

Spring 2012 Graduate Course Descriptions

404 Sociological Perspectives II

A survey of substantive, theoretical and methodological issues in the field, with a particular emphasis on exposure to original research in areas that are current strengths in the department.

Outcome: Students will gain familiarity with a range of substantive, theoretical and methodological concerns in contemporary sociology.

406 Modern Sociological Theory

This course examines some of the dominant perspectives and trends of modern social theory.

Outcome: Students will develop familiarity with the primary sources that represent current trends in modern and postmodern theories.

412 Qualitative Methods in Social Research

This course is an introduction to the major qualitative methods of social inquiry and the ethical issues raised by qualitative research. Research settings studied range from informal groups and communities to formal organizations.

Outcome: Students learn the skills of participant observation, interviewing, historical analysis, building theory from qualitative data, coding and content analysis.

426 Sociology of Gender

This course surveys sociological and related scholarship on women and gender relations.

Outcome: Students explore a basic concept in sociology and learn to view societies through the lens of gender.

441 Sociology of Religion

This course studies the relationship between religion and society, and explores central topics in the sociology of religion.

Outcome: Students will learn to define and explain religious organizations, beliefs, and practices as distinctly social phenomena. They will apply sociological methods to understand how social processes shape the form and content of religious life and how religious institutions and individual beliefs and practices in turn shape the social world.

490 Workshop in Applied Sociology (1 credit hour)

Focus on special topics relevant to the development, application and transmission of public sociology in a variety of settings.

Outcome: Students will develop expertise in the varying topics.

494 Sociology Internship

Placements are typically in non-academic settings, e.g., government agencies, community organizations, businesses, or labor organizations. Internships are supervised by a faculty committee. Students are expected to work a minimum of 300 hours and write an internship report. Three hours of this course may be counted toward M.A. course work and six hours toward Ph.D. course work.

Outcome: Students will develop skills in applying sociological methods and theoretical perspectives to the understanding and ameliorating of social issues in real world settings.

497 Independent Study Workshop

Students who wish to carry out independent study will meet as a workshop, under the guidance of a faculty member.

Outcome: Students will develop the skills and dispositions necessary to be successful and productive in independent work. These skills are important for expeditious completion of proposals, theses, and dissertations.

499 Directed Study

Students will explore a field of study of their own choosing under the guidance of faculty.

Outcome: Students will acquire expertise in their chosen topic.

595 Thesis Supervision

Work on Master's thesis under faculty supervision

Outcome: Students will complete a Master's thesis.

600 Dissertation Supervision

Work on doctoral dissertation under faculty supervision

Outcome: Students will complete a doctoral dissertation.

605 Master's Study**610 Doctoral Study**