

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Department of Sociology

Social Services Major, BS

For Majors Beginning Fall 2025 or later

Sociology is the study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Sociologists investigate the structure of groups, organizations, and societies and how people interact within these contexts. (American Sociological Association: <https://www.asanet.org/about/what-is-sociology/>).

The social services major is an applied sociology program that is designed for students interested in working in the human services delivery systems. Students are required to have a strong grounding in sociology as well as the applied field of social services. The coursework introduces students to critical issues in the field and offers students the opportunity to work within social agencies in the community: <https://www.nationalhumanservices.org/what-is-human-services>

The major requirements are such that students are encouraged to organize their program of study to include a minor in an area of interest or specialization outside of sociology. Some areas that fit well with this major include psychology, ethnic studies, law and justice, family studies, gerontology, women's gender and sexualities studies, community health, and the like. Social services major students may minor in sociology, but cannot double-major with sociology.

An experiential learning experience of 4 credits (SOC 490) is required for the completion of this degree. This is usually accomplished with the student locating an internship with a community agency which consists of at least 160 hours; paperwork must be submitted with Career Services (<https://www.cwu.edu/academics/academic-resources/career-services/>). This applied experience can also consist of service-learning or research.

Course of Study**Sociology Required Courses (33 credits)****Required :**

***SOC 107 is a prerequisite for SOC 350 and SOC 445.

- SOC 107 Principles of Sociology (5)
- SOC 200 Introduction to the Major (3)
- SOC 350 Sociological Theory (5)
- SOC 363 Foundations of Social Research Methods (4)
- SOC 364 Statistics and Society (4)
- SOC 463 Applied Qualitative Research Skills (5)
- SOC 464 Applied Quantitative Research Skills (5)
- SOC 489 Senior Seminar (2)

Social Service Required Courses (24 credits)**Required :**

- SOC 301 Introduction and History of Social Service Agencies (5)
- SOC 310 Social Service Methods and Casework (5)
- SOC 442 Social Welfare (5)
- SOC 445 Current Topics on Social Inequality (5)
- *SOC 490 Cooperative Education (1-12) (Must be taken for 4 credits.)

*Note: It is recommended that students have completed SOC 301 and SOC 310 prior to their internship as it provides the necessary background to have a successful experience. Please meet with your major advisor for more information.
**Additional credits in SOC 490 may count toward graduation.

**Department-Approved Electives:
(15 credits — Upper Division)****Select three:**

- SOC 320 Death and Dying (5)
- SOC 322 Sociology of Food (5)
- SOC 325 Aging (5)
- SOC 327 Health and Society (5)
- SOC 343 Child Abuse (5)
- SOC 344 Juvenile Delinquency (5)
- SOC 351 Sociology of Work (5)
- SOC 354 Minority Experience (5)
- SOC 356 Sociology of Gender (5)
- SOC 357 Sociology of Families (5)
- SOC 358 Sociology of Sexualities (5)
- SOC 365 Minoritized Groups (5)
- SOC 386 Seminar on Racism (5)
- SOC 415 Urban Sociology (5)
- SOC 425 Sociology of Education (5)
- SOC 446 Sociology of Immigration (5)
- SOC 459 Organizations (5)
- SOC 460 Community Structure & Organization (5)
- SOC 495 Sociological Research (1-5)
- SOC 383 Rethinking Leadership (5)
- SOC 490 *Additional credits in SOC 490 may count towards graduation.

72 Total Credits

Online Availability The program will have a designated online only option as well as an in-person or hybrid option.

Program Codes Major plan codes: **SOSE, SOSEP** Online option codes: **SOSEO, SOSEOP**