

# SOCIOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Look inside for Spring 2012  
Course Offerings....



UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTHERN MAINE**

Hello Sociology majors, minors, and potential majors! We hope this newsletter will be a useful resource for you when choosing your courses for the Spring 2012 semester in addition to providing useful information about the major and minor.

In this newsletter you will find: degree requirements for the major & minor, a list of department members and their contact information, as well as a detailed list of our Spring 2012 course offerings.

*Advance registration for Spring 2012 will begin Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and runs through Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. Faculty will be taking appointments beginning Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.*

*You must meet with your academic advisor before you can register for Spring 2012 classes - appointment sign-up sheets will be available soon. Please call me at 780-4100 to schedule an appointment.*

Department of Sociology  
120 Bedford Street  
207-780-4100  
[www.usm.maine.edu/sociology](http://www.usm.maine.edu/sociology)

## Department Faculty:

John Baugher, 780-4490,  
[jbaugher@usm.maine.edu](mailto:jbaugher@usm.maine.edu)

Donna Bird, 780-4102  
[donnab@usm.maine.edu](mailto:donnab@usm.maine.edu)

Wendy Chapkis, 780-4757,  
[chapkis@usm.maine.edu](mailto:chapkis@usm.maine.edu)

Ed Collom, 228-8385,  
[collom@usm.maine.edu](mailto:collom@usm.maine.edu)

Luisa Deprez, 780-4763,  
[deprez@usm.maine.edu](mailto:deprez@usm.maine.edu)

Rolf Diamon, 780-4758,  
[rdiamon@usm.maine.edu](mailto:rdiamon@usm.maine.edu)

Cheryl Laz, 780-4101,  
[cherlaz@usm.maine.edu](mailto:cherlaz@usm.maine.edu)

David Wagner, 780-4764  
[wagner@usm.maine.edu](mailto:wagner@usm.maine.edu)

## Department Staff:

Jill Jordan-MacLean, 780-4100  
[jjordan@usm.maine.edu](mailto:jjordan@usm.maine.edu)

***Degree Requirements for a Sociology Major  
(38 hours)***

***Required Prerequisites for all advanced sociology courses (6 hours):***

SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology  
SOC 210 Critical Thinking About Social Issues

***Required Courses (11 hours):***

SOC 300 Sociological Theory  
SOC 301 Qualitative Research Methods  
SOC 307 Quantitative Research Methods

***Required Course in Class Processes - Choose one course from the following (3 hours):***

SOC 312 Inequality and Power  
SOC 348 Sociology of Work  
SOC 358 Sociology of Women's Work  
SOC 359 Leisure and Consumption Under Global Capitalism  
SOC 392 Poverty: Policy & Perspectives  
SOC 393 Women, Welfare, and the State

***Elective Courses - choose 18 hours from among 300-level or above Sociology courses***

***Degree Requirements for a Sociology Minor  
(19 hours)***

SOC 100, Introduction to Sociology  
SOC 210, Critical Thinking About Social Issues  
SOC 300, Sociological Theory  
SOC 301, Qualitative Research Methods

**OR**

SOC 307, Quantitative Research Methods

**AND**

Six hours of 300-level or above Sociology elective courses.

**Please see the following pages for catalog course descriptions of courses proposed to be offered Spring 2012.**

***The Sociology Department is located at 120 Bedford Street on the Portland Campus. Jill Jordan-MacLean, our departmental Administrative Assistant II, is in Monday through Friday 7:30-4:00 and is always willing to assist students. She can be reached at: 780-4100 or by email: [jjordan@usm.maine.edu](mailto:jjordan@usm.maine.edu). If you have questions about the major or minor, please contact Jill or the Department Chair Cheryl Laz at [cherylaz@usm.maine.edu](mailto:cherylaz@usm.maine.edu) or 780-4101.***

---

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING REQUIRED COURSES**  
**Fall 2011 through Spring 2014**  
**Proposed schedule for offering SOC 300, SOC 301 and SOC 307**

<i>Fall 2011</i>	<i>Spring 2012</i>
<b>SOC 300</b> <b>SOC 301</b> <b>No SOC 307</b>	<b>SOC 300</b> <b>SOC 301</b> <b>SOC 307 Evening</b>
<i>Fall 2012</i>	<i>Spring 2013</i>
<b>No SOC 300</b> <b>SOC 301</b> <b>SOC 307</b>	<b>SOC 300 Evening</b> <b>No SOC 301</b> <b>SOC 307</b>
<i>Fall 2013</i>	<i>Spring 2014</i>
<b>SOC 300</b> <b>SOC 301 Evening</b> <b>No SOC 307</b>	<b>SOC 300</b> <b>SOC 301</b> <b>SOC 307</b>

## SPRING 2012 COURSES

**Advance registration for Spring begins November 7<sup>th</sup>**

### **SOC 100, Introduction to Sociology**

The fundamental concepts, principles, and methods of sociology; analyzes the influence of social and cultural factors upon human behavior; evaluates effect of group processes, social classes, stratification, and basic institutions on contemporary society.

- TTH 11:00-12:15, Gorham, Donna Bird
- TTH 2:00-3:15, Gorham, Donna Bird
- TTH 8:45-10:00, Rolf Diamon
- TTH 11:45-1:00, Rolf Diamon
- MW 1:15-2:30, David Wagner
- Monday, 5:35-8:05, James Stone

### **SOC 210, Critical Thinking About Social Issues**

Designed to follow Introduction to Sociology, this course further develops students' skills of critical analysis through the application of sociological principles to current social issues. The course uses popular media as well as sociological materials. Examples of issues which may be examined are: poverty, health care, homelessness, aging, drugs, violence, bureaucracy, white collar crime, and changing gender roles. Prerequisite: Successful completion of SOC 100 with a grade of C or better or permission of the instructor.

- Tuesday 4:10-6:40, Luisa Deprez
- TTH 11:45-1:00, Luisa Deprez
- MW 11:45-1:00, Rolf Diamon

### **SOC 300, Sociological Theory**

Critical evaluation of selected classical models of the social world. Includes consideration of the foundations of sociological thought, the content of major classical theories and theory groups, and the socio-cultural settings within which they developed. Prerequisite: completion of SOC 210 with a C or better or permission of instructor.

- [TTH 10:15-11:30, Cheryl Laz](#)

### **SOC 301, Qualitative Research Methods**

This course provides an overview of the process of social research utilizing qualitative methods. Topics include the logic and principles of the research process, as well as specific techniques in qualitative research (e.g., writing field notes, conducting interviews, analyzing qualitative data). A fieldwork/lab component allows students to apply research skills in settings outside the classroom. Prerequisite: completion of SOC 210 with a C or better or permission of the instructor.

- [MW 8:20-10:00, Rolf Diamon](#)

### **SOC 307, Quantitative Research Methods**

This course provides an overview of the social scientific research process, utilizing quantitative methods. Students generate research questions and testable hypotheses and analyze a variety of secondary data sources. Specific statistical topics include: measures of central tendency, measures of dispersion, t-testing, analysis of variance, cross-tabulation, measures of association, linear regression, and multiple regression. The course includes a computer lab component. . Prerequisite: completion of SOC 210ew with a C or better and completion of mathematics proficiency or permission of the instructor.

- [MW 4:10-5:50, Ed Collom](#)

### **SOC 331, School and Society**

This course examines the social organization of schooling and its social and political context in contemporary American society. Topics include the emergence of public education, role of state and community in shaping its nature, problems of access and equality, the organizational nature of schools, teaching as a profession, and alternatives to public education. Attention is given to public debates concerning the conditions, limits, and possibilities of schooling. Comparisons with educational systems of other countries are included when appropriate. Prerequisite: completion of SOC 210 with a C or better or permission of instructor.

- [Monday 1:15-3:45, Donna Bird](#)

### **SOC 358, Sociology of Gender**

This course examines gender as a social, cultural, and historical construction which occurs within and reinforces sex/gender stratification. With particular attention paid to education, the family, and work, we will explore sex/gender stratification—its sources and dynamics; historical and contemporary forms; and implications for human lives, history, and society. Prerequisite: completion of SOC 210 with C or better or permission of instructor.

- [Thursday 1:15-3:45, Cheryl Laz](#)

### **SOC 345, Hate Violence in the Contemporary United States**

This course offers an interdisciplinary look at hate violence beginning with a brief examination of some of the historical roots of contemporary hate violence in the United States. Students will then focus on major issues presented by hate violence from the mid-1980s to the present. In particular, students will examine the causes and impacts of hate violence and the legal and policy implications of how hate crimes have been addressed within the United States. Prerequisite: completion of SOC 210 with C or better or permission of instructor.

- [Wednesday 4:10-6:40, Stephen Wessler](#)

### **SOC 365, Sociology of the Body**

This course examines the body as a text marked by, and rendered meaningful through, social categories of race, gender, class, sexuality, disability, and disease. This writing- and reading-intensive course discusses both social constructionist and biological determinist perspectives on embodied difference. Prerequisites: completion of SOC 210e/w with C or better and one or more of SOC 300, SOC 316, WST 380, WST 390.

- [Tuesday 5:35-8:05, Wendy Chapkis](#)

### **SOC 371, Sociology of Race & Ethnicity**

Considers the factors that produce and maintain structured social inequality based on minority status, and the social consequences of such inequality. Includes analysis of selected minorities both in the U.S. and cross-culturally. Prerequisite: completion of SOC 210ew with a C or better or permission of the instructor.

- [Tuesday 1:15-3:45, David Wagner](#)

### **SOC 380, Animal Abuse**

Key questions about the nature and forms of animal abuse are subjected to interdisciplinary inquiry spanning sociology, criminology, moral philosophy, and law. The course begins with individualized forms of animal abuse, such as cruelty, neglect, and sexual assault. It then examines institutionalized forms of abuse in research, zoos, hunting, sport/entertainment,

and food production. Attention is also given to the link(s) between animal abuse and interhuman violence. Prerequisites: completion of SOC 210 C or better or permission of instructor.

- Friday 8:45-11:15, Piers Beirne

### **SOC 392, Poverty: Policy & Perspectives**

*This class will fulfill either elective credit or the Class Processes requirement.*

This course will analyze the causes of and responses to poverty in the United States. Relying on multidisciplinary literature, this course examines measures and theories of poverty; public, political, and policy debates; and the role of government in income distribution/redistribution. Particular attention will focus on issues of power, wealth, gender, and race, as well as education, health, housing, and place as factors inextricably linked to poverty. Prerequisites: completion of SOC 210 C or better, SOC 301 and SOC 307 recommended, or permission of instructor.

- Wednesday 1:15-3:45, Luisa Deprez

### **SOC 450, Undergraduate Teaching Assistantship**

In working closely with faculty, undergraduate teaching assistants will gain insight into course materials and into all aspects of college teaching. This experience will be especially valuable for students who plan to do graduate work in sociology and for students exploring a career in teaching. Teaching assistants also provide an additional resource for assistance, advice, and modeling. Undergraduate teaching assistants generally assist faculty in course preparation and delivery including

locating and reviewing materials for course use; assisting with the design of course schedule, exercises, assignments, and class presentations; lecturing and supervision of student groups; and providing feedback to students on their work. In addition, teaching assistants hold regular office hours. Enrollment in SOC 450 will depend on Departmental needs and course offerings. Selection is made by the faculty. Prerequisite: SOC majors by permission only.

Please see "Undergraduate Teaching Assistant Requirements and Application" under Departmental Forms on our website: [www.usm.maine.edu/sociology](http://www.usm.maine.edu/sociology) for additional information and to download the application.

### **SHOWCASE YOUR ACTIVITIES, TALENTS OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS!**

We know a lot of you do more than "just" go to school! You may have noticed that we have a bulletin board in the Department Office to showcase what you may be doing. But we need your help to keep this current as we don't always know about your activities, talents or accomplishments. Please bring us clipping, articles, what-have-you to brag about yourself! Let me know if you have any questions by calling me at 780-4100 or email me at [jjordan@usm.maine.edu](mailto:jjordan@usm.maine.edu).