

Gender, Work and Family Concentration

Phone: (216) 368-2700
Mather Memorial, Room 226

Concentrations in Sociology

Students majoring in Sociology have the option of either selecting one of 4 concentrations areas, or majoring in Sociology without choosing a concentration. The concentration consists of a minimum of 12 credit hours, or 4 courses. The 4 concentrations are:

- Crime, Law and Justice
- Health, Medicine and Aging
- Gender, Work and Family
- Social Inequality

Gender, Work and Family Concentration

Traditional conceptualizations of work and family were as separate spheres---one public, one private. During the past several decades, however, changes in the shape of the economy and families have encouraged sociological exploration of the permeable boundaries between these two institutions that shape and give meaning to our lives. This concentration provides an opportunity to explore the changing realities around gender, work, family and sexuality and understand their consequences for individual experiences and the public sphere.

How have downsizing, declining wages and increasing work hours influenced families, in particular the increasing number of one-parent and dual-earner families? How does location in the occupational structure affect the strategies available to families providing care to young, elderly or disabled family members? How do couples negotiate the division of household labor? The courses in this concentration challenge assumptions that balancing work and family obligations are individual responsibilities. Instead, attention is directed to the hidden inequalities in paid work and to the imbalance between market and nonmarket activities. Students will also explore the ways in which gender structures our experience of work and family in different ways depending on ethnoracial status, social class, age and sexual orientation.

Required Core Courses:

12 CREDIT HOURS

- SOCI 101: Introduction to Sociology
SOCI 300: Modern Sociological Thought
SOCI 306: Logic of Social Inquiry

One of the three statistics courses listed below:

- STAT 201: Basic Statistics for Social and Life Sciences
PSCL 282: Quantitative Methods in Psychology
ANTH 319: Introduction to Statistical Analysis in the
Social Sciences

Gender, Work and Family Concentration requires four (4) of the following courses:

12 CREDIT HOURS

- SOCI 201: Introduction to Gender Studies
SOCI 208: Dating, Marriage and Family
SOCI 228: Sociology of Sexuality
SOCI 275: Lives in Medicine: Becoming and Being a Physician
SOCI 326: Gender, Inequality and Globalization
SOCI 356: Economic Sociology: Money, Markets, Morals and Social Life
SOCI 370: Sociology of the Family
SOCI 372: Work and Family: U.S. and Abroad

As the major requires a total of 30 credits, 6 additional credits (two electives) will need to be taken. These credits can either be within the concentration or from any of the other sociology courses.

In addition to the requirements listed above for Sociology major, Case Western Reserve University also requires all undergraduate students to participate in courses through SAGES. These requirements include First Seminar (first year), two University Seminars (by the end of the second year), a Department Seminar (third year) and finally a Senior Capstone.

Concentration Coordinator

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