

## **What is Sociology?**

Sociology is the systematic study of people and their institutions. It is one of the most broad and diverse social science disciplines in academia whereby virtually every social domain is critically examined and analyzed. Sociologists study marriage and romantic relationships, interpersonal communication, social psychology, poverty and inequality, race and ethnicity, religion, culture, aging, the media, sports, health care, crime and deviance, nationalism, social movements, and globalization just to name a few topics.

To help sociologists make sense of the social world, sociologists deploy an array of theories and research methods collecting and analyzing data from participant observations, group interviews, surveys, historical documents, and even laboratory experiments. In the end, sociology is a discipline that attempts to move us beyond common everyday understandings of reality and illuminate how people and their institutions shape, and are shaped by, social mechanisms and processes.

## **If I major in Sociology, what kind of job can I get?**

Sociology not only contributes to a liberal arts education, it is a practical major that enables students to enter fields that are as diverse as the discipline itself. Sociology provides a strong foundation in law, business, social work, education, criminal justice, health care, government service, human resources, counseling, public policy research, and much more. If any of these fields interest you, sociology is a good place to start!

## **If I receive an AA degree in Sociology, can I transfer to a four-year college?**

Yes! Cañada College offers everything you need to finish an AA degree in sociology as well as to transfer to a four-year college or university.

## **List and describe the courses offered at Cañada.**

### **Sociology 100—Introduction to Sociology**

This is an introductory course on the identification and analysis of basic social structures and forces that motivate and direct social behavior. Additional topics include research methods and a survey and analysis of American social institutions with a focus on social inequality and social change.

### **Sociology 105—Social Problems**

This course is an overview of selected social problems in the United States viewed from a sociological perspective. Topics include poverty, globalization, the environment, health care, crime, education, racial inequality, and gender inequality among other topics. Emphasis will be placed on identifying the social causes as well as developing practical solutions.

## **Sociology 141—Ethnicity and Race in Society**

This course examines sociological theories of ethnicity and race as well as explores the contemporary experiences of racial and ethnic minorities in the US. Key concepts and theories are critically examined. Contemporary sociological debates discussed. And the future of ethnicity and race explored.

### **List the requirements for your major.**

#### **Core Courses, 10 units**

Sociology 100 Introduction to Sociology, 3 units  
Sociology 105 Social Problems, 3 units  
Math 200 Elementary Probability & Statistics, 4 units

#### **Selective Courses, choose a minimum of 8 units from the following list:**

Sociology 141 Ethnicity and Race in Society, 3 units  
Anthropology 110 Cultural Anthropology, 3 units  
Anthropology 125 Physical Anthropology, 3 units  
Economics 100 Principles of Macro Economics, 3 units  
Economics 102 Principles of Micro Economics, 3 units  
Foreign Language, 5-10 units  
Psychology 100 General Psychology, 3 units  
Psychology 110 Marriage & Relationship Choices, 3 units

Associate Degree Unit Requirements Total 18.0

\* \*and required General Education coursework and electives as needed to meet the minimum 60 units required for the Associate degree.

#### **Describe any clubs associated with your discipline as well as contact information for interested students.**

In the spring of 2007 students at Cañada College formed the Sociology Club. For information on how to get involved, please email [leero@smccd.edu](mailto:leero@smccd.edu) or call 650-306-3438.