UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC
COURSE APPROVAL FORM
REVISION

Please fill in all information. Required signatures are on page 2 of this form. Please return to:
Academic Affairs Committee, Office of the Provost, Anderson Hall, 2nd Floor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Person: George H. Lewis</th>
<th>Phone: 946-2925</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> November 14, 2006</td>
<td><strong>School or College:</strong> COP</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed Course #:</strong> 71</td>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Foundations of Sociology</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed Prerequisites:</strong> None</td>
<td><strong>Grade Option:</strong> Letter Grade</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed Units:</strong> 4</td>
<td><strong>Enrollment/Expected Enrollment:</strong> 20</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Existing Course Title:</strong> Same</td>
<td><strong>Existing Course #:</strong> Same</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Existing Unit Value:</strong> Same</td>
<td><strong>Existing Prerequisites:</strong> None</td>
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Revised catalog description (attach additional sheet if necessary). Attach a syllabus:
none

Describe the proposed changes and provide a rationale (attach additional sheet if necessary).
to designate this course as first in major core and distinguish from SOCI 51

If approved, when will this be implemented?  Fall  □  Spring  □  Year 2007

What is the anticipated impact on resources (e.g., Faculty, funds, library materials, etc.)?
None

Describe any special facilities, furnishings, or technical needs. List software needs, if any.
None

U.O.P.
DEC 21 2006
REGISTRAR
**APPROVAL PROCESS**

Please obtain all signatures before submitting to Academic Affairs Committee. Acquire signatures in the order in which they are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Action by department requesting addition/change:</th>
<th>Date: 3-32-06</th>
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<th>2. Action by the Curriculum Committee of the School/College:</th>
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<th>3. Action by the Dean of the School/College:</th>
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<th>4. Action by the Dean of the Library:</th>
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<th>5. Action by the Director of Educational Technology Services (if computer lab, software needed):</th>
<th>Date:</th>
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<th>6. Action by the Registrar:</th>
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<th>7. Action by the General Education Committee (as appropriate):</th>
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<th>8. Action by the Graduate Studies Committee (as appropriate):</th>
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<th>9. Action by the Academic Affairs Committee:</th>
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After approval by the Academic Affairs Committee, information regarding new, revised, or deleted programs and courses is sent to the Registrar for listing in or modifying the catalog.

Form revised 9/4/03
Attachment to: Course Approval Form/REVISION/Proposed Course SOCI 71

* Ann Perkins knows this to mean one of the following: SOCI 21; 31; 51; 61; 71; 79; 81; 104; 108; 114; 123; 125; 127; 133; 139; 141; 165; 171; 172; 177; 179; 181; 191; 193.
SOCI 71 FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIOLOGY (Fall, 2006)

Course Meetings: MWF (11:00 am - 12:20 pm), WPC 213
Instructor: Roy Childs
Office: WPC 200
Office Hours: M 12:30-3:00, W 12:30-3:00, F 12:30-1:30

Course Description

An exploration of fundamental concepts, theoretical approaches, empirical methods and fields of inquiry of concern to the professional sociologist. Examination of selected topics of concern to the discipline and strategies for applying sociological knowledge at individual, group and societal levels. Introduction to the fundamentals of data analysis. Exploration of the roles and contributions of the professional sociologist. Required as the first course in the core sequence for students intending to major or minor in sociology. Prerequisite: completion or concurrent enrollment in at least one other course in sociology.

About Sociology

Sociology is a broad field of inquiry. In fact sociology is concerned with some of the same phenomena as other disciplines concerned with the individual (e.g., psychology), changes in the individual, culture or society (e.g., anthropology or history), or the nature and influence of contemporary social institutions (e.g., economics or political science). Sociologists want to understand the development of human kind, human culture and social institutions through time, and the social development of the individual in contemporary society from infancy, through childhood and into adulthood.

Additionally, sociologists want to understand the patterned ways societies meet “fundamental needs” related to such things as education, religious beliefs, family functioning, operation of the political system, life in the city, and other “spheres” of social life. These “spheres” sociologists often refer to as social institutions. Sociologists are also concerned with social change and social conflict, and the impact of these on social institutions and social life.

Finally, sociologists seek to understand how broader social forces, for example those related to technological, economic, population, or social class influence social institutions and the cultures, lifestyles and life chances of society’s members.

For the student, sociological study can stimulate an appreciation of the changes in the past which have shaped the contemporary world, and in turn how the shape of the contemporary world influences the patterns of daily life. Sociological study can add insights and facilitate critical thinking regarding a range of social issues about which citizens in a democratic society
About the Course

This course introduces the discipline to the student who, through pursuit of a major or minor in the field, desires sound preparation for further study and/or practice. Accordingly, it reviews the nature of the field, the particular foci and emphases available through the program at Pacific, and builds skills in sociological conceptualization, reasoning and research which facilitate effective study and the development of useful insights into issues of concern to the discipline. The course combines lectures and student discussions with laboratory exercises and visits from practicing sociologists. It is a required course for the major and a prerequisite to most other upper division courses in the program.

Course Goals

The course is designed to prepare students for further sociological study by helping students

1. Understand and use sociological concepts and theoretical orientations in their own sociological work at “micro” and “macro” levels of analysis.

2. Gain familiarity with sociological methods of gathering and interpreting data.

3. Develop the ability to think and write critically through the application of sociological concepts, theories and methods, and through the comparison of findings derived from differing approaches to sociological understanding.

4. Increase awareness of issues of difference, inequality, organization and institutionalization of interest to sociologists and other social and behavioral scientists.

5. Examine the contributions of sociology to the liberal arts.

6. Examine the foundations sociological study provides for professional life and the range of occupations and careers open to students with sociological training.

Student Responsibilities and Evaluation

Grades in this course will be based principally on two midterm exams, a series of laboratory assignments, and a final paper. The laboratory assignments as a whole and the final paper will each count the equivalent of one midterm exam. Students will also be evaluated on the basis of in-class participation.

Finally, class attendance and participation are essential if students are to prepare adequately for class examinations and other graded assignments. By definition attendance means appearing in class on time as indicated by your signature on the attendance sheet circulated at the beginning of each class period. (Behaviors such as eating in class, doing homework for other courses, sleeping, etc., do not constitute attendance.)
Attendance will be factored into the final grade for the course according to the following formula:

\[ 75 \times \left[ \frac{\text{Number of Class Hrs Attended}}{\text{Number of Class Hrs Held}} \times 1.05 \right] - 75 \]

Adding the result from the above formula to the combined grade point average for the three in-class midterms will usually raise the average exam grade when attendance is perfect, but more than 4 hours of unexcused absences may lower it.

**Extra Credit Options**

Students may earn extra credit equivalent to a day's attendance by volunteering for a minimum of 3 hours in a community or civic event approved by the instructor, and preparing a minimum one page typewritten report on their experiences and observations. This option may be repeated up to three times for extra credit.

Students are highly encouraged to co-enroll in ICTR 87, Service Learning Practicum, for a minimum of 2 units and produce a written journal and paper based on the field experiences required in that course. This is a paid opportunity in multicultural education in which students earn $10/hr during their time in the field. At the discretion of the instructor, this excellent extra credit project can raise the student's course evaluation up to one full letter grade. The practicum is an urban educational experience highly regarded by Stockton schools and an excellent way for students to involve themselves in the community and gain insights into the uses of sociological perspectives.

**University Honor Code**

The University Honor Code is in effect at all times during the course. It is a violation of the Honor Code to give or receive information from another student during an examination; to use unauthorized sources during an examination; or to submit all or part of someone else's work as one's own. A complete statement of the Honor Code may be found in the Student Handbook, Tiger Lore. Understanding and adherence to the University Honor Code is the responsibility of the student.

**Texts**

Students should purchase the following from the bookstore.


You will find these sources useful throughout your entire program of sociological study. The Babbie text will also be used in SOCI 175, Social Research Methods. Selections from the following will also be placed on reserve in the Library.
Topics

(1) What is sociology? (Weeks 1, 2)

Fields of study and the breadth of the discipline.
Approaches to sociological knowledge: organization of the major.
Explanation versus "facts and information."
Is sociology a profession?

Sociology is a field of study characterized by its breadth. Consequently no single sociologist can master the entire field. A look at the discipline of sociology can provide insights into the role that the organization of sociology plays in developing and maintaining a field of knowledge, and the way a small group of sociologists (i.e., in the Department of Sociology at UOP) can organize a program which can empower you to reasonably understand the social world around you.

Goals: To introduce you to the organization of the discipline and ways that sociologists approach sociological understanding.


Practicum: Learning through discussion: sociological interests, careers, domains of expertise and professionalization.
Critical thinking and analysis: Does it pay to go to college?
What is the sociological imagination? (Weeks 3, 4)

Sociology and the liberal arts
“Levels” of sociological analysis
Understanding the structural and cultural contexts of human behavior.

A fundamental problem faced by individuals living in a modern society, according to the late sociologist C. Wright Mills, was the inability to recognize the way the daily lives of individuals are embedded and influenced by broader historical and social forces, i.e., that public problems were experienced as “private troubles.” Perhaps this is a particular problem of American individualism. Regardless, one of the key contributions sociological study can make to a life intelligently lived is to understand the way social forces influence human behavior -- our own and that of others. This sort of understanding is fundamental to the ability of a liberally educated person to make intelligent, critical decisions in civic and professional life.

Goals: To help you understand what sociologists mean by the sociological imagination and the ways sociological study can contribute toward its realization.

Mills. The Promise. The Sociological Imagination.
Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life.

Practicum: Learning through discussion: Perspectives on poverty.
Lab assignment (1): Framing sociological questions. (9/18)
Lab assignment (2): Is welfare reform a success? (9/25)
Lab assignment (3): Answering a sociological question. (10/12)

How do sociologists investigate social phenomena? (Weeks 5, 6, 7)

Types of research, types of data.
Qualitative and quantitative investigations.
Replication and triangulation.
Is sociology a science?

Sociologists have devised a variety of ways to gather and interpret data on social phenomena, ranging from observation to surveys and experiments. Each has its own particular strengths and limitations; however, studying phenomena using a variety of techniques has enabled sociologists to develop insights not otherwise available. Possession of even introductory level research skill can be quite useful in academic and professional life.
Goals: To introduce the vocabulary of research and help you develop basic research skills which can be developed further in other courses.


Practicum: Learning research skills in the laboratory.
Lab assignment (4): Initial SPSS data analysis. (10/13)

Midterm #1. About 10/11

(4) What do sociologists attempt to investigate? (Weeks 8, 9, 10, 11, 12)

Culture, history, organizations and social institutions.
Fundamental issues: difference, diversity, deviance, social organization and the quality of life.

Sociologists focus their studies on subfields such as those represented at UOP because individual interest. However, studies in specialized fields often yield insights into broader issues of fundamental interest to sociologists having to do with sociological diversity, inter-group relations and inequality. Thus, as the student pursues more specialized studies through the emphases available through the major, other requirements or electives, he or she begins to develop these broader understandings.

Goal: To introduce you to fields of study of particular importance in the major.


Practicum: Presenting research results.
Critical thinking and analysis: Who's bringing up the children?
Lab assignment (5): Preparing an abstract of a sociological research paper. (10/23)
Lab assignment (6): Two fisted Jane. (10/30)
Lab Assignment (7) SPSS transformations and statistical tests. (11/3)

(5) How do sociologists develop explanations? (Weeks 13, 14)

Concepts, theories and paradigms.

Sociologists develop their knowledge in part through careful definition of concepts common to sociology, and through their use in explaining and predicting individual and group behavior. Practice in using concepts and explaining sociological phenomena at various levels of analysis becomes a tool improving the quality of sociological study.

Goals: To help you understand what sociologists mean by 'theory' and 'theory construction,' and to see how theoretical explanations can be tested through continued practice of your research skills.


Practicum: Using research skills to analyze data.
Lab assignment (8): Using the General Social Survey – GSS (11/10)
Lab assignment (9): Preparing a research proposal. (11/20)
Lab assignment (10): Preparing a research report. (12/4)

(6) Developing Your Sociological Knowledge (Weeks 15, 16)

What is a profession?
Can sociological study prepare students for professional careers?
Linking sociological knowledge to professional concerns.

Past experience suggests that most sociology majors aspire to professional careers. What is a career? What makes an occupation a profession? Sociologists have much to say about this since they have performed the majority of the research on these questions. Past experience also suggests that sociology students who do pursue professional careers often develop a domain of sociological knowledge which provides foundations for professional practice. Thus, learning to identify linkages between sociological knowledge and professional practice can become a useful first step in the career development process.

Goal: To encourage you to explore how materials mastered in this course can be applied to practical issues of concern to sociologically prepared professionals.

Practicum: Lab assignment (11): Preparing a portfolio of your work. (12/22)

Midterm #2: About 12/13

(7) Final: In-class final paper. December 22, 9:00-11:00 AM