Faculty: Archison, Beckley, Byrd, Cuevas, Harland, Kunz, Loya, Price, Rhoades, Speer, Stuart.

The Department of Psychology, Sociology and Social Work includes the disciplines of psychology, sociology and social work with majors in each area. Psychology’s scientific study of behavior and mental processes includes application of psychological principles to human conditions. Sociology is the systematic study of human society and the influences of social systems on human behavior. The professional program in social work prepares students in helping individuals, groups and communities enhance or restore social functioning.

Studies in behavioral sciences offer diverse perspectives to students who want to learn more about individual and group behavior. Fundamentals of the disciplines are stressed, and students learn the importance of developing problem-solving and research skills. They learn ways of relating to issues confronting individuals and society. The behavioral sciences provide relevant preparation for many different vocations. Graduate study and a career in psychology, sociology or social work also may be the ultimate objective.

University Core Curriculum Requirements

Refer to the “University Core Curriculum” section of this catalog.

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)/Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree
(May be either depending on option selected.)

Major in Psychology (Major Code: 119)

University core curriculum requirements as outlined below in the curriculum guide for major in psychology.

Psychology Core Requirements

42 semester hours, including PSYC 2301, 2272, 2314, 3310, 3311, 3360 or 3355, 4319, and two courses from PSYC 3350, 3320, 3430 or 3335, plus nine to 10 hours of psychology electives, nine of which must be advanced SOCW 2361 and SOCI 1301 or ANTH 2351 are also required.

Prerequisite for Advanced Psychology Classes

PSYC 2301 is the prerequisite for all advanced (3000- and 4000-level) courses except PSYC 3310.

Options in Psychology

Option I—Professional Psychology

The Professional Psychology Option follows recommendations from nationwide graduate programs and prepares students to pursue a master’s or a doctorate degree in various psychology specializations.

Recommended courses for any graduate specialization:
- BIOL 1406, 1406L and 1407, 1407L as lab science core curriculum.
- BIOL 2401, 2401L and 2402, 2402L as bachelor of science degree requirements.
- SOCI 1301 or ANTH 2351.

Additional recommended courses for clinical or counseling psychology:
- PSYC 3360, 3355, 4361, 4371, 4377 and 3350.
- SOCW 2361.
- CD 2301.

Additional recommended courses for forensic psychology:
- PSYC 3373, 3350, 3335 and 3360.
- SCOM 1321 and 3303.
- PHIL 2303.
- CRIJ 1306, 3322 and 2328.
- SOCI 3370, 3374 and 4302.

Additional recommended courses for neuroscience:
- PSYC 3320 and 4324.
- CHEM 1410, 2523, 2525.

Consult with departmental faculty for recommendations on other psychology specializations.
Option II—General Psychology

The General Psychology Option provides a background for students whose career goals are in psychology-related fields (e.g., entering law school or the ministry) but not in becoming a psychologist.

- SOCI 1301 and 1306.
- ANTH 2351.

Requirements & Electives

- Three hours of upper-division non-SOCW elective hours from CRJ, ECON, SCOM, SOCI, POSC, PSYC or another department by advisement.
- For other electives, students should consult faculty advisers.

Criteria for Admission into the Social Work Program

All students registering as social work majors will be considered pre-majors before they are officially admitted into the Social Work Program. Criteria for admission into the Social Work Program are:

1. Completion of the University's core curriculum courses, including BIOL.
2. Completion of the beginning-level social work courses—SOCW 2361, 2315 and 3301. A student must have earned a grade of “C” or better in the above three courses.
3. An overall cumulative grade point of 2.25 or higher.
4. An application for admission to the Social Work Program accompanied by (1) at least two letters of reference from people who can attest to the student's desire and commitment to helping people, and (2) the student's latest transcripts.
5. Filing of a degree plan with the dean of the College of Education and Social Sciences.

*Exceptions to these criteria will be considered on an individual basis. A letter must be written explaining the request and submitted with the program application to be considered by the program committee.

Prerequisite for Advanced Work

SOCW 2361, 2315 and 3301 or permission of instructor is required for all advanced work. An overall grade point average of 2.25 or higher is a prerequisite for admission into field instruction courses, SOCW 4688 and 4698. See individual course descriptions for additional prerequisite.
Major in Sociology (Major Code: 122)

Minimum degree requirements for degree are 120 semester credit hours.

University Core Curriculum Requirements

(Refer to the “University Core Curriculum” section of this catalog and the “Curriculum Guide, Major in Sociology.”)

NOTE: Sociology majors are urged to consult closely with departmental advisers regarding electives in the department. This is equally true for students planning to seek employment after earning baccalaureate degrees, for students planning graduate study in sociology, and for students with double majors in social work or criminal justice.

Sociology Core Requirements

• 36 semester hours, including SOCI 1301, 1306, 3362, 4302, 4321, 4361, 4362.

Required Courses from Other Departments

Students are urged to consult with their departmental adviser regarding course work in other departments.

Prerequisite for Advanced Work

• SOCI 1301 is required for all advanced courses except SOCI 3311, 3342, 3094, 4311, 4321, 4325 and 4351.

Certificate in Demography (24 semester hours)

Courses: SOCI 1301, 3311, 3362, 4099, 4302, 4315, 4321, 4362.