group study of selected topics. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 1 to 4 lectures.

GEOG 300. Geography of the United States. 4 units
GE Area D5
Term Typically Offered: W
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Areas A, D3.
The population (including origin, ethnicity, migration, and distribution), land utilization, and economic development viewed against the background of the physical environment. Topically and regionally organized. Pervading themes include landscape evolution and alteration, regional cultural distinctiveness, and current problems. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Anthropology/Geography and Social Sciences majors.

GEOG 301. Geography of Resource Utilization. 4 units
GE Area D5
Term Typically Offered: F, SP
Prerequisite: Junior standing; completion of GE Areas A, D3, and an additional Area D course.
A multicultural, global perspective on the interdependence of the following resource systems: food, forestry, fishing, water, air, minerals, and energy. Grounded in principles of economic geography and environmental science, a pervading theme of the course is sustainability. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Anthropology/Geography majors.

GEOG 308. Global Geography. 4 units
GE Area D5
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Areas A and D1.
Examination of the major world regions such as Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America. Focus on the origins and content of contemporary cultural landscapes and on their utility for understanding international differences, interactions, and current events. Particular attention to the relationship between humans and the environment. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Anthropology/Geography and Social Sciences majors.

GEOG 317. The World of Spatial Data and Geographic Information Technology. 4 units
GE Area F
Term Typically Offered: TBD
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Area B2.
Basic foundation for understanding the world through geographic information and tools available to utilize spatial data. Application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and related technologies, including their scientific basis of operation. Not open to students with credit in LA/NR 218. 3 lectures, 1 activity. Crosslisted as GEOG/LA/NR 317. Fulfills GE Area F.

GEOG 318. Applications in GIS. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W
Prerequisite: Junior standing and computer literacy, or consent of instructor.
ArcGIS Desktop Geographic Information System (GIS) computer software to explore environmental, natural resource, social and economic issues using spatial data. Principles of cartography and map interpretation. Development of data base and software management competencies. 2 lectures, 2 laboratories.

GEOG 325. Climate and Humanity. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: SP
Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of instructor.
Geographic perspective on the interrelationships between climate and human cultures. Effects of people on climate and the influence of climate and weather upon human activities and behavior. Focus on global human conditions which are responsible for the alteration of climate and in turn are vulnerable to climate change. 4 lectures. Crosslisted as ERSC/GEOG 325.
GEOG 328. Applications in Remote Sensing. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: W, SP
Prerequisite: GEOG 250 and junior standing.
Introduction to the use of satellite imagery to analyze natural and human features on the earth. Applications in geology, water, climate, vegetation, agriculture, and urban land use. Fundamentals of processing digital satellite images. Emphasis on bridging the earth and social sciences. 3 lectures, 1 activity.

GEOG 333. Human Impact on the Earth. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: W
Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of instructor.
Global assessment of the impact of humans on the earth's vegetation, animals, soil, water and atmosphere. Emphasis on problems stemming from the interactions of human attitudes, technologies, and population with natural resources. 4 lectures. Crosslisted as ERSC/GEOG 333.

GEOG 340. Geography of California. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: SP
Prerequisite: Junior standing.
Geographic analysis of the land and people of California. Patterns of physical environment, natural resources, history, settlement, ethnicity, economy, politics, and urban growth. Current issues in a national and global context. 4 lectures.

GEOG 370. Geography of Latin America. 4 units
GE Area D5
Term Typically Offered: F, W
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Areas A, D3.
Geographic analysis of Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean, and South America. The patterns of physical environment, culture, economy, and development. The issues (local, regional, and global) that shape Latin America. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Anthropology/Geography majors.

GEOG 380. Geography of the Caribbean. 4 units
GE Area D5
Term Typically Offered: SP
Prerequisite: Junior Standing; completion of GE Areas A, D3, and an additional Area D course.
Geographic analysis of the Caribbean including the Greater Antilles, Lesser Antilles, and the Caribbean coasts of Central and South America. Investigates patterns and relationships between the physical and cultural geographies from local, regional, and global perspectives. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Anthropology and Geography majors.

GEOG 400. Special Problems for Advanced Undergraduates. 1-4 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Consent of department head.
Individual investigation, research, studies, or surveys of selected problems. Total credit limited to 8 units, with a maximum of 4 units per quarter.

GEOG 408. Geography of Development. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: W
Prerequisite: GEOG 308 or consent of instructor.
Detailed analysis of international development from a geographical perspective. Survey of various theories of development and their cultural and ecological components at multiple geographic scales, including institutions and actors involved. Applicable skills for development research and practice, emphasizing sustainability. 4 lectures.

GEOG 414. Global and Regional Climatology. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: W
Prerequisite: Junior standing.
The earth's pattern of climates and the physical processes that account for them. Focus on interrelationships between climate and the physical/biological and cultural environments. Special emphasis on modern climate changes and their consequences. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Crosslisted as ERSC/GEOG 414.

GEOG 415. Applied Meteorology and Climatology. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: SP
Prerequisite: GEOG/ERSC 250 or consent of instructor.
Physical processes in the atmosphere that determine regional weather, climate and climate variability. Surface and satellite systems for weather observation, and weather/climate modeling. Dynamics of weather systems, including thunderstorms and hurricanes. Emphasizes on weather/climate affecting agriculture and other human activities. 3 lectures, 1 activity. Crosslisted as ERSC/GEOG 415.

GEOG 440. Advanced-Applications in GIS. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: SP
Prerequisite: GEOG 318 or consent of instructor.
Applications in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) emphasizing research, methodologies, and career fields to geography, earth sciences, and the social sciences. 2 lectures, 2 laboratories.

GEOG 455. Anthropology-Geography Research Design and Methods. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: F
Prerequisite: Completion of one GE B2 and two upper division ANT or GEOG classes.
Development of knowledge and skills needed to conduct original scientific anthropology-geography research and prepares students for senior projects. Various empirical methodologies highlighted, with a focus on quantitative design and measurement of human culture, biology, behavior, environment and ecology. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Crosslisted as ANT/GEOG 455.

GEOG 461. Senior Project I. 2 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Senior standing or consent of instructor.
Selection and completion of a project under faculty supervision. Projects typical of problems which graduates must solve in their fields of employment. Project results are presented in a formal report. Minimum 120 hours total time.
SOCS 461. Senior Project I. 2 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Senior standing or consent of instructor.
Selection and completion of a project under faculty supervision. Projects typical of problems which graduates must solve in their fields of employment. Project results are presented in a formal report. Minimum 120 hours total time.

SOCS 462. Senior Project II. 2 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Senior standing or consent of instructor.
Selection and completion of a project under faculty supervision. Projects typical of problems which graduates must solve in their fields of employment. Project results are presented in a formal report. Minimum 120 hours total time.

SOCS 465. Internship. 3-8 units
CR/NC
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: GEOG 464, senior standing and/or consent of instructor.
Supervised training, research, and work in public and private organizations. Credit/No Credit grading only. Total credit limited to 18 units.

SOCS 470. Selected Advanced Topics. 1-4 units
Term Typically Offered: TBD
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Directed group study of selected topics for advanced students. Open to undergraduate and graduate students. Class Schedule will list topic selected. Total credit limited to 12 units. 1-4 lectures.

SOCS Courses

SOCS 200. Special Problems for Undergraduates. 1-4 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Consent of department head.
Individual investigation, research, studies, or surveys of selected problems. Total credit limited to 8 units, with a maximum of 4 units per quarter.

SOCS 400. Special Problems for Advanced Undergraduates. 1-4 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Consent of department head.
Individual investigation, research, studies, or surveys of selected problems. Total credit limited to 8 units, with a maximum of 4 units per quarter.

SOCS 440. Internship. 4-8 units
CR/NC
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Senior standing and/or consent of instructor.
Supervised training, research, and work in public and private organizations. Credit/No Credit grading only. Total credit limited to 18 units.

SOC Courses

SOC 110. Comparative Societies. 4 units
GE Area D3
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Introduction to sociological theory and methods, emphasizing a comparative analysis of social institutions of contemporary societies in major world regions, including the family, religion, politics, and the economy. Direct comparisons made between American social institutions and those of other societies, their histories, social problems and social change. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D3.

SOC 111. Social Problems. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: F, SP
An introduction to sociology with an emphasis on problems inherent in selected social institutions. Instruction in social analysis, including theories of social problems, how those problems are studied, and a survey of possible solutions. 4 lectures.

SOC 200. Special Problems for Undergraduates. 1-4 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Consent of department head.
Individual investigation, research, studies, or surveys of selected problems. Total credit limited to 8 units, with a maximum of 4 units per quarter.
SOC 218. International Political Economy. 4 units  
GE Area D2  
Term Typically Offered: W, SP  
Principles of international political economy in their social and cultural context. Sociological perspectives on the historical development of the world system and the current patterns of global inequality. Comparison of the political economy of major nations and their relation to the overall world system. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D2.

SOC 270. Selected Topics. 1-4 units  
Term Typically Offered: TBD  
Prerequisite: Open to undergraduate students and consent of instructor.  
Directed group study of selected topics. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 1 to 4 lectures.

SOC 301. Social Work and Social Welfare Institutions. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: F  
Prerequisite: SOC 110. Recommended: Junior standing.  
Introduction to the field of social welfare. Development of social work and social welfare services; major issues in social service policy. Scope and diversity of specific programs in the social services. Analysis of current programs and the recipients of welfare services. 4 lectures.

SOC 305. Social Movements. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: SOC 110. Recommended: Junior standing.  
Description and analysis of social movements in contemporary societies as they relate to major revolutionary changes historically and in the present. Analysis of variables producing social movements and political violence, including terrorism. Impact on society. 4 lectures.

SOC 306. Sociology of the Family. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: F, W  
Prerequisite: SOC 110. Recommended: Junior standing.  
Description and analysis of family relationships; role of family in society, effects of society on family economy, structure and change. Other topics include courtship, marriage, parenting, divorce and alternative family forms. 4 lectures.

SOC 309. The World System and Its Problems. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: SOC 110. Recommended: Junior standing.  
Analysis of the historical background, structure, and dynamics of the world system; examines such issues as the origins of Third World poverty, colonialism, the changes in the world’s dominant economic powers, the fall of communism, the growing economic competition between Europe, North America, and Asia; and possible strategies for the economic development of the Third World. 4 lectures.

SOC 310. Self, Organizations and Society. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: F  
Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of instructor.  
Analysis of the interactions relating to the development of self. Examination of the reciprocal interactions between biology, personal environment, and society. 4 lectures.

SOC 311. Sociology of Gender. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: F, W  
Prerequisite: Junior standing.  
Description and analysis of the impact of gender definitions on men and women in society. Special attention is given to the learning process; the creation and perpetuation of gender stereotypes and the way these affect individual life chances and social structure, explored in the areas of work, education, family and abusive relationships. Focus on media presentation of gender and effects of ethnicity and class. 4 lectures. Crosslisted as SOC/WGS 311.

SOC 313. Urban Sociology. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: SOC 110. Recommended: Junior standing.  
Description of the context of urban development; analysis of various forces generating urbanization. Investigation of urban models and spatio-temporal relationships; urban processes; and problems. 4 lectures.

SOC 315. Global Race and Ethnic Relations. 4 units  
GE Area D5  
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP  
Prerequisite: Completion of GE Areas A; D3; and junior standing.  
Diverse structures of unequal relationships among racial and ethnic groups in several countries including the United States. Theories about sources of economic and social discrimination and colonialism. Focus on the concept of ethnicity. Evaluation methods to restructure race and ethnic relations. International case histories. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Social Sciences or Sociology majors.

SOC 316. American Ethnic Minorities. 4 units  
USCP  
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP  
Prerequisite: Junior standing.  
Exploration of the issues and problems facing the four major ethnic minorities in American society: Native Americans, Afro-Americans, Hispanics and Asian Americans. Dynamics of intergroup relations focusing on the concepts of ethnocentricism, stereotyping, pluralism and assimilation. Sources and manifestations of economic and social discrimination patterns and how they affect the individual’s life course. 4 lectures. Fulfills USCP.

SOC 323. Social Stratification. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of instructor.  
Social class and the distribution of income, wealth, status and power in society, with emphasis on contemporary United States; social mobility; race, gender, and ethnic inequalities; political power and the nature of welfare; the nature, causes and solutions to poverty. A comparative perspective also taken with a focus on Japan and Europe. 4 lectures.

SOC 326. Sociology of the Life Cycle. 4 units  
GE Area D5  
Term Typically Offered: F, W  
Prerequisite: Junior standing; completion of GE Areas A and D3.  
Change and continuity of the self through the life course. Impact of aging on the physical, emotional, intellectual and social aspects of well being, and how this knowledge can be applied to enhance the quality of life. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Social Sciences or Sociology majors.
SOC 327. Social Change. 4 units  
GE Area D5; USCP  
Term Typically Offered: F  
Prerequisite: Junior standing; completion of GE area A; and two courses from GE Areas D1, D2, or D3. Recommended: HIST 216 or SOC 305.  
Compares and contrasts social change strategies over time and across diverse social problems, focusing mainly on the U.S., but not exclusively. Theoretical and critical examination of contemporary efforts to address restricted opportunities by groups who have been historically marginalized due to race/ethnicity, lower socioeconomic status, or sexuality. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Sociology majors. Fulfills USCP.

SOC 350. Social Organization of Modern Japan. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: F  
Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of instructor.  
Social and cultural features of modern Japan. Japanese group processes. Investigation of contemporary Japanese institutions: family, education, mass media, industry, politics, including an overview of popular culture. 4 lectures.

SOC 354. Qualitative Research Methods. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W, SP  
Prerequisite: STAT 217 with a C- or better and two sociology courses, or consent of instructor.  
Qualitative data collection for social research. The relationship among theory research and hypothesis testing. Data collection techniques, including content analysis, face to face interviews, and ethnographic methods. 3 lectures, 1 activity.

SOC 355. Quantitative Research Methods. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W, SP  
Prerequisite: STAT 217 and Junior standing.  
The basics of how to do quantitative social research. Includes topics on data collection techniques such as surveys, experiments, and the use of existing data. Also includes topics on univariate, bivariate, and multivariate analysis and the use of SPSS for data analysis. 3 lectures, 1 activity.

SOC 377. Sociology of Religion. 4 units  
GE Area D5  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: Junior standing; completion of GE Area A, and two courses from two categories in Area D.  
Religion from a sociological perspective. Topics may include the nature of religious experience, the role of religion in politics, economics, and social change, and the role that social forces have in influencing religious beliefs and practices. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D5 except for Social Sciences or Sociology majors.

SOC 395. Sociology of Complex Organizations. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: SP  
Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of instructor.  
Bureaucracies and informal organizations from a sociological perspective. Organizational networks within and between organizations, relationship between organizations and their environment, and organizational socialization and career patterns, and gender and race or ethnic differences in organizational patterns. 4 lectures.

SOC 400. Special Problems for Advanced Undergraduates. 1-4 units  
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP  
Prerequisite: Consent of department head.  
Individual investigation, research, studies, or surveys of selected problems. Total credit limited to 8 units, with a maximum of 4 units per quarter.

SOC 402. Crime and Violence. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of instructor.  
Criminal behavior of individuals and groups; special categories include drug use, sex offenders, property crime, syndicated crime, interpersonal violence, and white-collar criminality. Legal definitions of crime and their implications, theories of causation, the sources of criminological data, and possible responses to the problems posed by criminal behavior. 4 lectures.

SOC 406. Juvenile Justice. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: One course in sociology.  
Sociological examination of juvenile delinquency as a social and legal concept, covering the nature, volume and social distribution of juvenile crime; the formal structure of juvenile justice; and how justice for juveniles is applied in practice. 4 lectures.

SOC 412. Criminal Justice. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: W  
Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of instructor.  
Approaches to the control and rehabilitation of adult and juvenile offenders; philosophy of treatment strategies; history and analysis of probation, imprisonment, parole and preventive programs. 4 lectures.

SOC 413. Methods of Social Work. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: SP  
Prerequisite: SOC 301 and junior standing.  
Skills, values and knowledge emphasized in social work. The generic perspective. Methods in social case work, group work, community organization, and social action. Alternative models. Settings of social work practice. Discussion of case material and professional literature. Case work management. Traditional and innovative therapy techniques. 4 seminars.

SOC 421. Social Theory. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: F, W  
Prerequisite: SOC 111 or consent of instructor.  

SOC 440. Internship. 4-8 units  
CR/NC  
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP  
Prerequisite: Senior standing and/or consent of instructor.  
Supervised training, research, and work in public and private organizations. Credit/No Credit grading only. Total credit limited to 18 units.
SOC 461. Senior Project I. 2 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Senior standing or consent of instructor.
Selection and completion of a project under faculty supervision. Projects typical of problems which graduates must solve in their fields of employment. Project results are presented in a formal report. Minimum 120 hours total time.

SOC 462. Senior Project II. 2 units
Term Typically Offered: F, W, SP
Prerequisite: Senior standing or consent of instructor.
Selection and completion of a project under faculty supervision. Projects typical of problems which graduates must solve in their fields of employment. Project results are presented in a formal report. Minimum 120 hours total time.

SOC 464. Professional Development for Sociologists. 1 unit
CR/NC
Term Typically Offered: SP
Prerequisite: SOC 110 and Junior standing.
Preparation for professional advancement in the field of Sociology. Supervised career planning emphasizing resume development, selection of an internship or international experience, exploration of career options and graduate programs. Lectures from outside, practicing professionals. 1 lecture. Credit/No Credit grading only.

SOC 470. Selected Advanced Topics. 1-4 units
Term Typically Offered: TBD
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Directed group study of selected topics for advanced students. Open to undergraduate and graduate students. Class Schedule will list topic selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 1 to 4 lectures.