



Policy, Law, and Crime Concentration

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

Concentrations in Sociology

Students majoring in Sociology have the option of either selecting one of four concentration areas or majoring in Sociology without a concentration. A concentration consists of a minimum of 12 credit hours (four courses). The four concentrations are:

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

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Sociologists who study crime (criminologists) understand the dynamic social processes that lie beyond the headlines and involve the complexities of human motivation and action, both on the part of those who make the laws and those who break the laws.

Criminologists study crime, criminals, and their relation to society with the goal of achieving scientific understanding of these phenomena. How is crime defined, how much crime is there, and what are the major issues with measurements and findings? Who commits criminal and delinquent acts, and how do we know? What are the characteristics of offenders and victims? What are the causes of crime, what can be done to prevent crime and delinquency, and do we even have any concrete answers to these questions? What types of punishment are appropriate for offenders, do we know how to rehabilitate them, who makes these decisions, and how are law and society relevant to these issues?

This concentration is designed to provide students with the opportunity to become aware of the persistent advancement of knowledge in the fields of crime, law and justice and acquaint them with the basic tools for critically evaluating existing information. Courses explore a range of competing theoretical perspectives and research methods and are studied with special emphasis on their implications for criminal and juvenile justice policy and practice. A concentration in crime, law and justice prepares students to pursue advanced degrees in graduate studies and professional schools or to seek employment opportunities in law-related agencies, criminal justice agencies, counseling, and other areas related to public and private human services.

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 four statistics courses listed below:

ANTH 319: Introduction to Statistical Analysis in the Social Sciences
SOCI 307: Social Statistics
PSCL 282: Quantitative Methods in Psychology
STAT 201: Basic Statistics for Social and Life Sciences

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requires four of the following courses
12 CREDIT HOURS

SOCI 204: Criminology
SOCI 232: Social Policy and Global Issues
SOCI 237: Sociology of Migration
SOCI 250: Law & Society
SOCI 320: Delinquency and Juvenile Justice
SOCI 349: Social Inequality
SOCI 357: Human Rights around the Globe
SOCI 360: The Sociology of Law
SOCI 366: Racial Inequality & Mass Imprisonment in the US
SOCI 380: Social Movements

As the major requires a total of 30 credits, six 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 the UGER.

Concentration Coordinator

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