

# BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY



## BE READY TO EXPLORE, ENGAGE AND THRIVE

Sociology will be satisfying, in the long run, only to those who can think of nothing more entrancing than to watch people and understand things human. – Peter Berger

### WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY?

Sociology is the systematic study of society, social groups, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Through an analysis and exploration of issues central in our personal lives, our communities, our nation, and the world sociology has become one of humankind's major sources of self-awareness in the 21st century. Sociologists study a variety of topics including family dynamics, crime and deviance, work and occupations, social welfare, health care, social movements, and race, social class and gender inequalities.

- + UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES
- + UNDERGRADUATE INTERNSHIPS
- + STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
- + STUDY ABROAD

The goals of the Sociology program are to:

- Provide students with an understanding of the organization, structure, and change of society.
- Analyze the social causes and consequence of human behavior.
- Teach students the analytical skills necessary to understand and interpret statistical data, research questions related to society and social behavior, and test sociological theories.
- Assist students in the development of effective critical thinking and communication skills.

### DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY & CRIMINOLOGY

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## CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

The Bachelor of Arts in Sociology requires 43 hours (14 courses) of coursework. Seven core courses are required (e.g. Introductory Sociology, Sociological Theory, Current Issues in Sociology) and students select an additional seven sociology electives that suit their individual and professional interests. Given the credit hour requirements of this degree program students can easily complete one, or more, academic minors and can, through careful planning with an academic advisor, double major.

## SAMPLE COURSEWORK

The Sociology of Deviant Behavior  
Sociological Theory  
Introduction to Social Work  
Sociology of Health and Health Care  
Social Psychology  
Research Methods for Collecting Social Data  
Race and Ethnic Relations  
Family and Society  
Sociology of Work and Occupations

## INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Students that meet internship requirements are eligible to complete internships with various social service, government, criminal justice, business, and non-profit organizations. Internships are non-graded, practical work experiences intended to expose students to a range of occupational opportunities. Successful completion of an internship can contribute up to 12 hours of upper-division credit toward graduation

## DEPARTMENTAL HONORS PROGRAM

The departmental honors program is designed for students who have begun upper division course work within the sociology major, are interested in advanced training, and want to pursue specialized interests. The program provides students the opportunity to develop and conduct an independent research project with guidance from a faculty mentor. Departmental honors classes are individualized course sections of either Sociological Theory or Research Methods for Collecting Social Data, independent research hours, independent study hours, and thesis hours, generally spread over four academic semesters. More information can be found at: [www.eiu.edu/sociology/honors.php](http://www.eiu.edu/sociology/honors.php)

## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

### Sociology-Anthropology Club

Student-run organization open to all students with an interest in sociology and anthropology. The club provides opportunities to interact with students and faculty outside the classroom, engage in both social and service activities on campus and in the community, and gain leadership experience.

### Alpha Kappa Delta

Open to qualified students, the department has an active chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta, the international sociology honor society. The mission of Alpha Kappa Delta is to acknowledge and promote excellence in scholarship in the study of sociology, the research of social problems, and other social and intellectual activities that will lead to improvement in the human condition.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

One of the many advantages of a degree in sociology is that it prepares students for a range of career options. Those with an undergraduate degree in sociology have found employment in diverse fields including: social and community services, human resources, law enforcement, social work, sales and marketing, social science research, and public relations. The sociology degree also prepares students for graduate-level study in sociology, social work, counseling, law, college student affairs, and other social science disciplines.

