ACCELERATED BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.) AND MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.S.) IN SOCIOLOGY

The accelerated B.S. and M.S. program allows qualified students with a major in sociology to earn both degrees in a minimum of five years by completing approved graduate courses during the senior year of their undergraduate program. The program will provide students with the opportunity to expand and deepen their knowledge of sociology, enhance their credentials for the job market, and/or to prepare for further professional education. Students in the program may count up to 12 hours of graduate courses toward both the B.S. and M.S. degrees. Thus, the two degrees may be earned with a minimum of 144 hours instead of the 156 required if the degrees are pursued separately.

The program is restricted to students who have demonstrated a clear interest in sociology. Minimum qualifications for admittance to the program include completion of 90 undergraduate credit hours with an overall GPA of 3.0, and a minimum of nine credit hours in sociology with a GPA of 3.3. Prior to being formally considered for admission and before enrolling in graduate courses, the student must complete the graduate school application, submit GRE general aptitude scores and supply supporting information required for admission. All persons admitted to the program must meet the graduate student standards of performance, e.g., maintain a 3.0 GPA, and satisfactorily complete all requirements for the degree.

The director of graduate studies will provide guidance of students in this program. Students who are interested in this program should consult with the director of graduate studies or the director of undergraduate studies before they have completed 90 credits. Both directors may be contacted for more information about admission procedures.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Sociology include the completion of a minimum of 120 credits. Students in the accelerated program may take up to six graduate sociology credits in each of the final two semesters of their undergraduate course work. These courses are shared credits with the graduate program, meaning that they will be applied to both undergraduate and graduate degree requirements. A maximum of 12 graduate credits may be taken prior to completion of the baccalaureate degree.

The Bachelor of Science degree will be awarded when the student has completed all requirements for the undergraduate degree, which may include the 12 graduate sociology credits. The graduate sociology courses that may be taken, once a student is admitted to the program, are:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOCY 502</td>
<td>Contemporary Sociological Theory (may be used to meet the</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>undergraduate major requirement for SOCY 402 and is a required</td>
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<td></td>
<td>course in the graduate program)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOCY/STAT 508</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Statistics (recommended and may</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>fulfill elective requirement in the undergraduate major)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOCY/STAT 608</td>
<td>Statistics for Social Research (a required course in the</td>
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<td>graduate program and may fulfill elective requirement in the</td>
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<td>undergraduate major)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOCY 601</td>
<td>Sociological Research Methods (a required course in the graduate</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>program and may fulfill elective requirement in the undergraduate</td>
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<td>major)</td>
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Other SOCY graduate courses, with the approval of the director of graduate studies, may serve as an elective requirement for the M.S. degree and an elective for the undergraduate major.

Total Hours: 12

All accelerated program students must have their schedules approved by the director of graduate studies prior to registration.

SOCY 101. Introduction to Sociology. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. An introduction to the study of human society. The basic concepts of society and culture and their relationships to each other are studied and then used to analyze the major social institutions.

SOCY 104. Sociology of Racism. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. The course will explore the direct and indirect ways in which racial attitudes are acquired, their effect on individuals and society, and the institutional and ideological manifestations of racism as a "faith system," as exploitation and as a form of human conflict. The central focus of interest will be on black-white relationships. Crosslisted as: AFAM 104.

SOCY 202. Foundations of Theory. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. An introduction to classical theoretical traditions that have guided sociological work. Classical theorists whose writings have shaped the discipline will be studied, including Karl Marx, Max Weber, Emile Durkheim, Georg Simmel, W.E.B. Du Bois and Charlotte Perkins Gilman. This course also traces the historical development of the discipline of sociology during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

SOCY 206. African American Family Relationships. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Focuses on the African-American family from the 1940s to the present. Examines the values and the interpersonal/role relationships that are involved in forming and maintaining African-American families in the contemporary United States. Topics include dating and sexual relationships, marital relationships, parent-child relationships and relationships with members of the extended family. Crosslisted as: AFAM 206/GSWS 206.

SOCY 302. Contemporary Social Problems. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. The examination from a sociological perspective of contemporary social problems such as population growth, crime, racism, family problems, substance abuse and aging in terms of their impact on American social institutions and values.

SOCY 303. Sociology of Deviance. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. An analysis of the relationship between social structure, social control and patterns of social deviance; a survey and critique of present social theories in light of empirical research and application of the theories to selected problem areas.
SOCY 304. Sociology of Families. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101 or ANTH 103/INTL 103. The family in its social and cultural context. Analysis of child rearing, marriage, kinship, family crises and family change in various societies around the world. Crosslisted as: ANTH 304/ GSWS 304.

SOCY 305. African American Family in Social Context. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. A socio-historical examination of the development of the family system of Americans from Africa. Focuses on large-scale (macro level) processes such as changes in the major mode of economic production and in political systems and the corresponding changes in black family structure and functioning. Presents the theoretical material on African-American families and social change that prepares students for further study of the family as a social institution and for the study of family policy. This course is designed to meet the needs of upper-division social science majors. Crosslisted as: AFAM 305/GSWS 305.

SOCY 307. Sociology of Food. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. Examines the role food plays in shaping cultures, societies and social inequalities by examining the modern food system, social inequalities surrounding food access and alternatives to the current system.

SOCY 310. Social Movements and Social Conflict. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. Theory and practice of social movements, community organizing and other forms of collective behavior.

SOCY 315. Sociology of Education. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. Analysis of education as a social institution in the societal context. Cross-cultural comparative perspectives on education.

SOCY 320. Research Methods in the Social Sciences. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 3 credits. Current methods of research in the social sciences. Includes a brief introduction to the use of SPSS for storage, retrieval and exploration of social science data. Crosslisted as: POLI 320.

SOCY 321. Sociology of Economic Inequalities. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. Analysis of social mobility, class, status and power.

SOCY 322. Sociology of Race and Ethnicity. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. A study of the various racial, religious and ethnic minority groups. Issues of power, pluralism and assimilation are addressed as well as the relationship between subcultures and the dominant culture.

SOCY 325. Analysis of Sociological Data. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 2 credits. Prerequisites: POLI/SOCY 320 and STAT 210. Statistical techniques used in the analysis of data from sample surveys and censuses, including tabular, graphical and inferential procedures. SPSS software will be used in the laboratory.

SOCY 327. Urban Sociology. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. Origin, character and significance of urban communities. Ecological and social factors are analyzed as well as changes in urban social organization and their consequences.

SOCY 330. Global Societies: Trends and Issues. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: INTL/POLI 105 or POLI 201 or SOCY 101. An analysis of factors that are promoting the globalization of social, economic and political relations, and an inquiry into implications of these developments for individuals, localities, nations and the world community. The course will highlight the impact of culture and ethnicity, historical and emerging patterns of international business activity and their societal significance, divergent strategies for economic and social development in the world’s regions, and the effects of population growth and environmental problems on public life within and among nations. Crosslisted as: INTL 330.

SOCY 331. Juvenile Delinquency. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. Analysis of the biological, cultural, psychological and social factors involved in juvenile delinquency and their relation to current techniques of treatment, prevention and control.

SOCY 333. Gender in Society. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101 or permission of instructor. Explores different theoretical approaches to gender and its intersections with other sources of inequality, including sexuality, race, class and age. Possible topics include masculinities, gender and the body, and how gender operates in various institutional settings, such as the economy and the family. Crosslisted as: GSWS 333.

SOCY 334. Sociology of Women. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101 or consent of instructor. This course will examine the position and status of women across societies and the social forces that maintain existing patterns and arrangements. The integration of family and work in women's lives will be emphasized. Crosslisted as: GSWS 334.

SOCY 336. Violence Against Women. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101 or GSWS 201. An examination of violence against women from a global and local perspective with a primary focus on violence perpetrated against women in the U.S. Requires a minimum of 20 hours of community service. Crosslisted as: GSWS 336.

SOCY 340. Self and Society. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. Focused discussion of the regularities in human behavior that arise due to man's participation in social groups. Emphasis will be placed on such topics as communications, attitudes, language, interpersonal perception, personal identities and social interaction.

SOCY 341. Group Dynamics. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: PSYC 101. Social and psychological principles and research related to the individual in groups. Specific topics include motivation for individuals forming and joining groups, performance and productivity of group members, group leadership and majority and minority influence. The group will be examined in relation to the larger society and as a subculture in itself. Crosslisted as: PSYC 341.

SOCY 360. Sociology of Religion. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. A systematic review and assessment of major sociological theories of and empirical research on religious behavior and groups. Topics include the structure of religious organizations; social correlates and functions of religion; denominationism; religion and social class, social change and population. Crosslisted as: RELS 360.
executing research projects. Students will address themselves to the tasks of defining, designing and implementing research projects. With direct supervision by the instructor, individuals or small groups of students will address themselves to the tasks of defining, designing and implementing research projects. The course is designed to enhance the skills of students in applied social research. Students will be exposed to a variety of research methods and will be encouraged to apply these methods to real-world problems. The course will also provide an opportunity for students to work on projects that are of interest to them.

SOCY 391. Topics in Sociology. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 100. This course explores specialized topics in sociology, with a focus on topics of current interest. The specific topics covered may vary each semester, depending on the instructor's discretion and the current trends in the field. Examples of possible topics include the sociology of race and ethnicity, the sociology of gender, the sociology of family, and the sociology of social inequality. The course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to engage with cutting-edge research and to develop critical thinking skills.

SOCY 401. African-Americans and the U.S. Health Care System. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: AFAM 103, AFAM/SOCY/WMNS/GSWS 305 or permission of the instructor. This course explores the historical and social context of the health care system in the United States, with a focus on African-Americans. The course will examine the role of race and ethnicity in shaping health disparities and access to care, as well as the impact of policies and programs designed to improve health outcomes for African-Americans.

SOCY 402. Contemporary Theory. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 202 with a minimum grade of C; pre- or corequisite: SOCY 320. Restricted to sociology majors. A study of the works of the major sociological theorists of the 20th century, with an emphasis on contemporary contributions to the field. The course will examine the theoretical foundations of sociology and the ways in which theorists have sought to apply these foundations to contemporary social problems.

SOCY 403. Criminology. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 202 or permission of instructor. Analysis of the nature, extent and distribution of crime, emphasizing theories of and research on causation, prediction and prevention.

SOCY 406. Sociology Senior Seminar. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: 21 credit hours in sociology. Course must be taken in the student's last 30 hours at VCU. Senior capstone class; provides students the opportunity to synthesize, integrate and apply their sociological knowledge and skills.

SOCY 410. Aging and the Life Course. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 202 or permission of instructor. An introduction to the study of aging and the life course. Focus will be on research specific to older adulthood in order to foster an understanding of aging and old age as a characteristic of both individuals and societies. Requires a minimum of 20 hours of community service if taken as a service-learning course.

SOCY 421. Advanced Research Methods. 1-6 Hours.
Semester course; variable hours. Variable credit. May be repeated for a total of 6 credits. Prerequisites: POLI 320/SOCY 320 and SOCY 325. A laboratory course providing training in the application of social research methods under laboratory and field situations to problems of mutual interest to community policy makers and professionals in the disciplines of sociology, social psychology and anthropology. This course is designed to enhance the skills of students in applied social research. With direct supervision by the instructor, individuals or small groups of students will address themselves to the tasks of defining, designing and executing research projects.

SOCY 426. Population Dynamics. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 202 or permission of instructor. The study of trends in fertility, mortality, population growth, distribution, migration and composition. The mutual influences of these factors and social organization.

SOCY 430. Politics, Power and Ideology. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 202 or permission of instructor. Sociological analysis of political organization and behavior. Such subjects as distribution and uses of power, creation and management of group conflict, development and diffusion of political ideologies, and problems of bureaucracy and mass society will be considered.

SOCY 434. Sociology of Sport. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 100. Sport will be viewed as a major social institution within many societies. The class will study the relationship between sport and society both in terms of sport reflecting the ideology and culture of society as well as sport as an active agent of change in society. Race, gender and social class will be examined within the context of sport.

SOCY 436. Sociology of Work and Labor Markets. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 202 or permission of instructor. The study of industrial plants and business organizations as social systems.

SOCY 440. Advanced Social Psychology. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: SOCY 202 and SOCY 340 or permission of instructor. The study of how human groups create the environment that, in turn, influences their individual behavior. The symbolic interactionist perspective will be thoroughly explored for its contribution to the study of persons, objects and meaning.

SOCY 445. Medical Sociology. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 202. A survey of the social, economic, cultural and social psychological factors in health and illness; the sociology of health and medical care organizations and settings; the sociology of health occupations; and the techniques of research in medical sociology.

SOCY 446. Sociology of Mental Disorder. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. A survey of selected social, economic, cultural and social psychological factors in mental health and illness. Such problems as defining mental illness; social factors in the distribution, diagnosis, etiology and treatment of mental disorders; mental illness as a social role; and research methods used in the sociology of mental illness will be considered.

SOCY 476. Economic Sociology. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 202. An examination of labor force participation in terms of the individual worker's experience, the work setting, the nature of occupations and labor force composition.

SOCY 492. Independent Study. 1-6 Hours.
Semester course; variable hours. Variable credit. Maximum of 6 credits per semester; maximum total of 12 credits for all independent study courses. Open generally only to students of junior or senior standing who have acquired at least 12 credits in the departmental discipline. Determination of the amount of credit and permission of the instructor and department chair must be received prior to registration of the course. Cannot be used in place of existing courses.
SOCY 493. Field Research Internship. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Prerequisites: applications must be approved by a faculty adviser and the internship coordinator. For sociology majors of junior or senior standing. Students are placed in organizations that offer supervised work or research experience appropriate to their interests. Each student must work 150 clock hours in the organization and write a sociological analysis of experiences using appropriate fieldwork methodological techniques.

SOCY 498. Honors Research Course. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 credits. Prerequisites: student must be in the honors program of the department and have achieved senior status. This course will entail the planning and execution of a major research project demonstrating a thorough understanding and use of research techniques in sociological/anthropological analysis, knowledge of relevant literature, sophisticated writing and research ability under the direction of a faculty mentor.