

PROGRAM MODIFICATION PROPOSAL FORM

Name of Institution: College of Charleston

Briefly state the nature of the proposed modification (e.g., adding a new concentration, extending the program to a new site, curriculum change, etc.): The Sociology BS program proposes to update the curriculum by adding and deleting courses and removing restrictions on 300-level courses in order to provide students more flexibility in focusing on coursework consistent with their career goals.

Current Name of Program (include degree designation and all concentrations, options, and tracks): Sociology BS

Proposed Name of Program (include degree designation and all concentrations, options, and tracks): No change.

Program Designation:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate's Degree | <input type="checkbox"/> Master's Degree |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's Degree: 4 Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Specialist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's Degree: 5 Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral Degree: Research/Scholarship (e.g., Ph.D. and DMA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral Degree: Professional Practice (e.g., Ed.D., D.N.P., J.D., Pharm.D., and M.D.) | |

Does the program currently qualify for supplemental Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship awards?

- Yes
 No

If No, should the program be considered for supplemental Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship awards?

- Yes
 No

Proposed Date of Implementation: August 2020

CIP Code: 451101

Current delivery site(s) and modes: College of Charleston downtown campus, traditional/face-to-face

Proposed delivery site(s) and modes: N/A

Program Contact Information (name, title, telephone number, and email address): Christine Finnan, PhD; Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology; 843-953-4826; finnanc@cofc.edu

Institutional Approvals and Dates of Approval:

Franklin Czwazka (System Administrator) approved 1/10/20
Christine Finnan (Chair, Sociology and Anthropology Department) approved 1/16/20
Gibbs Knotts (Dean, Humanities and Social Sciences) approved 1/20/20
Mary Bergstrom (Registrar) approved 1/31/20
Mark Del Mastro (Office of Provost and Office of Institutional Effectiveness & Strategic planning) approved 1/24/20
Mark Del Mastro (Associate Provost) approved 2/3/20
Andrew Przeworski (Chair, Faculty Curriculum Committee) approved 2/15/20
Faculty Senate approved 3/4/20

Background Information

Provide a detailed description of the proposed modification, including target audience, centrality to institutional mission, and relation to strategic plan.

Proposed modifications ([See updated catalog curriculum at the end of this document](#))

After a two-year review of the major, Sociology program faculty propose revisions to the major that are 1) consistent with the American Sociological Association's 2017 recommendations and 2) better aligned with the sociology programs offered by our peer institutions. The program changes include:

- Elimination of program specialization areas at the 300-level and related distribution requirements. This action is taken to provide students more flexibility to follow desired career or interest paths.
- Replacement of distribution requirements with a requirement to complete 15 hours of coursework at the 300 level or above. This will allow students a better opportunity to focus on career goals.
- Creation of a menu of capstone experience options, including SOCY 381: Sociology Internship, and two new topic-focused senior seminar options. This provides students more options to synthesize their learning.
- Regularization of nine courses that have been taught previously under special topics (see below for names and course descriptions). This provides more accuracy in catalog descriptions of program offerings.
- Addition of one new course, SOCY 329: Special Topics. This course serves as a generic special topics course to replace specialization-specific courses that are being eliminated.
- Deletion of 11 courses that no longer reflect faculty specializations or that served the program specialization areas that are being eliminated. This provides students more accurate catalog descriptions of program offerings.

Target audience: All incoming and future declared BS Sociology majors.

Centrality to institutional mission and relation to strategic plan: The proposed Sociology BS changes are consistent with the College of Charleston's commitment to pursue and share knowledge through study, inquiry and creation in order to empower the individual and enrich society. As the College of Charleston engages in developing a new strategic plan, we anticipate that the program revision will contribute to the commitment to apply liberal arts principles to real world problems.

Assessment of Need

Provide an assessment of the need for the program modification for the institution, the state, the region, and beyond, if applicable.

The program changes are a response to difficulty some students were having meeting the requirement to take one course in each specialization area and their desire to focus on material relevant to their potential career areas. In addition, the changes reflect disciplinary changes in the field of Sociology. According to the American Sociological Association recommendations in 2017, College of Charleston's existing specialization areas (Social Psychology, Social Organization, Social Problems, and Social Inequality) no longer serve students seeking to focus their studies on courses that will improve their career and continuing education efforts. The program faculty reviewed programs at peer institutions and found that none of them had similar specialization areas.

The addition and deletion of courses are a result of an examination of frequency in course offerings, faculty areas of specialization, and student requests for more capstone experiences.

Transfer and Articulation

Identify any special articulation agreements for the modified proposed program. Provide the articulation agreement or Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding.

N/A.

Description of the Program

Projected Enrollment						
Year	Fall Headcount		Spring Headcount		Summer Headcount	
	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total
2020	35	200				
2021	35	200	10	200	0	165
2022	35	200	10	200	0	165
2023	35	200	10	200	0	165

Explain how the enrollment projections were calculated: Enrollments in the Sociology BS have been steady for a number of years. We do not anticipate that these Curricular modifications will significantly change enrollment patterns.

Curriculum

Attach a curriculum sheet identifying the courses required for the program.

Curriculum Changes

Courses Eliminated from Program	Courses Added to Program	Core Courses Modified
SOCY 290: Field Experience	SOCY 105: Sociology of Sport	
SOCY 332: Collective Behavior	SOCY 106: Sociology of Peace	
SOCY 339: Special Topics in Social Psychology	SOCY 320: Sociology of Mental Health and Illness	
SOCY 349: Special Topics in Social Problems	SOCY 321: Sociology of Education	
SOCY 359: Special Topics in Social Organization	SOCY 322: Sociology of Sexualities	
SOCY 362: Social and Cultural Change	SOCY 323: Sociology of Sustainability and Consumption	
SOCY 492: Advanced Field Experience	SOCY 324: Prisons and Prisoners	
SOCY 345: Social Policy	SOCY 325: Sociology of Deviance	
SOCY 355: Science, Technology and Society	SOCY 326: African American Culture and Society	
SOCY 358: Living in the Organizational World	SOCY 329: Special Topics in Sociology	
SOCY 365: Sociology of Music	SOCY 391: Senior Seminar on Social Organization	
SOCY 369: Special Topics in Social Inequity	SOCY 392: Senior Seminar on Crime and Justice	

New Courses

List and provide course descriptions for new courses.

SOCY 105: Sociology of Sport (3)

This course introduces students to sociology through sport. Using sociological concepts and theoretical approaches, it explores the relationship between sports and society, paying careful attention to social inequality. Students adopt a social problems perspective to assess the extent to which the structure of organized athletics might generate and/or solve various social problems.

SOCY 106: Sociology of Peace (3)

This course examines the world through a sociological lens as students discover the making of a Culture of Peace. This class focuses on areas and practices of inter-cultural cooperation, positive peace, global transformation, non-violent communication, conflict resolution, restorative justice, and community peach-building.

SOCY 320: Sociology of Mental Health and Illness (3)

This course examines mental health and illness using sociological theories and research. Students will learn how mental illness is defined and measured, examine the social factors that are associated with mental health and illness, and evaluate personal, community, and societal responses to mental illness. Students will explore mental illness as a social phenomenon and learn how mental illness is treated within the American health care system.

SOCY 321: Sociology of Education (3)

This course examines educational systems from a sociological perspective. Students unpack their own school experience to better understand it in a social and cultural context and to explore how racial, class, and gender differences play out within the context of schools and school systems. The course provides students the tools to examine issues related to schools, educational policy, and the teaching profession.

SOCY 322: Sociology of Sexualities (3)

This course uses a sociological perspective to examine human sexuality. Although biological explanations are often used to understand sexuality, this course focuses on how sexual attitudes and behaviors are shaped by society.

SOCY 323: Sociology of Sustainability and Consumption (3)

This course explores the ways that individuals, groups, and organizations express environmental desires and respond to environmental concerns. Students examine how environmental problems/issues are often structural and require individuals to become change agents.

SOCY 324: Prisons and Prisoners (3)

This class will examine how life is organized for those who are incarcerated in prison. The organization of friendships, love, sex, food, work, recreation, identity and other domains will be explored. We will also discuss the impact that working in prison has on physicians, nurses, dentists and correctional officers in terms of mental health, their relationships and the "courtesy stigma" associated with working inside prison with offenders.

SOCY 325: Sociology of Deviance (3)

This class examines how society defines non-criminal and criminal deviance and the social reactions to and consequences of these definitions. The class will give primacy to the experiences of those defined as deviant such as sex workers, those with mental illness, drug dealers and polyamorous families.

SOCY 326: African American Culture and Society (3)

This course examines the emergence of African American ethnicity and its contributions to contemporary American society. The course traces the movement of African peoples to North America, the emergence of African American culture, efforts to achieve equity and civil liberties in the United States.

SOCY 329: Special Topics in Sociology (3)

Occasional courses offered on subjects of interest to students and faculty that are not included in the regular course offerings.

SOCY 391: Senior Seminar on Social Organization (3)

This seminar explores fundamental questions about social organization through the analysis of problems faced by organizations in a variety of settings (e.g. community development, social policy planning and evaluation, law, social work, and leadership in business, government and social service agencies).

SOCY 392: Senior Seminar on Crime and Justice (3)

This seminar evaluates contemporary crime and justice policies and practices (e.g., use of force by law enforcement, capital punishment, drug laws, etc.) exploring the relevance of social science research for shaping policy and improving the criminal justice system.

Similar Programs in South Carolina offered by Public and Independent Institutions

Identify the similar programs offered and describe the similarities and differences for each program.

Winthrop University and Coastal Carolina University offer Bachelor of Arts programs, not Bachelor of Science programs.

Program Name and Designation	Total Credit Hours	Institution	Similarities	Differences
BS in Sociology	27	University of South Carolina	The major requires one theory course and two research courses.	The degree builds on program requirements (31-46 hours) outside of the major.
BS in Sociology	36	Clemson University	The major requires one theory course and two research courses.	Students select one of three emphasis areas

Faculty

State whether new faculty, staff or administrative personnel are needed to implement the program modification; if so, discuss the plan and timeline for hiring the personnel. Provide a brief explanation of any personnel reassignment as a result of the proposed program modification.

The program modifications do not require any additional faculty, staff or administrative personnel.

Resources

Identify new library, instructional equipment and facilities needed to support the modified program.

Library Resources: Current resources are adequate

Equipment: Current equipment is adequate

Facilities: Current facilities are adequate

Impact on Existing Programs

Will the proposed program impact existing degree programs or services at the institution (e.g., course offerings or enrollment)? If yes, explain

Yes

No

Financial Support: N/A

Estimated Sources of Financing for the New Costs						
Category	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Total
Tuition Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Program-Specific Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special State Appropriation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reallocation of Existing Funds	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal, Grant, or Other Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated New Costs by Year						
Category	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Total
Program Administration and Faculty and Staff Salaries	0	0	0	0	0	0
Facilities, Equipment, Supplies, and Materials	0	0	0	0	0	0
Library Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Total (i.e., Sources of Financing Minus Estimated New Costs)	0	0	0	0	0	0

Budget Justification

Provide a brief explanation for all new costs and sources of financing identified in the Financial Support table.

No new costs are incurred due to these changes. Existing faculty resources will be shifted slightly to accommodate the new course offering pattern, and space/equipment/library resources are not impacted by these changes. The credit requirements remain the same as the existing program.

Evaluation and Assessment

Program Objectives	Student Learning Outcomes Aligned to Program Objectives	Methods of Assessment
Convey the “sociological perspective” and how it differs from other social sciences	Students can clearly define the “sociological perspective.”	Formative assessments (tests and papers) in required and elective courses. Summative assessment in capstone cumulative paper
	Students can distinguish the sociological perspective from viewpoints of other social sciences (e.g., political science, psychology and/or economics).	Formative assessments (tests and papers) in required and elective courses. Summative assessment in capstone cumulative paper
Convey differences between key sociological concepts and schools of thought	Students can communicate in writing about key concepts comprising the sociological perspective.	Formative assessments (tests and papers) in required and elective courses. Summative assessment in capstone cumulative paper
	Students will demonstrate the ability to distinguish between the ways different schools of thought make sense of social issues.	Formative assessments (tests and papers) in required and elective courses. Summative assessment in capstone cumulative paper
Introduce major contributors to the sociological discipline and how their ideas and theories address contemporary social issues	Students will demonstrate the ability to apply the Big Ideas of sociology to contemporary social issues and policy discussions.	Formative assessments (tests and papers) in required and elective courses. Summative assessment in capstone cumulative paper
	Students will identify the Big Ideas and concepts that sociology’s Big Thinkers have contributed to the discipline.	Formative assessments (tests and papers) in required and elective courses. Summative assessment in capstone cumulative paper

Will any the proposed modification impact the way the program is evaluated and assessed? If yes, explain.

- Yes
 No

Will the proposed modification affect or result in program-specific accreditation? If yes, explain; and, if the modification will result in the program seeking program-specific accreditation, provide the institution's plans to seek accreditation, including the expected timeline.

- Yes
 No

Will the proposed modification affect or lead to licensure or certification? If yes, identify the licensure or certification.

- Yes
 No

If the program is an Educator Preparation Program, does the proposed certification area require national recognition from a Specialized Professional Association (SPA)? If yes, describe the institution's plans to seek national recognition, including the expected timeline.

- Yes
 No

Sociology, B.S. - BS-SOCY

Required Courses

SOCY 101 Introduction to Sociology	(3)
[After] OR	
HONS 167 Introduction to Sociology	(3)
[After] OR	
SOCY 102 Contemporary Social Issues	(3)
[After]	
SOCY 260 Big Ideas and Big Thinkers in Sociology	(3)
SOCY 271 Introduction to Social Research	(3)
SOCY 272 Making Sense of Sociological Data	(3)

Note:

*[SOCY 260](#), [SOCY 271](#), and [SOCY 272](#) must be taken within the first 18 credit hours of the major.

Capstone experience options:

Complete at least three credits from the following options.

SOCY 381 Internship	(1-6)
SOCY 390 Senior Seminar	(3)
SOCY 391 Senior Seminar on Social Organization	
SOCY 392 Senior Seminar on Crime and Justice	
[Before] Or complete the following Bachelor's Essay sequence. Note that 499A will count toward your electives and 499B will count toward the capstone.	
SOCY 499A Bachelor's Essay	(3)
SOCY 499B Bachelor's Essay	(3)

Electives: Complete an additional 18 credit hours, of which 15 credit hours must be at the 300 or 400-level

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Curriculum Schema Preview

from SOCY 103-SOCY 499B:

SOCY 103 Sociology of the Family	(3)
SOCY 105 Sociology of Sport	
SOCY 106 Sociology of Peace	
SOCY 109 Special Topics in Sociology	(3)
SOCY 320 Sociology of Mental Health and Illness	
SOCY 321 Sociology of Education	
SOCY 322 Sociology of Sexualities	
SOCY 323 Sociology of Sustainability and Consumption	
SOCY 324 Prison and Prisoners	
SOCY 325 Sociology of Deviance	
SOCY 326 African American Culture and Society	
SOCY 329 Special Topics in Sociology	
SOCY 331 Society and the Individual	(3)
SOCY 335 Aging and the Family	(3)
SOCY 336 Death and Dying	(3)
SOCY 337 Prejudice	(3)
SOCY 340 Medical Sociology	(3)
SOCY 341 Criminology	(3)
SOCY 342 Juvenile Delinquency	(3)
SOCY 344 Social Gerontology	(3)
SOCY 346 Environmental Sociology	(3)
SOCY 348 Sociology of Alcohol and Drugs	(3)
SOCY 351 Urban Sociology	(3)
SOCY 352 Population and Society	(3)
SOCY 356 Sociological Perspectives on Religion	(3)
SOCY 357 Political Sociology	(3)
SOCY 360 Class, Power, and Privilege	(3)
SOCY 361 Child Welfare	(3)
SOCY 362 Social and Cultural Change	(3)
SOCY 364 Gender and Society	(3)
SOCY 366 Race and Ethnic Relations	(3)
SOCY 381 Internship	(1-6)
SOCY 382 Student Research Apprenticeship in Sociology	(1-6)
SOCY 383 Student Academic Apprenticeship in Sociology	(1-6)
SOCY 390 Senior Seminar	(3)
SOCY 391 Senior Seminar on Social Organization	
SOCY 392 Senior Seminar on Crime and Justice	

<https://cofc.curriculog.com/curriculumPreview.html>

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Curriculum Schema Preview

SOCY 399 Tutorial	(3)
SOCY 490 Independent Study	(1-6)
SOCY 499A Bachelor's Essay	(3)
SOCY 499B Bachelor's Essay	(3)

Notes:

- *A maximum of 3 credit hours from [SOCY 103 - 109](#) can count toward the electives and GPA for the sociology major.
- Sociology majors are strongly encouraged to take [MATH 104](#) or [MATH 250](#).
- Sociology majors are encouraged to take courses in multiple disciplines and to consider a minor in a related field.
- No more than 6 credit hours from [SOCY 381](#) may be applied towards the program requirements.
- No more than 6 credit hours from [SOCY 382](#) may be applied towards the program requirements.
- No more than 6 credit hours from [SOCY 383](#) may be applied towards the program requirements.
- No more than 12 credit hours from SOCY 399 may be applied towards the program requirements.
- No more than 9 credit hours from [SOCY 490](#) may be applied towards the program requirements.

Coursework Meeting Major Requirements Excluded from the Major GPA Calculation

None. All courses that may apply toward completion of course requirements within the major apply toward the major GPA calculation.