SOCIOLOGY (SOC)

SOC-331 Globalization in India and China: Comparative and Cross-Cultural Perspectives  4 Credits
Prerequisites: LS-201 or (SSCI-201 and HUMN-201)
This course will provide a broad overview of the socioeconomic, political, and cultural changes occurring in India and China—the two fastest growing economies of the world—and examine their implications for the United States. It will also introduce students to theoretical and empirical issues concerning globalization. The main objective of this course is to equip students to develop a nuanced understanding of the massive changes taking place in Asia in the context of globalization and appreciate the opportunities and challenges that come in their wake.
Lecture: 4, Lab 0, Other 0

SOC-332 Contemporary Social Problems  4 Credits
Prerequisites: (SSCI-201 and HUMN-201) or LS-201
Minimum Class Standing: Sophomore
Terms Offered: As needed
This course analyzes how and why particular issues become identified and defined as a problem in society. Cases investigated are selected from broad areas such as global interconnections, institutional crises, inequalities, and environmentalism. Competing accounts of problems are examined for what they tell us about the causes of, interconnections between and possible solutions to the identified problems.
Lecture: 4, Lab 0, Other 0

SOC-333 Global Social Movements  4 Credits
Prerequisites: LS-201 or (HUMN-201 and SSCI-201)
One of the most exciting aspects of contemporary globalization is the emergence of a variety of transnational social movements. All over the world, civil society groups are asserting their rights concerning issues such as food security, the environment, energy, land rights, education and so on. This course will explore the main theoretical and empirical approaches to the study of social movements. It will also examine the various ways in which social movements across the globe have synergized their resources and strategies to collectively vindicate their rights. Drawing insights from major social movements in different parts of the world, this course will provide a nuanced understanding of why and how they arise and the extent to which they have been successful in accomplishing their objectives.
Lecture: 4, Lab 0, Other 0

SOC-334 Ideologies and Politics  4 Credits
Prerequisites: LS-201 or (HUMN-201 and SSCI-201)
This course will provide an introduction to the role of ideologies in politics and society. It will offer an overview of the major political ideologies from the earliest times to the present. Students will learn how ideologies emerge, the worldview underlying different ideologies, whose interest the ideologies serve, and how to identify ideologically driven agenda in our polity and social institutions. The course will also explore the basic concepts in different ideologies; analyze the thoughts and writings of the main proponents of ideologies and the strengths and limitations of each ideology. The main objective of this course is to enable students to acquire nuanced, sociologically informed perspectives on the various ideologies and their impact on our lives.
Lecture: 4, Lab 0, Other 0

SOC-335 Analysis of Social Dissent  4 Credits
Prerequisites: (SSCI-201 and HUMN-201) or LS-201
Minimum Class Standing: Sophomore
Terms Offered: As needed
A sociological analysis of the causes, processes and consequences of social dissent is analyzed. Emphasis is placed on the impact of dissent in changing society. Examples will be drawn from the U.S. today, from American history and, for comparison, from other times and societies.
Lecture: 4, Lab 0, Other 0

SOC-337 Religion in Society  4 Credits
Prerequisites: (SSCI-201 and HUMN-201) or LS-201
Minimum Class Standing: Sophomore
Terms Offered: As needed
A study of the relationships between religion and society. A broad range of religious practices and beliefs selected from diverse human societies will be examined using social scientific perspectives.
Lecture: 4, Lab 0, Other 0

SOC-338 Gender and Society  4 Credits
Prerequisites: (HUMN-201 and SSCI-201) or LS-201
Minimum Class Standing: Sophomore
Terms Offered: As needed
A study of social expectations concerning men's and women's behavior, personalities, and abilities. These gendered expectations influence both private, intimate relationships and the roles found in social institutions such as education and work. Several perspectives that explain the origins of these expectations and changes in them are explored.
Lecture: 4, Lab 0, Other 0

SOC-341 Law, Politics, and Society  4 Credits
Prerequisites: LS-201 or (HUMN-201 and SSCI-201)
This course will provide a broad overview of the myriad ways in which law, politics, and society intersect and how they influence each other. It will help students understand how laws are enacted, enforced, and adjudicated. Whose interests do law and legal institutions serve? What are the strengths and limitations of law in bringing about social change? How do social structures affect legislation and enforcement? How does the justice system deal with issues of race, class, gender, and ethnicity? Why is the justice system inaccessible to the poor? These are some of the questions that will be explored in this course. In addition, it will introduce students to the different theoretical perspectives through which socio-legal issues are understood. The main aim is to equip students with nuanced socio-legal sensibilities to comprehend and analyze complex issues of law, politics, and society.
Lecture: 4, Lab 0, Other 0

SOC-342 Terrorism in the Modern World  4 Credits
Prerequisites: LS-201 or (HUMN-201 and SSCI-201)
Terrorism has emerged as one of the major scourges of the contemporary world. ‘Terrorism in the Modern World’ will introduce students to the myriad facets of terrorism from a variety of perspectives - socio-economic, political, psychological, religious, and cultural. It will briefly trace the history and evolution of terrorism and examine its causes and consequences. The first part of the course comprises theoretical perspectives on terrorism drawn from the various social sciences. In the second half, students will explore case studies of terrorism in different regions of the world such as the Middle East, South Asia, etc. The main objective is to provide students a rich and critical understanding of terrorism, its impact on global politics, and the strategies for eliminating it.
Lecture: 4, Lab 0, Other 0
SOC-391 Sociology Special Topics 4 Credits
Prerequisites: (HUMN-201 and SSCI-201) or LS-201
Terms Offered: As needed
An interdisciplinary advanced course focusing on a specific topic. This course is a one-time offering whose content is determined by current faculty interest, and provides a comprehensive and coherent examination of the chosen topic. This course may be repeated for credit under different topic.
Lecture: 4, Lab 0, Other 0