Department of Sociology

Social Work (SW)

Program Director: Melinda Pilkinton
Office: 297 Bowen Hall

The Social Work Program at Mississippi State University is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Social work is a challenging and rewarding profession with the primary goal of enhancing individual functioning and promoting human rights and social and economic justice. The Bachelor of Social Work graduate is prepared to pursue graduate social work education or to work as a generalist social work practitioner in a variety of practice settings. These include, but are not limited to the following: child welfare service agencies, family services, medical hospitals, mental health clinics, public health clinics, home health agencies, nursing homes, industries, juvenile and family court, shelters for battered women and children, neighborhood and community services.

The Social Work curriculum is grounded in a liberal arts perspective. This liberal arts perspective enhances the person-in-environment focus of generalist social work practice. A student may declare social work as a major at any time in his or her academic career. There is a formal admission process into the program. Some upper division courses are restricted to students who have been admitted to the program. To be eligible for admission to the social work program students must:

1. Have a cumulative GPA of 2.0;
2. Complete two of the following social work courses with a minimum grade of "C": SW 2303 Social Welfare Policy I, SW 3003 Social work with At-Risk Populations, and SW 3013 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I;
3. Complete SW 2313 Intro to Social Work (including 30 hrs of service learning experience) with a minimum grade of B;
4. Complete an "Application for Admission"; and
5. Complete an application with three reference letters and participate in a personal interview with Social Work Admissions Committee.

The following liberal arts courses must be completed prior to petition for admission to the major:

EN 1103	English Composition I	3
or EN 1163	Accelerated Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	
MA 1313	College Algebra	3
BIO 1004	Anatomy and Physiology	4
PS 1113	American Government	3
PSY 1013	General Psychology	3
SO 1003	Introduction to Sociology	3
EC 2113	Principles of Macroeconomics	3

Before enrolling in any social work classes, it is the responsibility of the student to consult with their social work advisor regarding any prerequisites for social work classes.

The criteria for remaining in the program include:

1. Maintain an overall GPA of 2.0, with a 2.5 GPA for all social work courses.
2. Must earn a minimum of a "C" in each social work course.
3. Continue to demonstrate an aptitude for a social work career.
4. Adhere to all academic expectations of the university and the social work program.
5. Adhere to the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics.

Sociology (SO)

Undergraduate Advisor: Mary Ann Dean
Graduate Advisor: Stacy Haynes
Office: 207 Bowen Hall

The following degree programs are offered: Bachelor of Arts, Master of Science, and Doctor of Philosophy.

Sociology is the scientific study of social life. With an interest in understanding human behavior, sociologists study such phenomena as deviant behavior, social organization, stratification, population, community, social institutions, race and ethnic relations, social problems, theory and methods of research.

Sociology majors are well prepared to enter many rewarding positions in the work force right out of college or further graduate training in law, business, community planning, architecture, medicine, politics or academics. Opportunities for employment include, but are not restricted to entry-level positions in administration, advertising, banking, counseling (family planning, career, substance abuse, etc.), health services, journalism, group and recreation work, marketing and market research, sales, non-profit organizations, teaching, criminal justice, social services and social research. In addition, sociology provides training that other liberal arts majors do not, such as the core elements of human interaction and relationships, and basic training for research analyst positions (in statistics and research methods, which include computer applications, for example).

Students are eligible for membership in the Mississippi Alpha chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Sociology Honor Society. To be considered for membership, a student must be an officially declared sociology major or demonstrate a serious interest in sociology, must be at least a junior, have at least a 3.00 overall GPA, and must have maintained a 3.00 GPA in sociology courses.

To earn a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in sociology, a student is required to take 36 hours of sociology.

All new freshmen desiring to major in Sociology will be admitted into the Sociology major in the College of Arts and Sciences at Mississippi State University. For all other students wishing to major in Sociology, to be eligible for admission to the Sociology program, students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above on all college work attempted prior to entering the major. The criteria for remaining in the program include:

1. Students must earn a minimum of a "C" in all Sociology courses. Students earning a grade lower than C in a Sociology course must retake that course.
2. Students must maintain an overall GPA of 2.0 or above. Students who fall below the overall GPA of 2.0 must bring it up to 2.0 the next semester of drop the Sociology major.

Sociology Major Course Requirements

The sociology major consists of a sequence of four levels of courses ranging from introductory to the more advanced and capstone courses. Students are expected to complete courses in the lower levels before taking courses in the more advanced levels. For example, students should complete Level 1 courses before completing Level II courses, etc. The lower level courses are prerequisites for the advanced level courses.

Required courses include: SO 1003 Introduction to Sociology, SO 2203 Cultural and Racial Minorities, SO 3103 Social Theory I, SO 3213 Introduction to Social Research, and SO 4804 Social Research Practice.

Students are also required to take one of the following courses: SO 3003 Social Inequality, SO 3013 Society and the Individual, or SO 3053 Organizations in Modern Society.

Finally, students must select any seven additional sociology courses, including any of those not listed above. A minimum of six of these courses must be 3000 or 4000 level.

Sociology Minor

To earn a minor in sociology, a student must take 18 hours of undergraduate sociology courses. SO 1003, SO 2203, and SO 3213 are required. The other three SO courses must be the 2000 level or above and include at least one 4000 level SO course.

Students who wish to major or minor in the department should plan their programs with the departmental major advisor as soon as possible after entering the University and should consult with their advisor before each registration period. Programs are arranged individually to combine the most varied advantages consistent with the student's interest and purposes. Persons interested in secondary school teaching may elect sufficient courses in the College of Education to satisfy certification requirements for teaching social studies.

Criminology (CRM)

Major Advisor: Mary Ann Dean
Office: 207 Bowen Hall

The following degree program is offered: Bachelor of Arts.

Criminology, as a field, explores the nature and causes of crime. Criminology also examines the impact crime has on society and how society responds to the social problem of crime. The Bachelor's degree in Criminology will emphasize the study of types, patterns and trends in criminal behavior; the social etiology of crime; and the social response to crime and its effect on society. The program will also train students to analyze crime data, test explanations of crime and victimization, and critically evaluate crime theory and policy.

The Criminology program is appropriate for students wishing to pursue career paths in all justice related fields including: law enforcement; probation and parole; community based prevention and control programs; court based programs; and corrections. Because our program provides for a broad knowledge of the nature and trends of crime and an understanding of crime control policy along with methodological and critical thinking skills, our

students will be prepared to assume positions of leadership across a range of career paths in crime and justice related professions, as well as be prepared for post-graduate studies in Sociology, Criminology, and Law and Legal Studies.

All new freshmen desiring to major in Criminology will be admitted into the Criminology major in the College of Arts and Sciences at Mississippi State University. For all other students wishing to major in Criminology, to be eligible for admission to the Criminology program, students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above on all college work attempted prior to entering the major. The criteria for remaining in the program include:

1. Students must earn a minimum of a "C" in all Criminology and Sociology courses. Students earning a grade lower than C in a Criminology or Sociology course must retake that course.
2. Students must maintain an overall GPA of 2.0 or above. Students who fall below the overall GPA of 2.0 must bring it up to 2.0 the next semester of drop the Criminology major.

Criminology Major Requirements

The BA in Criminology is a 36 credit hour major and is housed in the Sociology Department. All students will complete 18 hours in required course work: CRM 1003 Crime and Justice in America, CRM 2003 Crime, Justice, and Inequality, CRM 3603 Criminological Theory, SO 3213 Introduction to Social Research, SO 4804 Social Research Practice, and CRM 4803 Senior Seminar in Criminology. Students will then be required to take a minimum of three hours in each of three sub-areas of the program. The sub-areas are: Criminal Behavior and Motivation, Social Dimensions of Crime, and Crime Control Policy and Practice. Lastly, students will be required to take an additional nine hours of 3000- or 4000-level criminology electives.

Senior Internships will also be available as an elective. Internships will be available at various crime and justice related agencies. To do an internship a student must have completed 24 hours of coursework within the criminology major and have earned a minimum of a 2.5 GPA in said coursework. Students will meet with the Criminology Program Coordinator to discuss the selection of an appropriate internship site. Students will be expected to have a minimum of 150 contact hours with the sponsoring internship agency, as well as meet specific course assignments. Students would register for CRM 3316 Criminology Internship as a six credit hour course.

A senior thesis option is available for students who have completed a minimum of 24 hours of coursework within criminology and have at least a 3.0 GPA in said coursework. Students who qualify and have an interest in the senior thesis option will work individually with a faculty member to produce a research paper on an approved topic in criminology. The thesis option is elective and designed for students wishing to pursue graduate school in criminology or a related field. Students would register for CRM 4000 Directed Individual Study in Criminology: Senior Thesis as a six credit hour course.

Social Work

General Education and College Requirements

English Composition

EN 1103	English Composition I	3
or EN 1163	Accelerated Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	
Foreign Language		
2 semesters - one Foreign Language - see advisor		6
Humanities [1]		
Literature - see General Education courses		3
History - see General Education courses		3
PHI 1103	Introduction to Philosophy	3
or PHI 1113	Introduction to Logic	
Literature Elective		3
History Elective		3
Humanities Elective		3
Mathematics		
MA 1313	College Algebra	3
ST 2113	Introduction to Statistics	3
Fine Arts		
See A&S Core List		3
Natural Sciences		
BIO 1004	Anatomy and Physiology	4
Physical Sciences w/lab (CH, GG, PH) [2]		3-4
Natural Science Elective [1]		3-4

Social Sciences		
SO 1003	Introduction to Sociology	3
PS 1113	American Government	3
SW 3003	Social work with At-Risk Populations	3
PSY 1013	General Psychology	3
EC 2113	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
AN 1103	Introduction to Anthropology	3
or AN 1143	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
Major Core		
See advisor for course sequencing		
SW 2303	Social Welfare Policy I	3
SW 2313	Introduction to Social Work/Social Welfare	3
SW 2323	Social Welfare Policy II [3]	3
SW 3013	Human Behavior and the Social Environment I	3
SW 3023	Human Behavior and the social Environment II [3]	3
SW 4613	Child Welfare Services	3
SW 3213	Research Methods in Social Work [3]	3
Choose one of the following:		3
SW 4623	Social Work with the Aged	
SW 4633	Social Work in Health Care	
SW 4643	Social Work Services in Schools	
SW 4533	Substance Abuse and Addictions in Social Work Services	
Students must successfully complete a formal admissions process prior to taking the following courses		
SW 3513	Social Work Practice I [3]	3
SW 3523	Social Work Practice II [3]	3
SW 3533	Social Work with Communities and Organizations	3
Field Work includes full-time placement for one semester in a supervised agency setting.		
SW 4916	Social Work Field Practicum/Seminar I [3]	6
SW 4926	Social Work Practicum/Seminar II [3]	6
Oral Communication Requirement		
CO 1003	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
Writing Requirement		
SW 4713	Social Work Senior Seminar [3]	3
Computer Literacy		
TKT 1273	Computer Applications	3
General Electives		
Consult advisor		2
Total Hours		**124**

(31 hours must be A&S 3000/4000 level)

[1]   Consult advisor.

[2]   See General Education courses.

[3]   Course has prerequisite. Check course description in back of this catalog or consult advisor.

Sociology

General Education and College Requirements

English Composition		
EN 1103	English Composition I	3
or EN 1163	Accelerated Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	
Foreign Language		

3 semesters - one Foreign Language - see advisor		9
Humanities		
Literature - see General Education courses		3
History - see General Education courses		3
Philosophy - see General Education courses		3
Humanities Electives - Must be from 2 different areas - see A&S Core list		9
Mathematics		
MA 1313	College Algebra	3
Mathematics higher than MA 1313		3
Fine Arts		
See A&S Core List		3
Natural Sciences		
Physical Sciences w/lab (CH, GG, PH) [1]		3-4
Biological Sciences w/lab (BIO, EPP, PO) [1]		3-4
Natural Science Elective - see General Education courses [2]		3-4
Social Sciences		
See Major Core Level I		
Major Core		
Courses in the major are sequenced by level.		
Level I: Intro to the discipline		
Social Sciences - Must be from 2 different areas and must cross 4 disciplines over the 18 hours. Only one Economics allowed. See advisor.		
SO 1003	Introduction to Sociology	3
PS 1113	American Government	3
EC 2113	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
see General Education courses		3
Social Science courses - see A&S Core list		6
Level II: Sociology Substantive Core		
SO 2203	Cultural and Racial Minorities	3
Choose one of the following:		3
SO 3003	Social Inequality	
SO 3013	Society and the Individual	
SO 3053	Organizations in Modern Society	
Level III: Tools and Skills		
SO 3103	Social Theory I	3
SO 3213	Introduction to Social Research	3
SO 4804	Social Research Practice	4
Level IV: Sociology General Upper Division Core		21
Select any seven additional sociology courses, including any of those not listed above. A minimum of six of these courses must be 3000 or 4000 level.		
Oral Communication Requirement		
CO 1003	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
or CO 1013	Introduction to Communication	
Writing Requirement		
Satisfied by successful completion of SO 3103		
Computer Literacy		
Satisfied by successful completion of SO 4804		
General Electives		
Consult advisor		15
Total Hours		124
(31 hours must be 3000/4000 from A&S)		

Criminology

General Education and College Requirements

English Composition

EN 1103	English Composition I	3
or EN 1163	Accelerated Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	
Foreign Languages		
3 Semesters - one Foreign Language – see advisor		9
Humanities		
Literature – see General Education Courses		3
History – see General Education Courses		3
Philosophy – see General Education Courses		3
Humanities Electives - Must be from 2 different areas – see A&S Core		9
Mathematics		
MA 1313	College Algebra	3
Elective Mathematics higher than MA 1313		3
Fine Arts		
See A&S Core		3
Natural Sciences		
Physical Sciences w/lab (CH, GG, PH) see General Education Courses		3-4
Life Sciences w/lab (BIO, EPP, PO) see General Education Courses		3-4
Natural Science Elective		3
Social Sciences		
SO 1003	Introduction to Sociology	3
PS 1113	American Government	3
PSY 1013	General Psychology	3
see A&S Core		9
Major Core		
CRM 1003	Crime and Justice in America	3
CRM 2003	Crime, Justice, and Inequality	3
CRM 3603	Criminological Theory	3
SO 3213	Introduction to Social Research	3
SO 4804	Social Research Practice	4
CRM 4803	Senior Seminar in Criminology	3
Major Electives		
Criminal Behavior and Motivation Area		
Choose one of the following:		3
CRM 3313	Deviant Behavior.	
CRM 3503	Violence in the United States	
CRM 4233	Juvenile Delinquency	
CRM 4243	Drugs, Crime and Control	
CRM 4253	White Collar Crime and Elite Deviance	
Social Dimensions of Crime Area		
Choose one of the following:		3
CRM 3343	Gender, Crime, and Justice	
CRM 3353	Race, Crime and Justice	
CRM 3363	Globalization and Crime	
CRM 4323	Victimology	
CRM 4343	Media, Crime and Justice	
Crime Control Policy and Practice Area		

Choose one of the following:		3
CRM 3103	Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice	
CRM 3113	Community Crime Prevention and Policy	
CRM 3123	Policing and Society	
CRM 4513	Correctional Systems	
CRM 4523	Law and Society	
Upper Level Electives		9
Select any three criminology courses at the 3000- or 4000-level		
Oral Communication Requirement		
CO 1003	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
or CO 1013	Introduction to Communication	
Writing Requirement		
Satisfied by successful completion of CRM 3603		
Computer Literacy		
Satisfied by successful completion of SO 3213		
General Electives		
Consult advisor		15
Total Hours		124

(31 hours must be 3000/4000 from A&S)