

Social Science

The curriculum in the social science minor is designed to provide a broad exposure through course selection from several disciplines.

Minor

The student is required to complete courses in each of three departments listed below (18 semester hours). Those seeking exceptions to the specified courses, or students wishing to apply courses taken elsewhere to the minor, must receive approval of the chairperson of the department of Psychology, Sociology and Social Work. (*Note:* this minor does not satisfy Secondary Education approval for social studies; see Secondary Education (<http://catalog.mtmercy.edu/archives/2015-16/curriculum/education/#secondaryeducationtext>) section of this *Catalog* for courses that do. This does not satisfy the requirements for an elementary education area of concentration/minor).

Economics

EC 251	Macroeconomics Principles	3
EC 252	Microeconomic Principles	3

Political Science

PO 102	Government and Politics Around the World	3
PO 204	Political Parties, Voters and Elections	3
PO 406	Major Political Problems	3

Psychology

PS 205	Psychology Of Adjustment	3
PS 221	Social Psychology	3
PS 306	Abnormal Psychology	3
PS 319	Classic Theories of Personality	3

Sociology

SO 176	Criminology	3
SO 202	Marriage and Family	3
SO 327	Social Change and Technology	3

History

Any two upper division courses, preferably one in American history and one in world history.

EC Courses

EC 230 Humanistic Economics: 3 semester hours

Initially this course will focus on an elaboration of humanistic economic principles by describing an economy based on needs, material and otherwise how humanistic ideas differ from the orthodox: an economy based on wants. The remainder of the course will then explore some current attempts at outlining economic systems that are neither exclusively free market or centrally planned; these will be presented and evaluated in terms of humanistic principles.

EC 251 Macroeconomics Principles: 3 semester hours

An introduction to the study of economics along with some facts about the U.S. economic system; theoretical analysis of the determination of total output employment and price levels; use of monetary and fiscal policy weapons to influence economic activity, money and the banking system; economic growth and development; and international finance. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or First Year Honor Student.

EC 252 Microeconomic Principles: 3 semester hours

An analysis of the market system as it determines prices, output and employment of the individual products and resources, application of market theory to some current domestic economic issues and international trade. While not an absolute prerequisite, EC 251 is normally taken before EC 252. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or First Year Honor Student.

EC 366 Money and Banking: 3 semester hours

A study of the nature of money, role of banks and the central bank in the economy, central bank control of the supply of money, effect of money on the economy, Monetarist vs. Keynesian views on monetary and fiscal policies, and the role of money in international finance. This course will emphasize financial markets and monetary policy, not bank operation and management. Prerequisites: EC 251 and EC 252.

EC 376 International Economics: 3 semester hours

The course offers an introduction to the theory and practice of international trade and finance. It will evaluate the principle of comparative advantage of nations. Students will learn about International Trade Barriers, Trade Zones (such as NAFTA and the EU). Trade Agreements, The Balance of Payment and The Balance of Trade. The course will discuss the U.S. trade policy in light of the Free Trade VS Protectionism argument. The role of international trade institutions such as the IMF, WTO and foreign exchange markets will be evaluated. The course will discuss globalization and its impacts on Labor markets, Income Distribution, The Environment, and consumers, in the U.S. and abroad. Prerequisite: EC 251.

EC 445 Independent Study: 3 semester hours

The student will select a topic of interest for in-depth, individual study or research under the instructor's supervision. Prerequisites: EC 251 and EC 252, junior standing and consent of the instructor.

HI Courses

HI 100 Basic Geographic Principles: 1 semester hour

This course is an introduction to basic principles of geography, beginning with reading and understanding various types of topographical maps and identifying major global areas. Emphasis on the various ways in which geography influences history, environments, and culture in global arena, and on concepts of geographic determinism.

HI 114 History of Early America: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on the first half of the American History; beginning with a brief overview of pre-Columbian America, and emphasizing the impact of eventual European settlements in North America. This course traces the founding of an independent United States, concluding with the consequences of the Civil War.

HI 115 History Of Modern America: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on the second half of the American history; beginning in the immediate post-Civil War era, and introducing students to major themes and events in United States history in the late nineteenth century and through most of the twentieth century. No prerequisite.

HI 120 Origins Of The Western Tradition: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on a survey of the development of the Western tradition from its early roots in the ancient Middle East until the age of Charlemagne. It introduces students to the contributions of the peoples of the ancient Middle East, Greece, Rome, and the early medieval West to the formation of western civilization.

HI 130 Emergence Of The West, 800-1648: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on a survey of the socio-economic, political, and cultural forces that have shaped the West from the age of feudalism to the triumph of absolute monarchy in the mid-seventeenth century. It explores such topics as the Medieval origins of the modern state, evolving religious beliefs of the West, the intellectual ferment of the Renaissance and Reformation, and economic and social development during the era.

HI 140 History Of Western World Since 1648: 3 semester hours

A survey of the major socio-economic, political, and intellectual movements in modern western history since the Age of Absolutism. Emphasizes the rise of nation-states, the Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, industrialization, and the major ideologies of the twentieth century.

HI 205 Colonial And Revolutionary America: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on the history of North America from European settlement through the post-Revolutionary era, beginning with the cross-cultural encounters of Natives, Europeans, and Africans. It emphasizes the socio-cultural, political, and economic development of colonial America; the events that led to the American Revolution; and the immediate consequences of the Revolution in political and social terms.

HI 213 Recent China In Global Economy: 3 semester hours

China from the 1970s to the present. Emphasis on the economic, social, cultural, and political developments of recent China; the opening of China to the world; and the emerging of China into the global economy and market. Special attention to the intersection of Chinese and U.S. interests and trade in the global context. Satisfies global awareness domain of the core curriculum.

HI 215 The American Nation, 1789-1877: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on the history of the United States from the founding of the federal republic through the 1870s. It emphasizes the politics and diplomacy of the early republic; Jacksonian democracy and reform, national economic and territorial expansion; regionalism and sectional conflict; the institution of slavery; the Civil War; the immediate post-war society; and federal efforts to reconstruct the nation.

HI 225 History Of Iowa: 3 semester hours

The history of Iowa from pre-territorial days until the present, beginning with an emphasis on Native Iowans and their encounters with European immigrant settlers. Traces changes in the landscape and farming patterns from the nineteenth century until the present, while also considering changes in the daily lives of Iowans affected by moves from agriculture to industry and from farm to town during this era.

HI 230 Modern East Asia: 3 semester hours

This course covers the period since the beginning of the twentieth century, concentrating on the era since the Second World War. It focuses primarily on the history of China or Japan, with inclusion of the recent histories of other East Asian entities (North Korea, South Korea, Hong Kong, and Taiwan) in an alternating format. This course also covers the selected East Asian countries' relationship with the U.S. in the global context. The course satisfies the global awareness domain of the core curriculum.

HI 240 History of Film: 3 semester hours

This course examines the history of film, especially the narrative film from its advent at the end of the 19th century up until the present. It will look at films from many different countries as it examines the silent era of cinema, the coming of sound and color, the growth of the major studios in Hollywood, Post World War II cinema, The French New Wave, Third World Cinema, and the New American Cinema. Cross listed with FS 240.

HI 245 Recent American History: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on the development of contemporary America during World War II, the Cold War, Vietnam, and the civil rights and women's movements. It examines changes in political, social, and popular culture.

HI 250 Medieval Europe: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on Europe from the decline of the Roman Empire to the mid-fifteenth century, with special emphasis on the transition from the Roman World to the Early Medieval West, the rise and decline of feudal institutions, and the development of the Medieval church. It pays special focus on social and political changes, as well as intellectual and cultural developments of the era.

HI 260 Early Modern Europe 1450-1789: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on major movements in early modern European history from the end of the Middle Ages to the eve of the French Revolution. It places special emphasis on the Renaissance and Reformation, the emergence and triumph of the absolutist state, the Enlightenment, and social and economic changes during these periods.

HI 265 Latin American History: 3 semester hours

An introduction to the history of Latin America, beginning with European penetration of the region and the legacies of the colonial era. Focuses on the wave of independence movements by the early nineteenth century, followed by a specific emphasis on the recent history of selected Latin American nations since independence. (Satisfies global awareness domain of the core curriculum).

HI 270 Nineteenth Century Europe: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on Europe from the outbreak of the French Revolution to the end of the nineteenth century. It places special emphasis on the causes and effect of the French Revolution, the Napoleonic period, the Industrial Revolution, the conflict between liberalism and conservatism, the rise of labor and socialist movements, the impact of nationalism, and diplomatic relations in Europe.

HI 278 History Of US Environmentalism: 3 semester hours

The course covers the period from the 1900s to the present, focusing primarily on the social, economic, technological and scientific environmental developments in the United States. It examines the roles these developments played in changing the U.S. environment and environmental policies in the contemporary period, and how the American public's view of their environment has changed over time. Students will also learn about the U.S. government's role in shaping policies that affect the environment, especially since 1900. Students who are interested in environmental study will find the course significantly enhances their knowledge of the historical development of environmentalism in the United States.

HI 280 Twentieth Century Europe: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on Europe from the beginning of the twentieth century to the present. It places special emphasis on the pre-1914 World War I era, the Great War and its impact, the Russian Revolution, the emergence of the Soviet Union as a world power, the inter-war fascist development, the origins and events of World War II, and the Cold War.

HI 285 US And The Vietnam War: 3 semester hours

A study of the Vietnam War, with special emphasis on the reasons for American involvement in the conflict, the consequences of that involvement, reactions to the war, and an assessment of its legacy in American history.

HI 295 History of Medicine and Disease in the West: 3 semester hours

The course covers the history of four aspects of medicine and disease that powerfully influenced western history. These are: major diseases, evolution of medical expertise, institutionalization of medical care, and the relationship of public health initiatives with the prevailing level of biological knowledge. Coursework will begin at the late Middle Ages (leprosy and Black Death) and proceed toward current issues in public health. Most class meetings will concern European history, and the chronology will emphasize the nineteenth century.

HI 306 20th Century American History of Race and Gender: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on the history of race and gender in the twentieth century. Special attention to social, political, and economic developments among Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Mexican Americans, with emphasis on the changing relationships among these groups and mainstream Americans. Concentration also on gender issues, such as relationships between men and women, as well as the changing economic, political, social, and cultural roles of women in a historical perspective.

HI 340 Crime & Punishment in England 1550-1875: 3 semester hours

The course explores crime, policing, and punishment in England, 1550-1875. Major topics include the use of public shame, professionalization of police, obstacles to prosecution, and the evolving use of prisons. Changes in penal culture are studied in relation to England's transformation from a rural kingdom into an urbanized and industrial center. Cross-listed with CJ 340.

HI 365 20th Century Revolutions in Latin America: 3 semester hours

This course will focus on revolutions that have shaped the history of several Latin American nations during the last century, providing an historical overview and analysis of the consequences of such revolutionary events in the evolution of each nation's development. Particular attention will be paid (in a variety of configurations in different semesters, often depending on current events in specific nations) to revolutions in Mexico, Argentina, Chile, Cuba and Central America.

HI 369 Hispanic Culture & Civilization: 3 semester hours

The course surveys Hispanic civilizations and links them to cultural developments over time. Course meetings will integrate art, film, history, music, and literature to familiarize students with cultural contexts that evolved in Spain and Latin America. Nations of emphasis vary. Course materials in English translation and subtitles. No prerequisite. (Students seeking credit in Spanish should check for cross-listing as SP 369.)

HI 380 Imperial Russia and the Soviet Era: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on Russian and Soviet history from the accession of the Romanovs to the present. Emphasis on the reforms of Peter the Great; the shaping of the Russian autocracy; the socio-economic, political, and cultural ferment of the nineteenth century; the Russian Revolution and the Bolshevik seizure of power; the age of Stalin and the Great Purges; post World War II Soviet society; and the breakup of the Soviet Union.

HI 400 Seminar In Historical Research: 3 semester hours

This course is an introduction to the concepts and methods of historical investigation. It emphasizes evaluation of historical documents through the preparation of major research paper on a selected topic in history. (Capstone course for History majors. Recommended for the senior year. Must be taken at Mount Mercy).

HI 445 History Independent Study: 3 semester hours

Directed readings and research in history. Topics to be determined by the student and instructor.

HI 450 History Internship: 3 semester hours

Internship in a cultural institution, business, or non-profit organization. Emphasis on linking academic content and methodologies of the liberal arts with the practicalities of the workplace. Students will select internship site and determine objectives, with approval by the History faculty. (For history majors of at least junior standing).

PO Courses**PO 101 Introduction To Political Philosophy: 3 semester hours**

This course is an examination of main ideas, methods, and perspectives of some of the major Western political theorists from Plato to the modern period. Drawing upon study of the original texts, the course aims to convey an understanding of political philosophy as a tradition of inquiry into fundamental questions of human nature, the origins of ethical codes, the role and limitations of government, and social justice. The course also encourages assessment of the relevance of the theories studied for understanding and evaluating politics today.

PO 102 Government and Politics Around the World: 3 semester hours

This course aims to illustrate the diversity of political life, institutional alternatives, and differences in political processes and policy outcomes in the context of foreign countries representing different cultures and regions of the world and different stages of development. The course introduces basic methods and concepts of comparative study and examines similarities and differences in such areas as political parties, elections, executive and legislative institutions, as well as economic, social, and welfare policies.

PO 103 Introduction to International Relations: 3 semester hours

An introduction to the basic principles underlying the interaction between nation states, such as war, trade, alliances, balance of power, and international law. Students will become familiar with major theories of international politics and will evaluate these theories in the context of major events in international politics, including the collapse of the Soviet Union, the global financial crisis, terrorism, environmental degradation, and the rise of new international structures such as the European Union.

PO 111 Introduction To American Politics: 3 semester hours

A broad survey of American politics, including political behavior of the American electorate, the theory and practice of constitutional government, the structure and functioning of American political institutions, and contemporary issues.

PO 112 Globalization and Human Survival: 3 semester hours

This course is an introductory examination of some problems that confront all people today and will require global attention and cooperation for their amelioration. Some problem areas considered include war, peace and security, ecology and resources, and poverty and development. The course also highlights the interconnectedness of the emerging global problems, considers various proposals, which have been made for addressing them, and treats the complications arising from differences of culture and values.

PO 201 The Presidency: 3 semester hours

This course is an examination of the office, powers, and roles of the American presidency, the relationships of the presidency with other elements of the American political system and issues and problems raised by the presidency's performance today. Recommended: PO 111.

PO 202 Congress: 3 semester hours

An examination of the powers, activities, and functions of the American Congress, the relationships of Congress with constituents and other elements of the American political system leading up to an analysis of issues and problems raised by Congress' performance today. The course highlights the tension that exists between Congress as a representative assembly and as a national policy-making institution. Recommended: PO 111.

PO 203 The U.S. Supreme Court and the American Judiciary: 3 semester hours

This course is an introductory course to the structure and characteristics of the U.S. legal system at both state and federal level, with special consideration given to the interaction between law and politics. The course will cover topics such as the evolution of the judiciary and its effects on the other branches of government, the institutional structure of the Supreme Court and of the state and federal courts, models of judicial decision-making, as well as the role of judges, lawyers, and litigants in the judicial process. Recommended: PO 111.

PO 204 Political Parties, Voters and Elections: 3 semester hours

The core elements of any democratic political life are political parties and election; this course examines both. Topics to be discussed include the causes and evolution of the U.S. two-party system, voting for President and Congress, how voters decide, voter turnout, and the electoral foundations of divided government. Recommended PO 111.

PO 205 History of American Political Thought: 3 semester hours

An examination of writings by selected political theorists throughout American history. Two goals of the course are identification of the distinctive features, themes, and preoccupations of American political theory and assessment of the relevance of the theories studied for understanding and evaluating American politics today. Recommended: PO 101 and PO 111.

PO 209 Interest Groups: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly: 3 semester hours

This course is designed to provide an introduction to the many roles of interest groups in American politics. It begins with a discussion of the reasons for and obstacles to formation of interest organizations. The majority of the course is then dedicated to the analysis of the ways in which organized interests pervade American politics, including elections, legislative action, public policy implementation, judicial decisions, and public opinion formation and persuasion. The course concludes with a discussion of the benefits and detriments to democracy of our current interest group system and proposals for reform. Recommended: PO 111.

PO 265 Politics and Film: the Art of the Message: 3 semester hours

This is not a popcorn and movies class; it is a course to introduce students to a range of political films and to develop their skills in understanding and analyzing their political significance and influence. Film has a broad and persuasive appeal to a significant cross-section of the public. Whether through intentional documentary, dramatic renderings of historical events or timely issues, fictional drama dealing with big issues, or though satire, the cinema has been a powerful medium in influencing public views on the events, people, and places that make up our complex political world. The purpose of this class is to introduce the student to the portrayal of that complex political world through film, its effect on the thinking and attitudes of the public, and ultimately its role in shaping public policy and decision-making.

PO 301 Constitutional Law I: Structure of Government: 3 semester hours

Learn the principles, doctrines and controversies regarding the basic structure and division of powers in American government as defined through the text of the Constitution and its interpretation by the Supreme Court. Specifically, we inquire about the exercise of judicial review, the scope of congressional powers, the nature of executive prerogatives, as well as the tug of war that characterizes the balance of power among these three branches of government and the balance of authority between the national and state governments. The Constitution is primarily a legal document, but the historical and political context of constitutional interpretation is inseparable from the legal analysis, so the course will explore each of these areas in detail. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or consent of instructor; PO 111 or PO 203 recommended but not required.

PO 302 Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties: 3 semester hours

This course introduces students to the constitutional principles that govern the relationship between individuals and the state. It explores the concept of national citizenship and examines the limits on governmental action imposed by the Due Process and Equal Protection Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment, as well as by the First Amendment. The student will be expected to learn about freedom of speech and press, freedom of assembly, guarantee of the free exercise of religion, privacy, discrimination, and capital punishment. The primary goal of the course is to discuss our rights, therefore, emphasis is on the Constitution and the United States Supreme Court cases, which delineate the legal doctrines relevant to defining the Constitution's guarantees of liberty. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or consent of instructor; PO 111 or PO 203 recommended but not required.

PO 307 Political Science Research Methods: 3 semester hours

Students will learn the basic qualitative and quantitative research methods used in the social sciences. The course will begin with an introduction to the foundations of scientific research, hypothesis construction and testing, along with the strengths and weakness of different methodological approaches. Students will use a statistical analysis program (SPSS) to create and manipulate data sets. This computer assisted data analysis will permit students to understand and report basic descriptive statistics, a variety of difference of means tests, bivariate correlations, and basic multiple regression analysis. Students will also learn to read and understand literature from academic journals in the social sciences, including (but not limited to) political science, political/social psychology and political sociology. This course has no prerequisite courses. Familiarity with algebra is a plus, but not a requirement. Prerequisites: PO 111, PO 102 or PO 103 or consent of the instructor).

PO 311 American Foreign Policy: 3 semester hours

This course provides analysis and evaluation of American foreign policy since 1945, the institutions and processes involved in its making and the historical and cultural factors affecting it. Prerequisite: PO 111 or PO 103.

PO 312 Politics of International Economic Relations: 3 semester hours

Analysis of reciprocal relations between global politics and economics, examining such topics as North/South conflict, the emergence of multinational non-state actors, problems of global resource allocation, the institutional framework of international development, and the growing interconnectedness of a global economy. Prerequisite: PO 103 or an introductory course in economics.

PO 313 International Law and Organization: 3 semester hours

This course provides analysis of the history, role, and future of international law and organizations in the social, economic, and political development of the world community. Prerequisite: PO 103 or permission of instructor.

PO 314 Contemporary Political Ideologies: 3 semester hours

This course provides a comparative study of conservative, liberal, socialist, religious, fascist, and other ideologies prominent in contemporary national and world politics. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

PO 326 Politics and Public Policy: 3 semester hours

An analysis of the different policy-making processes incorporated in the American political system and the different kinds of political actors, patterns of conflict, and outcomes found in each. The course also treats policy-making, current policies, and policy debate found in several major areas of public policy, such as business regulation, civil rights, and economic, defense, welfare, and health policies. Prerequisite: PO 111 or equivalent.

PO 335 State and Local Government: 3 semester hours

The course deals with the theories, principles, and practices of the state and local governments in the United States with an emphasis on Iowa. The topics include scope and functions of the state local government, capacity, federalism, institutions, participation, public administration, and budgetary matters. Prerequisite: PO 111.

PO 342 Politics Public Administration: 3 semester hours

The course is designed to develop an understanding of the relationship between the American politics and public administration. It primarily focuses on public administration, including policy analysis, budgeting, personnel, organization, leadership, decision making, and ethics in a political environment. Prerequisite: PO 111 or consent of instructor.

PO 353 Politics and Economic Policy in the United States: 3 semester hours

The course is designed to develop an understanding of the politics of economic policy making and the institutional infra-structure of policy implementation in the United States. The course aims at exploring the complexities of fiscal, monetary, regulatory, and distributive policies in the United States. Prerequisite: PO 111 or consent of instructor.

PO 359 Advanced Studies in Law and Politics: 3 semester hours

Seminar-style course designed to employ various academic perspectives and methodologies to the study of legal issues, shedding light on both the understanding of law as well as debates central to other disciplines. The course is designed to offer a great deal of flexibility to adapt its content to current and contentious issues relevant to law, society, and politics. The scope of legal concerns ranges from the local (states and communities), to the national, and to the global (regions and international bodies). The course topics change from semester to semester and may be repeated with change of content (maximum 9 credit hours). The course does not require prior knowledge of the specific areas or topics covered and is open to all majors. Prerequisites: PO 111, PO 102, PO 103 required, or consent of the instructor.

PO 368 Welfare States: Advanced International and Area Studies: 3 semester hours

Seminar-style course designed to offer an interdisciplinary, internationally focused study of timely and relevant issues not generally covered in existing courses. Major topics in comparative and international politics will be analyzed in the context of selected nations within distinct geographical areas of the world in order to gain understanding of the institutions and dynamics of the area. Areas to be studied include: Western and Eastern Europe, South America, Asia, and the Middle East. The course topics change from semester to semester and may be repeated with change of content (maximum 9 credit hours). The course does not require prior knowledge of the specific areas or topics covered and is opened to all majors.

PO 406 Major Political Problems: 3 semester hours

This course provides an examination of a general problem or issue in politics today. Course content and subtitle will vary. The course may be repeated with consent of the instructor.

PO 425 Public Service Internship: 3 semester hours

A supervised introduction to public service through placement in a public agency. It develops an understanding of agency functions and of employees in the public sector. Prerequisite: It is open to non-majors upon completion of PO 111.

PO 441 Seminar In Political Research: 3 semester hours

This course is a seminar having variable content and emphasizing oral and written presentation of independent study and research done by participants. Required for political science majors. Prerequisites: sophomore standing and PO 307.

PO 445 Independent Study: 3 semester hours

Directed readings and research in political science. Topics to be determined by the student and instructor.

PS Courses

PS 101 Introductory Psychology: 3 semester hours

This first course gives a broad overview of the field of psychology. Major areas studied include the physiological basis of thought and action, perception of the environment, learning, motivation, behavior disorders, and behavior in groups. Though basic concepts and principles are stressed, the student is introduced to a variety of approaches to the subject matter of psychology. The student also becomes acquainted with some of the methods psychologists use to answer questions about behavior and mental processes. Students may have the opportunity to serve as research participants. Prerequisite for all other psychology courses. (Offered fall and spring semesters).

PS 102 Orientation To Psychology: 1 semester hour

This course includes an introduction to the psychology department's curriculum and objectives, opportunities for campus involvement and community service, and career exploration in psychology. Topics include strategies for a successful transition to Mount Mercy and for achieving academic success, exploration of careers in psychology, strategies for resolving career indecision and strategies for implementing a career choice. (Offered fall semester).

PS 124 Developmental Psychology: 3 semester hours

This course provides a comprehensive overview of normal human development throughout the entire life span. Similarities and differences in the normal biological, cognitive, social and emotional development of humans will be studied. Prerequisite: PS 101. (offered fall and spring semesters).

PS 205 Psychology Of Adjustment: 3 semester hours

The focus of this course is on the study of the problems and processes of psychological adjustment to the stresses, conflict, anxieties, and frustrations of life today. This course focuses on several topics in depth: Stress and stress management, self-esteem, communication, relationships, and work adjustment. Student participation is required. (This course does not count toward the major. It counts toward the holistic health domain of the core curriculum).

PS 214 Psychology of the Middle School Student: 3 semester hours

This class will examine the social, emotional, physical and cognitive development of children in middle school. Students in this course will learn about the unique needs, abilities, and interests of middle school-aged students as they experience conflicting societal expectations and options. Prerequisites: PS 101 and PS 124. (Students cannot receive credit for both PS 214 and PS 215).

PS 215 Adolescent Psychology: 3 semester hours

The focus of this course will be on the social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development of persons aged 13-20. The course will examine how the concept of adolescence has changed over the years, and how families, peers, school, and the culture influence adolescent development. In addition the course will examine in depth a number of problems facing today's teenager like drug use, sexual activity, and violence. Prerequisite PS 101 and PS 124. (Students cannot receive credit for both PS 214 and PS 215).

PS 221 Social Psychology: 3 semester hours

Social psychology focuses on human social relationships. This course studies the influence of others on individual behavior and attitudes, various sorts of interaction between individuals, and behavior of people in groups. Topics include conformity, helping behavior, persuasion, social cognition, attitude formation and change, aggression, sex roles, prejudice, and attraction. Prerequisite PS 101. (Offered fall and spring semesters).

PS 259 Health, Exercise & Sport Psychology: Health & Wellness Applied: 3 semester hours

Health psychology is devoted to understanding psychological influences on how people stay healthy, why they become ill, and how they respond when they get ill. This course will explore the interface between biopsychological theory/research and health-related issues (e.g., stress, coping, behavior change) among healthy and clinical cohorts (e.g., cancer, diabetes, chronic pain). This course will also review how individual characteristics, behaviors, and lifestyles affect leisure and exercise behavior, including ways to improve the initiation and adherence of health behaviors for physical and mental health promotion. Students will develop an understanding of how participation in sport, exercise, and physical activity affects the psychological development, health, and well-being. Prerequisite: PS 101.

PS 286 Biological Psychology: 3 semester hours

This course involves an overview of biological explanations of behavior. The course begins with a description of the dynamic activity of neurons and the basic anatomy of the nervous system. Building upon this foundation, topics include: methods of investigation, drugs and behavior, development and evolution of the brain, sensory and motor processes, waking and sleeping, hunger and thirst, sexual behavior, learning and memory, emotions, mood disorders, and schizophrenia. Prerequisites: PS 101 and BI 125 or BI 126 or Permission of instructor. (offered spring semester).

PS 306 Abnormal Psychology: 3 semester hours

This course is an overview of disorganized states of human functioning, including disorders of mood, thought, and behavior. This course follows the DSM system of classification, while explaining disorders from various perspectives. Prerequisites: PS 101 and at least two other psychology courses, plus junior or senior status. Students are strongly encouraged to take PS 286 and PS 319 prior to taking PS 306. (Offered fall semester).

PS 319 Classic Theories of Personality: 3 semester hours

The study of major personality theorists who did most of their theorizing prior to 1970 including early key psychoanalysts, behaviorists, trait theorists, and humanist. The focus will be on the theories of individual theorists. Topics include normal and abnormal psychology functioning, personality development, and research done on these theories. Representative assessment devices will be demonstrated and selected research will be noted. Along with textbook, students will be asked to read selected portions of theorists own writings. Prerequisite: PS 101. (Offered fall semester).

PS 325 Statistics For Behavioral Sciences: 4 semester hours

This course involves application observational and survey methods, and it includes use of statistical procedures within the context of correlation research. Reading empirical literature and writing summaries of statistical analyses are emphasized. Use of computer Software (SPSS) is integrated throughout the course. Topics include descriptive statistics, estimation, hypothesis testing, t tests effect size, power analysis, bivariate correlation/regression, multiple correlation/regression and a brief introduction to nonparametric tests. A student-designed project will include research design, data collection, statistical analysis, preparation of a research report, and a formal presentation. Prerequisite: PS 101. Students should have the equivalent of one year of high school algebra before enrolling in PS 325. Completion of MA 135 (Basic Statistics) before PS 325 is strongly recommended. (Offered fall semester).

PS 345 Psychological Research Methods: 4 semester hours

This course includes use of statistical methods within the context of experimental research. Emphasis includes reading and evaluation of research articles, written summaries of statistical analyses, proposing and conducting experimental research, and APA-style research reports. Use of computer software (SPSS) is integrated throughout the course. Topics include hypothesis testing, one- and two-way analysis of variance, multiple-comparison tests, power analysis, effect size, and several research designs: randomized groups, within-subjects, and mixed factorial. A student-designed project will include research design, data collection, statistical analysis, preparation of a research report, and a formal presentation. Prerequisite: PS 101 and PS 325 (with a letter grade of at least a C-). (Offered spring semester).

PS 349 Industrial/Organizational Psychology: 3 semester hours

This course involves a general orientation to the field and is designed to familiarize students with application of psychological principles and theory in the workplace. Topics include methods of investigation, job analysis, employee selection, training, performance appraisal, employee motivation and job satisfaction. Prerequisites: PS 101. (Offered winter term).

PS 371 Introduction To Counseling: 3 semester hours

This course introduces students to various aspects of the counseling field. The course will focus on professional and ethical issues in counseling, and on major theoretical approaches to individual counseling. Attention will be given to evidence-based practice in counseling. Various approaches to counseling will be demonstrated. Prerequisites: PS 101, and junior or senior status. It is strongly recommended that students have completed SW 245, PS 306, and PS 319 prior to taking PS 371. (Offered spring semester).

PS 385 Cognitive Neuroscience: 3 semester hours

This course includes the study of mental processes based on information processing and cognitive neuroscience models. Topics include methods of investigation, visual and auditory processing, language, speech, working memory and long-term memory, autobiographical memory, executive processes, and consciousness. A brief introduction to affective and social neuroscience is included. Prerequisites: PS 101 and BI 123 or BI 125. (Offered fall semester).

PS 401 Directed Reading in Psychology: 1 semester hour

This course may be initiated by an instructor or by a student or group of students on a topic of special need or interest. Prerequisites: PS 325, PS 345 (with a grade of B- or better), psychology major, junior or senior status, courses related to reading objectives, and written consent of the instructor and the Department of Psychology. Formal application must be made to the department during or at the end of the semester preceding expected enrollment (no later than one week after final exams). Credit is variable (up to 3 semester hours), depending upon the scope of the topic.

PS 402 Directed Reading Psychology: 2 semester hours

This course may be initiated by an instructor or by a student or group of students on a topic of special need or interest. Prerequisites: PS 325, PS 345 (with a grade of B- or better), psychology major, junior or senior status, courses related to reading objectives, and written consent of the instructor and the Department of Psychology. Formal application must be made to the department during or at the end of the semester preceding expected enrollment (no later than one week after final exams). Credit is variable (up to 3 semester hours), depending upon the scope of the topic.

PS 403 Directed Readings Psychology: 3 semester hours

This course may be initiated by an instructor or by a student or group of students on a topic of special need or interest. Prerequisites: PS 325, 345 (with a grade of B- or better), psychology major, junior or senior status, courses related to reading objectives, and written consent of the instructor and the Department of Psychology. Formal application must be made to the department during or at the end of the semester preceding expected enrollment (no later than one week after final exams). Credit is variable (up to 3 semester hours), depending upon the scope of the topic.

PS 411 Psychology in Practicum: 1 semester hour

This course provides the student an opportunity for professional interaction in selected agencies or institutions under the supervision of a field professional. The student could take PS 413 (3 credit hours) in addition to this course, but for no more than four semester hours of internship in total. The amount of credit signifies the amount of time the student is at the agency. PS 411 (1 credit hour) implies being at an agency for three to four hours per week. This course will require weekly meetings with the instructor and is designated Pass/Fail by the instructor. Prerequisites: Permission of the department, sophomore or higher standing, and completion of at least three psychology courses with a C or better. Formal application must be made in the semester prior to the internship. (Offered fall semester).

PS 413 Internship in Psychology: 3 semester hours

This course provides the student an opportunity for professional interaction in selected agencies or institutions under the supervision of a professional in the field. The student could take PS 411 in addition to this course, but for no more than four semester hours of internship in total. PS 413 (3 credit hours) implies being at an agency for ten to twelve hours per week. This course requires meeting in a group with the instructor to discuss ethical issues in practice, to review and practice clinical skills, and to process the internship. This course is designated Pass/Fail by the instructor. Prerequisites: students must have permission of the department, have completed at least five psychology courses, including PS 306 and SW 245 or have permission of the instructor, have a minimum of 2.00 in both overall GPA and in all psychology courses. Formal application must be made in the semester prior to the internship. (Offered spring semester).

PS 425 Research Seminar: 3 semester hours

This course will give students experience with the entire research process. As a class, students will design and implement a research study. In addition, the class will gain experience at analyzing data and preparing the study for presentation at a psychological conference. Prerequisite: Psychology major or minor, junior or senior standing, and PS 325 and PS 345 with a grade of B- or better. This course is offered every couple of years.

PS 441 Independent Study in Psychology: 1 semester hour

Prerequisites: PS 325, PS 345, (with a grade of B- or better), psychology major and junior or senior status. Formal application must be made to the department during or at the end of the semester preceding enrollment (no later than one week after final exams). Credit is variable (up to 3 semester hours), depending upon the scope of the topic. (See Independent Study section).

PS 442 Independent Study in Psychology: 2 semester hours

Prerequisites: PS 325, PS 345, (with a grade of B- or better), psychology major and junior or senior status. Formal application must be made to the department during or at the end of the semester preceding enrollment (no later than one week after final exams). Credit is variable (up to 3 semester hours), depending upon the scope of the topic. (See Independent Study section).

PS 443 Independent Study in Psychology: 3 semester hours

Prerequisites: PS 325, 345, (with a grade of B- or better), psychology major and junior or senior status. Formal application must be made to the department during or at the end of the semester preceding enrollment (no later than one week after final exams). Credit is variable (up to 3 semester hours), depending upon the scope of the topic. (See Independent Study section).

PS 450 Senior Seminar: 3 semester hours

This course is designed as the final psychology course for psychology majors. In this seminar, students will review the entire field of psychology and study in-depth a number of topics selected by the class. Through discussion, guest lectures, and student presentations, students will have the opportunity to integrate, synthesize and apply the knowledge and skills they have gained from other courses. Prerequisites: Senior psychology major, PS 325 and PS 345. (PS 345 may be waived after consultation with instructor. (Offered fall and spring semesters).

SO Courses**SO 122 Introduction To Sociology: 3 semester hours**

This course introduces students to sociology, the core issues of the discipline, and the way sociologists analyze social behavior. In addition to mastering basic concepts and principles, students will learn a great deal about American society and how to analyze ordinary experience from a sociological perspective. (Offered fall and spring semesters).

SO 155 Social Problems: 3 semester hours

This thematic course introduces the student to a sociological understanding of various social issues such as inequalities of class, gender and race; problems of work and unemployment, economic restructuring and downsizing; environmental problems; homelessness and poverty; and inadequacy of the health care system to name a few. Students will have the opportunity to critically evaluate the root causes of social problems both at the national and global levels, analyze and interpret data, and work within groups to develop skills for problem solving and social policy planning.

SO 176 Criminology: 3 semester hours

This course presents a sociological analysis of crime and society's response to it. The course surveys the wide span of deviant behavior from street crime to elite crime, from individual behavior to social irrationality. In addition to describing reality, the course will deal with crime and ways certain behaviors are defined as criminal (gambling) while praising similar ones (betting on the stock market). Prerequisite: SO 122.

SO 183 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology: 3 semester hours

This course focuses on the study of human behavior within various social contexts, as well as the development of a wide array of cultural traits and belief systems in human communities. By studying distinctive forms of social relations and universal and particular aspects of human culture, students are exposed to the fallacies of cultural and racial superiority of western societies over the rest of the world, particularly primitive cultures.

SO 202 Marriage and Family: 3 semester hours

This course provides an analysis of the American family as a social institution; its changing functions and structure; its life cycle and its internal organization; and sources of conflict within the family as a socio-economic and political unit at the micro-level. Critical questions are raised concerning the impact of economic restructuring and deindustrialization on courtship, marriage, and family life. Prerequisite: SO 122.

SO 215 Methods Of Social Research: 3 semester hours

This course provides an introduction to the application of scientific research methods to the study of sociology and related fields. Students will review both qualitative and quantitative research methods such as historical documentation, survey and field research, content analysis and interviewing techniques. The quantitative research component includes topics in descriptive and inferential statistics such as the measures of central tendency, the normal curve, t-test and chi square and hypothesis testing. Students also will participate in individual and group projects in order to gain hands-on experience relating social theory to data collection and critical analysis. Prerequisite: SO 122, Sociology majors and minors should also take SO 251 as a prerequisite. (Offered fall and spring semesters).

SO 235 Social Inequalities: 3 semester hours

This course contrasts functionalist theories of stratification that justify social inequalities and advocate meritocracy, with critical conflict theories that question the legitimacy of class, gender and race-based stratification. The main focus of the course is on the crucial role the political and economic forces play in polarization of social classes and redistribution of national wealth and resources in the United States. However, dynamics of social stratification in the developing countries and socialist societies will be studied as well. (Offered alternate years).

SO 240 Medical Sociology: 3 semester hours

This course is a study of the medical profession as a societal institution in regard to the effects of the norms and beliefs of society. Areas analyzed include the social factors involved in the physical and mental health areas, the norms and roles of health care professionals in the treatment process, environmental and occupational health, non-physician providers, and cross-cultural reforms in response to the health care crisis. Prerequisite: SO 122 (Offered alternate years).

SO 245 Sociology Of Law: 3 semester hours

This course includes an analysis of the social nature of law including the theoretical, cross-cultural, and legal components. Studies of the societal forces and procedures, past and present, will be discussed in relationship to the impact of law on social change. Prerequisite: SO 122. (Offered alternate years).

SO 251 Sociological Theories: 3 semester hours

This course attends to the basic theoretical issues in sociological theory, including an analysis of the key theorists Marx, Weber and Durkheim. This course also provides an overview of modern social theories such as conflict, structural functionalism, symbolic interactionism, and postmodernism. Prerequisite: SO 122.

SO 285 Islam And Politics: 3 semester hours

The Iranian Revolution of 1979 and establishment of an Islamic Republic opened a new chapter in the church-state relationship, particularly in the Muslim world. Subsequent Islamic movements in Egypt, Algeria, Lebanon, and other Muslim and Arab countries have further involved public interest in what is dubbed by the Western media as "Islamic fundamentalism." This course will critically examine Islam as a holistic religion which integrates faith, law, philosophy and social commitment to build communities; the rise and development of Islam as a social movement; the historical roots of the Shii-Sunni split; and a growing conflict between traditional Islamic and modern western cultural values. Prerequisite: SO 122.

SO 290 Urban Sociology: 3 semester hours

Within a historical context this course explores the way social, economic, and political forces shape the cities and affect urban development both at national and global levels. Earlier analyses of cities and urbanization by Marx, Engles, and Weber; the ecological approach of the Chicago School of Urban Sociology; and more recent analyses by neo-Marxists and urban political economists will be discussed. Several social issues such as rural-urban migration, suburbanization in the U.S., Third World countries, as well as socialist nations will be studied. Students also will work on a mini project dealing with an urban-related issue in the Cedar Rapids area. Prerequisite: SO 122.

SO 310 Sociology Of Sex And Gender: 3 semester hours

This course provides students with an historical and comparative approach to the sociology of sex/gender and gender inequality. Students will learn how sex/gender is socially constructed as well as its effect on the lives of individuals, on social institutions and society. Selected social institutions where sex/gender inequality is constructed, maintained and/or changed, such as family, education, work and the economy will also be studied. Because gender identities are constructed will be studied to reveal that variety of roles and their consequences for different societies. Prerequisites: SO 122 or PS 101 or SO 183 or permission of instructor.

SO 320 Sociology of Work: 3 semester hours

This course enables the student to analyze the social structure of work in the broadest sense. Topics include the study of major theoretical issues involved in the explanation of changes in the workplace, impact of technological changes, the global economy, the decline of labor unions, the feminized workplace, and the influence of economic values on leisure. Prerequisite: SO 122. (Offered alternate years).

SO 327 Social Change and Technology: 3 semester hours

The student will be exposed to the major theoretical issues regarding social change. Particular attention will be given to the transformation of societies by scientific and technological innovations, and the impact such changes have on enduring human arrangements, such as religion, the family, and the community. Prerequisite: SO 122. (Offered alternate years).

SO 330 Global Race Relations: 3 semester hours

This course includes an in-depth examination of major conceptual views and theoretical perspectives on race and ethnicity. Within a critical historical and comparative framework, the course will trace the roots of modern race relations in the United States as well as in other countries, including Canada, Brazil, Northern Ireland, Palestine, and Israel, and South Africa. Recent theories of race relations that link colonialism and capitalist development to racism, prejudice and discrimination also will be discussed.

SO 400 Topics: 3 semester hours

This course will expose students to a variety of topics of sociological significance which are not usually discussed in regular departmental course offerings. Topics may vary and include: sociology of war, peace, and justice; movies and society; popular culture; the political economy of modern architecture and planning; and sociology of development and underdevelopment. Students may complete more than one topics course in consultation with an academic advisor. Prerequisite: SO 122.

SO 420 Social Movements and Revolutions: 3 semester hours

This course presents a historical and comparative analysis of revolutionary movements and social change throughout the world by examining: socio-economic and political roots of the modern civil rights movement in the U.S., the breakup of the Soviet Union and the democracy movement in China; applying critical theories of revolution to revolutionary situations; and exploring the role of colonization in galvanizing nations and social classes and perpetuating social inequalities at the global level. Classic cases of revolutions in Germany, France, Russia, and China, as well as more contemporary examples, Cuba, Nicaragua, and Iran will be discussed. Prerequisite: SO 122. (Offered alternate years).

SO 430 Experiential Learning Internship: 3 semester hours

Majors who are juniors or seniors are required to fulfill the requirements for an experiential learning and field experience in sociology. In consultation with their faculty advisor, students shall assess their academic and vocational qualifications, develop a resume, and conduct a search for an internship position. Information on available internship sites will be available both at offices of career development and the sociology department chair. During the field experience, students will have a structured plan of reading, writing journals and reports, and a term paper. The objective of the term paper is to relate relevant sociological principles to the field experiences. Internships should be arranged in advance with a departmental faculty sponsor. Prerequisite: SO 122.

SO 441 Senior Seminar: 3 semester hours

A capstone course which allows students to do independent research and explore a topic of their choice, and also involves students in the examination of and discussion of cutting-edge issues in sociology. Open to non-majors with instructor consultation. Prerequisite: SO 122.

SO 445 Independent Study: 3 semester hours

With the approval of the academic advisor, students who have taken SO 122 and SO 251 may schedule an independent study course in a topic of their interest during the junior or senior years. No more than two independent study courses may be scheduled during the last two years of study. Prerequisite: SO 122.