

Sociology

The Department of Sociology strives to understand the origins and reproduction of social inequality, especially as it relates to issues of pressing public concern. Our particular areas of focus include — but are not limited to — the following: race/ethnicity, gender, the sociology of work and the workplace, immigration, social movements, and economic inequality.

Sociological analysis begins from theoretical perspectives that explain how the structures that organize and govern social systems emerge and change. Our curriculum and research emphasize an understanding of social processes that is well grounded in empirical data related to how societies actually function. We also seek to engage with social policies and social institutions to better understand the world in which we live and to help guide social change.

Re-established in 2015 after a hiatus of more than two decades, the department offers undergraduate major and minor programs with wide-ranging course offerings every semester. The curriculum provides students with research tools to examine critical social issues and to apply their understanding of sociology to activities outside of the university.

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