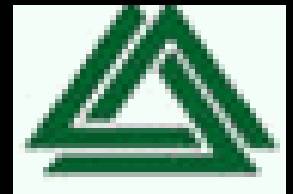


Engaging the Social Sciences SSC 101

**Bachelor of Science in Social
Science - Sociology Major
Program**

March 28, 2007



Purpose of this Presentation

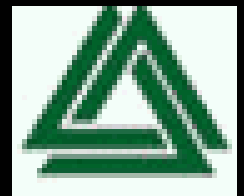
1. Provide a brief description of the goals and course requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Social Science
2. Graduate Education and Career Options for Social Science - Sociology majors



Bachelor of Science in Social Science (B.S.)

Four Options:

- 1. Applied Development Studies**
- 2. Geography**
- 3. Social Science**
- 4. Sociology**



Program of Study - General Education Requirements

General Education Requirements	Semester	Hours
English Composition		6
ENG 101, 102 or 103		
Speech Communication		3
SPE 101 Fund. Of Speech Communication		
Literature and Fine Arts		9
Literature (2 courses)		6
Fine Arts (select one of the following)		3
ART 101, 212, 401, 402 or 403		
MUS 114 or 115		
SPE 225		
History (Select 2 courses)		6
HIS 101, 102, 201, 202, 203 or 204		
Mathematics (Select 1 course)		3
MAT 103, 104 or 106		
Laboratory Science (6 hrs minimum)		6
Select 2 Courses		

Program of Study

Perspectives on Society	9
PSY 101 General Psychology	3
Select 2 courses	6
GEO 201	
PSC 201	
SOC 101	
Personal Development (2 hrs minimum)	2
AUP 360, CEL 300, CIS 205, FCS 215, 270, 325, 343, LIB 101, PER 101, Activity course (100 level), SPE 202, SWO 101, 303	
Under Perspectives on Society, students must select from two of the following: ANT 101, ECO 210, 211, GEO 303, PHI 201	
SPECIAL DEGREE REQUIREMENTS	18
Foreign Language (one language) or CIS 205, 235 (6 hrs)	
SSC 469, 470 (6 hrs)	
Science electives (6 hrs, beyond General Education requirement)	

Program of Study

MAJOR

39

Social Science Core (18 hrs)

Geography (6hrs): GEO 201 and 3 hrs of Geography elective

Sociology (6 hrs): SOC 101 and 3 hrs of Sociology elective

Political Science (6 hrs): PSC 103 and 201

Sociology

SOC 440

Sociology electives (18 hrs, 300 level or above)

ELECTIVES

17-23

Total Degree Requirements

124

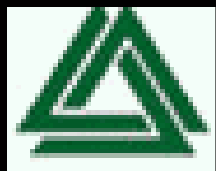
Sociology! - What do we study?

- We engaged in the scientific study of human social life in all of its various interrelationships.
- We engage in interpretive understandings of social actions in order to arrive at causal explanations. For example we pay attention to how culture, socialization and social structure shape human behavior.
- We engage in the study of special areas: such as the sociological perspective, culture, theory and methods of social research, social structure, socialization, social interaction, social stratification, deviant behavior, race and ethnic relations, sex, gender so on.



Students opting for Sociology concentration take:

- The general education requirements, the core social science courses (two courses each in geography, political science and sociology)
- The special degree requirements (foreign language or computer science, two science electives, research methods and statistics, and the English Writing Exam)
- Seven junior- or senior-level sociology courses



Junior and Senior-level Sociology Courses:

- Social theory
- Social problems
- Globalization
- Education
- Race and ethnicity
- Leadership
- Group dynamics
- Community development
- Delinquency
- Social stratification
- Organization and change
- Demography and a variety of other topics of interest to sociologists



Social Theory SOC 440/540

- Students learn the major social theories.
- Students are able to identify the macro issues in societies, as well as unifying themes in the work of various theorists such as liberty (freedom & markets vs. regulation-subjugation), equality, rigid or more fluid stratification in society, justice, "equal justice" in the laws and courts, democracy, power, powerlessness, and caring subjective community .



Social Theory (SOC 440/540)

Students are able to do the following after taking the course:

1. Articulate the major ideas of several sociological theories.
2. Show an understanding of the underlying propositions and hypotheses (via concept maps) put forth by theorists.
3. Apply theoretical concepts in the interpretation of historical and contemporary societies and social processes.
4. Complete a group project that allowed them to integrate a major social theory in explaining and giving solutions to social, economic, and environmental problem.



What can I do with a sociology major? - (Practical Value)

- 1. Professional Degrees and Graduate School Prospects.**
- 2. Career Options and Prospects**

Professional Degrees and Graduate School -

A degree in sociology provides a good foundation for professional degree programs in :

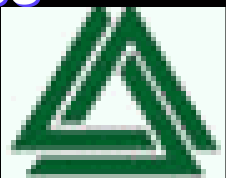
1. **Community Development**
2. **Law** (the perspectives gained can help one to be a better lawyer).
3. **Business**
4. **Public Administration**
5. **Counseling**
6. **Teaching**
7. **Law**
8. **Management**
9. **Public Affairs**
10. **Human Resources**
11. **Communication**
12. **Public Policy**
13. **Urban Planning**
14. **Criminal Justice**
15. **Public Relations**
16. **Private Sector - research; statistical analysis; program development, management, analysis, and evaluation - consulting in business and industry.**

General Views

- **A well developed sociological imagination is key to developing a scientific interpretation of the social world; thus, by engaging in discussions and critical thinking, sociology students have a distinct advantage in viewing the world in an interpretive way.**
- **Students practice “sociological debunking” and are given opportunities to apply concepts and theories learned in solving practical problems.**
- **Sociology students use facts and ideas learned to think differently about their own lives, social behaviors, and the society in which they live; and, to begin to critically interpret and explain some of the differences that they observe around them.**
- **Sociology majors develop critical thinking skills that can positively impact graduate and professional programs in any of the above fields of studies!**

Sociology and Globalization

- Globalization describes a process **by which the world is being integrated into a worldwide diffusion of practices, the expansion of relations across continents, and the idea of organization of social life on a global scale.**
- Globalization is the increased **international mobility of goods, people, contracts (including financial claims and thoughts (facts, ideas, and beliefs).**
- A good grasp of the sociological perspective is important for working in today's multiethnic and multinational business environment



Career Options

- Sociological research influences the way we think about work and organizational life, and enables us to discover new knowledge.
- American Sociological Association : “A sociology degree provides valuable preparation for careers in modern organizational settings .”
- Many careers draw on different aspects of sociology.
- While it is true that only those with graduate degrees hold the official title of Sociologist, - those with Bachelor degrees will find employment in a wide variety of related careers .

Career Options – Higher Degrees

Masters and PhDs

1. Professors
2. Research positions in academic environments.
3. Development careers in business, industry, and governmental and non-governmental organizations (applied settings).

Career Options -- (Education-Portal.com).

- A degree in sociology generally requires being **trained in math, computers, and statistics**.
- It is a valuable degree because graduates develop many skills employers consider to be important such as **writing, critical thinking, researching, analysis of data and problem solving techniques**.
- It is a flexible degree that a student can tailor to suit his or her own interests or it can be combined with a second major or minor in many different subject areas. (Education-Portal.com).
- (Education-Portal.com is a comprehensive directory of colleges, universities, career schools, trade schools, vocational training, and online degree programs).

UC Berkeley Sociology Alumni Career Survey

The top 15 occupations represented in this alumni survey are:

- 1) School teachers-kindergarten, elementary, and secondary (100)
- 2) Administrative services and facility managers (78)
- 3) Administrative Assistants (77)
- 4) Researchers (71)
- 5) Lawyers and judicial workers (57)
- 6) Advertising, marketing, and public relations managers (50)
- 7) Non-profit and community organization managers (49)
- 8) Paralegals and legal assistants (49)
- 9) Social workers (48)
- 10) Counselors (46)
- 11) Management analysts (44)
- 12) Education administrators (43)
- 13) Human resources, training, and labor relations specialists and managers (38)
- 14) Law clerks (34)
- 15) Recreation workers (33)

457 sample

32.5% were
male, 67.5%
female

Source: <http://sociology.berkeley.edu/alumni/survey/Summary.html>

UC Berkeley Sociology Alumni Career Survey

- Responses show that graduates pursued a wide variety of post-graduate programs and degrees that influenced their career paths
- Teaching credential (40)
- Master's degree (132)
- PhD (28)
- Professional degree (53)
- Continued undergraduate work: second BA, AAetc. (7)
- License and certificate programs (45)
- Job or company training programs (11)
- Individual courses, seminars, etc. (42)

Applied Sociology (ASA)- Examples

- A sociologist serving as vice president for research in a large insurance company applies both methodological expertise and understanding of ethnicity and gender in developing staff training programs and employee benefit packages.
- A sociologist specializing in urban and community research consults for a multinational corporation developing new towns.
- A sociologist in a large advertising company supervises marketing research operations and organizational development workshops.



What is Social Research?

**TO BEGIN WITH, THERE ARE
TWO MAIN REQUIREMENTS:**

- 1. Looking at the world using the sociological perspective**

A variety of social behaviors calling for investigation

- 2. Application of the scientific method**

Scientific Method in Sociology

- Sociologists employ scientific research procedures in order to collect empirical data and construct theories that explain social reality as accurately as possible.
- Social problems /phenomena are literally everywhere, and knowing about research methods help us understand how we came to know what we accept as fact.



Why Community Development Research Methods?

- Community change is an inevitable phenomenon.
- In the age of globalization communities are becoming more complex as they integrate with the global economy
- As communities change we need information to initiate, conduct, and sustain efforts to improve their situation and their social and economic well-being. – there is a need to understanding the internal context as well as the external or macro-reality.
- The bottom line is research supports the various stages of community development.



Connection between Sociology and Community Development- My Experience

- In my work as a rural sociologist in Jamaica, I worked for several international funding agencies doing sociological analyses of issues such as rural poverty, and the role of microenterprise in family and community welfare.
- I therefore come from a tradition where social research was a natural part of community development efforts. I have a strong conviction that more effective programs can be initiated at the household and community levels when we engage local populace in every stage of the development effort, through participatory research and participatory planning.
- (Graduate students receive instruction in research methods, statistics, and theory that broadens their employment opportunities- In applied settings where they apply knowledge to everyday problems).



Connection between Social Research and Community Development- My Experience

- My professional life as a rural sociologist began in 1994 when I worked with a Dutch sponsored Integrated Rural Development Project in Portland, Jamaica. There, I interacted with beneficiaries, collecting and analyzing socio-economic data and advising the Project Management Unit on development progress and people's views and responses to the Project.
- Since 1994, I have worked for a number of other Rural Development Projects in Jamaica in a similar capacity .
- Thus, I have extensive experience in participatory fieldwork, focus groups and ethnographic type research. In addition, I developed micro-project profiles for rural communities and have experience in participatory planning in numerous communities in Jamaica.



Considering a Career in Sociology with a B.S. Useful Book

- ***Embarking upon a Career with an Undergraduate Degree in Sociology*** ~ By Janet Mancini Billson and Bettina J. Huber.
- Designed for undergraduate sociology majors seeking employment.
- Discusses how to identify your interests and skills, the advantages of informational interviewing, how to design a resume, and how to conduct an employment interview. \$6.00 for ASA members students/\$10.00 for non-members and institutions.



