Sociology Courses

Summer 2019

Detailed descriptions of Sociology courses offered in the upcoming semester.

The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Conference Training Center 203, Huntsville, AL 35899
256.824.6190  www.uah.edu/sociology  soc@uah.edu
An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution
The following 100-level courses in Maymester and Summer Session I have no prerequisites and count toward Charger Foundations.

**SOC 100 | Introduction to Sociology (3 hours)**
*Dr. Mitch Berbrier | Online*

This course is designed as an overall introduction to the field of sociology. The course generally begins with an introduction to the goals of sociological research, the methods used by sociologists, and some of the basic concepts of what “society” and “culture” are. This course will include study of the major social processes—socialization, deviation, stratification, power, and social change—and how they develop in the context of major social institutions—gender, race, the family, the economy, the educational system, the political system, and many more. A main goal of this course is to develop a “theoretical perspective” on these kinds of things; in other words, sociologists are not just interested in “the educational system” or “gender relations,” but in understanding why things are the way they are, and how they came to be that way.

**SUMMER SESSION I 2019**

**SOC 100 | Introduction to Sociology (3 hours)**
*Dr. Kyle Knight | Online*  
See above description.

**SOC 105 | Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (3 hours)**
*Dr. Bhavani Sitaraman | Online*  
This course introduces you to the discipline of anthropology through a focus on cultural anthropology. The course explores how anthropologists define and study “culture” and cultural differences. You will learn key concepts and theoretical perspectives in cultural anthropology and apply them to original ethnographic texts you read. You will also learn to apply anthropological ideas to understand culture in everyday life and in the context of contemporary global issues. The course is organized around the following topics: (a) origin and development of anthropological approaches to culture (b) fieldwork and ethnographic description of cultures (c) cultural materialism and idealism as perspectives (d) kinship and marriage (e) power, prestige and inequalities (f) religion, art and symbolic systems (g) politics (h) cultural change.
The following lower-division sociology courses in Summer Session I are open to students who have completed SOC 100.

**SOC 340 | Special Topics: Sociology of Sexuality (3 hours)**  
*Dr. Jennifer Sims*

Sociology of Sexuality will be a social science research informed examination of how sex, sexuality, and sexual orientation are diversely constructed and experienced in society.

**SOC 303 | Statistics for the Social Sciences (3 hours)**  
*Dr. Kyle Knight | Online*

This course is required for all sociology majors because familiarity with statistical methods is an integral part of understanding and participating in sociological research. This course is an introduction to the basic concepts and skills involved in performing statistical analyses of quantitative social data. In the first part of the course, we will concentrate on descriptive statistics. These include measures of central tendency, variation, and distribution that allow social scientists to *describe* social phenomena. We will then move on to inferential statistics, which allow social scientists to *infer* types of relationships between two or more variables. The concepts and skills learned in this part of the course include calculation of measures of association, calculation of confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing, including an introduction to basic regression methods. Assessment will consist of three exams, homework and lab assignments.
## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

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## SOCIOLOGY FACULTY

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Institution and Year</th>
<th>Courses</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bhavani Sitaraman</td>
<td>Chair and Associate Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sitarab@uah.edu">sitarab@uah.edu</a></td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Massachusetts, 1990</td>
<td>Intro to Cultural Anthropology, Research Methods, Statistics for Social Sciences, Sociology of Religion, Sociology of Globalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Knight</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kyle.knight@uah.edu">kyle.knight@uah.edu</a></td>
<td>Ph.D., Washington State University, 2012</td>
<td>Intro to Sociology, Research Methods, Statistics for Social Sciences, Environmental Sociology, Sociology of Environmental Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Sims</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jennifer.sims@uah.edu">jennifer.sims@uah.edu</a></td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2014</td>
<td>Intro to Sociology, Race and Ethnicity, Sociology of Sexuality, Qualitative Research Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christina Steidl</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:christina.steidl@uah.edu">christina.steidl@uah.edu</a></td>
<td>Ph.D., Emory University, 2012</td>
<td>Intro to Sociology, Sociological Theory, Social Stratification, Sociology of Education, Sociology of Social Movements, Senior Capstone Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitch Berbrier</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:berbrim@uah.edu">berbrim@uah.edu</a></td>
<td>Ph.D., Indiana University, 1996</td>
<td>Intro to Sociology, Analysis of Social Problems, Deviance and Social Control</td>
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