DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND FAMILY STUDIES
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Faculty
Phil Davignon (2014). Assistant Professor of Sociology and Department Chair. B.A., Hillsdale College; M.A. and Ph.D., Baylor University.

Matt Henderson (2017). Assistant Professor of Sociology. B.S., University of Houston; M.A. University of Houston; M.A. and Ph.D., Baylor University.

Mission Statement
The mission of the Department is to provide students with a broad background in the study of society and human relationships from a Christian perspective, to enable them to enter graduate programs or entry level positions in their respective discipline.

Curriculum
I. Sociology major—36 semester hours
The courses in Sociology are designed for two types of students: (1) those who desire pre-professional training for sociology or other related fields of human relations, and (2) those who seek to understand underlying principles in human relations, the role of custom and group psychology in collective behavior, the structure of society, the problems of group living, and the tendencies toward the improvement or the disintegration of society. Courses are designed to present both a practical and a scientific analysis of human relationships in the various areas of social life.

A. Core required of all SOC majors—24 hours
   1. SOC 211, 213, 214, 370, 417, 419, 422, 498 or 411
   B. Electives—12 hours

II. Family Studies major—54 hours
The family, as a basic building block of society, is critical to the functioning of society as a whole. The contribution of the Christian community to the development of leaders in family relations is crucial. The Family Studies major focuses on the development of the individual in the context of family and society. The program is designed to prepare students for (a) professional careers in a variety of human service areas; (b) leadership roles in church, school, and community; (c) personal roles in family living; and (d) graduate education. Graduates who do not pursue graduate study typically find employment as parent educators, child life specialists and program directors in public and private agencies.

A. Prerequisites: SOC 214, 220, PSY 213
B. SOC 325, 333, 356, 370, 417, 425, 435, 411 or 498
C. PSY 219 or 324, CHR 243, COM 235, ECO 400
D. Select 9 hours from Chosen Concentration:
   *Pre-Child Life Concentration: SOC 322, SOC 420, PSY 313
   Family Ministry Concentration: SOC 319, SOC 321 or CHR 271, SW 307
   Pre-Counseling: SW 305, PSY 425, SOC 419
E. No minor required.

*Students seeking Child Life Specialist certification through the Association of Child Life Professionals are urged to consult the ACLP web site (childlife.org) and to meet with the Sociology Department chair to ensure that they understand both the required undergraduate course work and post-baccalaureate certification requirements.

IV. Family Studies minor—18 hours
A. SOC 220, 417, 435
B. Select 9 hours from: SOC 325, 332, 333, 370, 418, 425

V. Sociology minor—18 semester hours
A. SOC 211, 213
B. Select 12 SOC electives (6 hours of which must be upper-level)

VI. Human Studies minor—21 semester hours
The interdisciplinary Human Studies minor is designed to give flexibility to the student interested in education and human studies.
A. Include two of the following: PSY 213, SOC 211, SE 230.
B. Fifteen hours, 9 of which must be upper-level, from EDU, PSY, SE, SOC, SW.

Assessment of Majors
Both Sociology and Family Studies students have the option to round out their program with either SOC 498: Senior Capstone Seminar or SOC 411: Internship. When doing a capstone, senior students engage in original research which draws upon theoretical knowledge acquired in their research methods and theory classes. A major original research paper and oral presentation are the cumulative outcomes of the 498 course. The topic will be focused on a family topic for Family Studies students.

For those students who choose to participate in an internship, SOC 411 gives them the opportunity to apply knowledge from their coursework, clarify their own professional objectives, and gain professional experience in an approved community organization or agency. They will be required to complete a substantive term paper as part of their internship which will incorporate the theories and topics learned throughout their program.
Student Organizations

Pi Gamma Mu, national social science honor society, seeks to improve scholarship in social studies; to inspire service to humanity by an intelligent approach to the solution of social problems; and to engender sympathy towards others with different opinions and institutions. Students who have completed 20 hours of social science with a "B" average or above are eligible for membership.

Sociological Inquiry Society (S.I.S) functions as a Christian community of students interested in sociological foundations and enables students to better understand and exercise sociology outside the classroom through discussion, activities, and service.

Student Awards

The Pi Gamma Mu Scholarship Leader Award is presented to the graduating member of the society with the highest academic average.

Course Offerings in Sociology (SOC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Offered</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>211</td>
<td>Principles of Sociology (3)</td>
<td>F, W, S</td>
<td>As Needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>213</td>
<td>Social Change for Social Problems (3)</td>
<td>F—Odd Years</td>
<td>Reciprocal credit: ICS 213</td>
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<tr>
<td>214</td>
<td>Social Research I (3)</td>
<td>F—Odd Years</td>
<td>Prerequisite: SOC 211</td>
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<tr>
<td>220</td>
<td>Introduction to Studying Families (3)</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>This course is designed to provide an interdisciplinary introduction to issues pertaining to contemporary families. The course provides an engaging contemporary look at family studies' theories, methods, essential topics, and career opportunities. Concepts are brought to life through striking examples from everyday family life.</td>
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<td>221</td>
<td>Sociology of Education (3)</td>
<td>As Needed</td>
<td>Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: ICS 319. A sociological analysis of religious practice and belief. The intersection of religion with personal, family and social life is emphasized. Cults, sects, fundamentalism and radicalism are all examined in this context.</td>
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225. Relationships, Marriage and Families (3) | Su; S—Odd Years | Reciprocal credit: SW 225. An investigation of the sociocultural and historical factors influencing relationships, marriage and families emphasizing challenges, prevention and intervention. |

300. Sport Sociology (3) | S—Odd Years | Reciprocal credit: PEWS 300. Application of sociological principles to sport and athletics. Exploration of sport as a social institution in American society and how it is an agent of social change. |

310. Social and Economic Justice (3) | As Needed | Prerequisites: CHR 111 or 112. Reciprocal credit: SW 310, ICS 310. See SW 310 for course description. |

311. Crime and Society (3) | F—Even Years | This course examines the social, political and economic processes that affect the creation and implementation of law. It focuses on history and fundamental principles of American legal system and compares it to other legal systems existing in today's world. In assessing how judicial opinions and legislative efforts affect social relations and institutional arrangements, inquiry is centered on: the ways in which social problems become defined as legal issues, the forces which shape the initiation and ultimate formulation of legislative acts designed to affect public policy, the role which cultural values and assumptions play in framing legal arguments and influencing judicial opinions and remedial programs, and the strengths and limitations of the law as a means of achieving special social policy objectives. |

317. Urban Structure and Process (3) | As Needed | Prerequisite: SOC 211. An exploration and analysis of social forces that structure human community. An overview of the process of urbanization in America, and the various ways in which rural and urban community life are organized into diverse social patterns. |

319. Sociology of Religion (3) | F—Even Years | Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: ICS 319. A sociological analysis of religious practice and belief. The intersection of religion with personal, family and social life is emphasized. Cults, sects, fundamentalism and radicalism are all examined in this context. |
SOCIOLOGY

321. Social Gerontology (3) As Needed
Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: SW 321.
A brief, comprehensive introduction to the subject of aging. The social and socio-psychological aspects will be examined.

322. Medical Sociology (3) As Needed
Prerequisite: SOC 211.
A sociological examination of health, illness, and the social organization of medical care in the US. Consideration is given to race, class, gender, and age as factors influencing health, illness, and the delivery of medical care.

324. Social Deviance (3) S—Odd Years
Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: SW 324.
Focuses on why certain individuals violate social norms and the ways society responds and attempts to control deviant behavior. Topics include: defining, measuring and explaining social deviance and types of deviant behavior as well as personal and social consequences of deviant behavior.

325. Families Across Cultures (3) F, S
Reciprocal credit: SW 325, ICS 325.
The family as an object of sociological inquiry within the context of cross-cultural, multi-cultural and historical bases. Continuity and change, similarities and differences are emphasized.

326. Juvenile Justice (3) F—Odd Years
This course covers youthful crime: its volume, causes and trends. The prediction, prevention, treatment and control of juvenile delinquency by social control agencies is examined relative to social policies needed to reduce its incidence. The organization and procedures of the juvenile justice system are also explored.

327. Sociology of Media and Technology (3) S—Even Years
In this course, attention will be given to different aspects of the relationship between technology and society and directions for the future. The nature of technology and the process of innovation are driven by social influences and pressures. Those social influences mean that technologies reflect and often reinforce the structures of social, economic, and political power in any society. Special emphasis on social media and the effects it has on daily interactions in society.

333. Parent-Child Relations (3) S—Even Years
Prerequisite: SOC 211.
Social and historical context of parent-child interaction over the life course; analysis of theories, research and educational programs; socialization into the family; examination of parenting as a developmental process. Overview of the parenting process in diverse cultural and familial structures. Emphasizes the use of Biblical teaching in parent-child relations.

356. Food, Culture, and Society (3) S—Odd Years
Reciprocal credit: ICS 356.
This course explores how social and cultural contexts affect food production and consumption. Specifically, this course examines how modern food practices have become disordered, diverging from a proper theological approach to creation.

370. Gender and Sexuality (3) W, S—Odd Years
Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: SW 370.
Gender and sexuality in American society and cross-culturally with consideration to the role of gender in structuring identity, male/female interaction, and constraining or expanding opportunities. Topics: Sexual development, function and dysfunction, cultural and socio-psychological issues, and Christian, ethical and moral responses.

411. Internship (3) S
Prerequisites: 21 SOC hours including 417 or 425; 422; and departmental approval.
A field situation in a community agency. Supervision will be provided by the agency and department. A journal and substantive term paper are required.

413. Globalization and Social Change (3) As Needed
Prerequisite: SOC 211.
This course addresses contemporary social, economic, and political changes referred to as globalization. What is globalization and what is its history? Does economic globalization lead to development or only to new ways of concentrating wealth in the hands of a few? These questions suggest the overarching themes of the course, which include the institutional structures of globalization, how those institutional structures shape power and inequality, and the question of scale, or how institutional structures translate power and inequality from the global to the local and back, and, finally, possible alternatives to globalization. How does globalization affect God’s global work?

417. Social Theory (3) S—Even Years
Prerequisites: 6 hours of SOC including SOC 211.
Examines major social theories that explain society and human behavior. Special emphasis is given to family theories and applying other social theories to the family and behavior within the family.

418. Social Psychology (3) As Needed
Prerequisite: SOC 211 or PSY 213. Reciprocal credit: PSY 418.
See PSY 418 for course description.

419. Social Diversity and Inequality (3) F—Even Years
Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: SW 419, ICS 419.
A study of the social, cultural, historical, political-economic, and psychological dimensions of minority-majority group relations with an emphasis on American society. Problems and intervention strategies will be examined.

420. Death and Dying (3) As Needed
Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: SW 420.
An interdisciplinary investigation of death and dying exploring contributions from anthropology, ethics, health sciences, history, literature, psychology, religion, and sociology. Strategies of counseling with dying persons and their families will be central.
422. Social Research II (3) As Needed
Prerequisite: MAT 114; 6 additional hours in SOC including 211.
Research design, applied techniques, and data analysis methods
with emphasis on a research project, from problem formulation
to research report.

425. Strengthening Marriage and Families (3) F—Even
Years
Prerequisites: SOC 211 or 220.
Family theories from sociological and family studies
perspectives exploring historical roots, assumptions, concepts,
and applications for strengthening relationships. Emphasizes
using Biblical principles to strengthen marriage and families.

435. Contemporary Issues in the Family (3) W; S—Even
Years
Prerequisite: SOC 211 or 220. Reciprocal credit: PSY 435.
An in-depth look at the family, life issues, threats and challenges
today. Biblical principles related to such issues as parent-child
relationships, work and family, divorce and family violence are
discussed. Preventive techniques and solutions are considered.

498. Senior Capstone Seminar (3) F
Prerequisites: SOC 211 and permission of instructor; Pre or
corequisites: SOC 417, 422.
The culminating experience for Sociology majors requiring
students to successfully demonstrate an ability to apply research
methods and sociological theories to an empirical research
problem/question of their own choosing. The application
will take the form of a written paper and a presentation in a
public format.

Available in all prefixes:

179-279-379-479. External Domestic Study Programs (1-3)
As Needed
All courses and their applications must be defined and
approved prior to registering.

179PF-279PF-379PF-479PF. External Domestic Study
Programs (Pass/Fail) As Needed
All courses and their applications must be defined and
approved prior to registering.

180-280-380-480. Study Abroad Programs (1-4) As Needed
All courses and their application must be defined and approved
prior to travel.

180PF-280PF-380PF-480PF. Study Abroad Programs
(Pass/Fail) As Needed
All courses and their applications must be defined and
approved prior to travel.

195-6-7. Special Studies (1-4) As Needed
Lower-level group studies which do not appear in the regular
departmental offerings.

295-6-7. Special Studies (1-4) As Needed
Upper-level group studies which do not appear in the regular
departmental offerings.

395-6-7. Special Studies (1-4) As Needed
Lower-level group studies which do not appear in the regular
departmental offerings.

495-6-7. Independent Study (1-4) As Needed
Individual research under the guidance of a faculty member(s).

499. Seminar (1-3) F As Needed
To be used at the discretion of the department for majors only.