

Sociology and Anthropology

Faculty: Gazley, Chair; Adler, Bates, Beatrice, Borland, Brown-Glaude, Clydesdale, Didi-Ogren, Ismail, Li, Shakow

Sociology is the study of group life. Thus, sociologists study the social and cultural forces that shape people's behavior, beliefs, and relationships. This includes all types of social interaction—from economic to political to cultural, and the full range of social organization—from small groups to communities to nations. Sociologists emphasize the careful use of rigorous methods to expand our understanding of the contemporary social world. Sociology is a general liberal arts major appropriate for many careers in industry, education, and government as well as for graduate study in administration, health, law, social work, public policy, and the social sciences.

Anthropology is the biological and cultural study of humanity. Anthropologists employ a holistic approach to the study of likenesses and differences among human beings, past and present. Physical anthropology, cultural anthropology, linguistics, and archaeology are the main subfields of anthropological inquiry. The combination of anthropology and sociology in this department affords students a unique breadth of exposure to the study of humans and their relationships.

Requirements for the Sociology Major

The major requires ten sociology and anthropology courses, including SOC 101/HON 216, SOC 301, SOC 302, and SOC 499, and the remaining courses taken from the SOC/ANT options (at least four of which must be selected from the 300- or 400-level department offerings). All majors must also take STA 115 or STA 215 as part of their liberal learning quantitative reasoning requirement. (See also the departmental graduation standards.)

Sociology Major/Anthropology Specialization

This specialization focuses on the holistic study of humankind both past and present. It requires a global perspective that seeks to understand both human universals and cultural differences. The department's offerings include courses in all four anthropology sub-fields: cultural anthropology, biological/physical anthropology, linguistic anthropology, and archaeology. This specialization should appeal to students interested in pursuing graduate studies and professional careers in areas such as public policy, law, marketing, education, urban planning, community development, applied research, archival research, archaeology and museum studies. It will train students in theoretical and applied research methods, critical thinking, and communication skills.

Requirements for the Anthropology Specialization

Ten courses are required. Thus, students in this specialization must take SOC 101/HON 216, SOC 301, SOC 302, and SOC 499; can select one SOC/ANT elective of their choice (200-level or higher); and must choose five additional electives from a departmentally-approved list of options for this specialization. Students in this specialization will take ANT 110; ANT 111, ANT 112 or ANT 213; an approved Anthropology methods course, and two ANT electives (300-level or higher).

Sociology Major/Health and Environmental Studies Specialization

This specialization examines human health and its relationship with the non-human

environment, two separate areas of interest which are now widely understood as inextricably linked. The disciplines of sociology and anthropology have long contributed to the study of health and environment through specializations within each discipline, and both help illuminate how social status affects risk of illness, how people seek and receive medical treatment, how healthcare is organized and prioritized, how health services are managed for various client populations, and how the environment affects human health. Multiple professional careers are linked to the social scientific study of human health and the environment including community and public health professions, urban and regional planning, social work, healthcare professions, health research, and academic positions in anthropology and sociology. In addition to substantive knowledge, these professions generally require students to have strong backgrounds in understanding diverse populations, quantitative and qualitative research methods, critical thinking, and communication skills. This specialization provides an ideal curriculum for developing these general skills, while substantively examining the subjects of health and environment.

Requirements for the Health and Environment Specialization

Ten courses are required. Thus, students in this specialization must take SOC 101/HON 216, SOC 301, SOC 302, and SOC 499; can select one SOC/ANT elective of their choice; and must choose five additional electives from a departmentally-approved list of options for this specialization. In all, at least four of the SOC/ANT electives must be 300 level or above. Students in this specialization are encouraged to choose biology to fulfill the scientific reasoning requirement.

Sociology Major/Non-Profit and Community Development Specialization

This specialization focuses on the study and improvement of social life. It poses a crucial question to students: how can sociology and anthropology be used to make the world a better place? The specialization should appeal to students interested in social work, the leadership of non-profit and non-governmental organizations, nonprofit/NGO leadership, social policy, urban and regional planning, community and international development, urban studies, law, and public health. The specialization offers advanced subject-appropriate academic work in community development, non-profit organizations and applied sociology/anthropology while providing ample opportunities for hands-on experiences. It will train students in theoretical and applied research methods, critical thinking, and communication skills.

Requirements for the Non-Profit and Community Development Specialization

Ten courses are required. Thus, students in this specialization must take SOC 101/HON 216, SOC 301, SOC 302, and SOC 499; can select one SOC/ANT elective of their choice; and must choose five additional electives from a departmentally-approved list of options for this specialization. In all, at least four of the SOC/ANT electives must be 300 level or above. Students in this specialization are encouraged to do at least one internship for elective credit.

Sociology Major/Urban and Ethnic Studies Specialization

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology offers an urban and ethnic studies specialization for students planning careers as urban and community planners, diversity officers, or in public policy and administration, or research in urban and ethnic studies. This specialization, which builds upon the general sociology requirements, guides students in the selection of elective courses which will best prepare them for graduate study in urban planning, ethnic studies, public policy and administration, and urban anthropology or sociology.

Requirements for the Urban and Ethnic Studies Specialization

Ten courses are required. Thus, students in this specialization must take SOC 101/HON 216, SOC 301, SOC 302, and SOC 499; can select one SOC/ANT elective of their choice; and must choose five additional electives from a departmentally-approved list of options for this specialization. In all, at least four of the SOC/ANT electives must be 300 level or above. Students in this specialization are encouraged to choose biology to fulfill the scientific reasoning requirement.

Requirements for the Sociology Minor

Five sociology and anthropology courses are required, including SOC 101/HON 216 and SOC 301 or 302 with at least two SOC/ANT elective courses selected from 300- and 400-level courses. Minors must also meet the department's graduation standards.

Requirements for the Anthropology Minor

Five courses are required, including ANT 110 and ANT 111 or 205 or 315 or 335 or 340 or 390 and three courses from the following: (two of the three must be ANT courses and two of the three must be 300- level or above) ANT 111, 112, 205, 210, 240, 245, 311, 313, 315, 335, 340, 341, 361, 370, 390, 401; AAS 179, 180; BIO 231, 461; COM 411; HIS 161, 166, 167, 342, 344, 354, 359; LIT 342; POL 250; SOC 301, 303, 336, 371, 372; WGS 375, 376. Other courses may be approved on a case by case basis by the department chair or the anthropology minor coordinator.

Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards

Every major program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for sociology programs. Minimum grades are noted in parentheses:

- Retention in the program is based on the following performance standards in these “critical content courses”: SOC 301 (C), SOC 302 (C), and SOC 101/HON 216 (B-). Students may repeat each core course no more than three times (with necessary approval) barring unusual extenuating circumstances and determined on a case by case basis. Students must make consistent progress in the major. Specifically, any student not registered for major classes for three consecutive semesters will be dismissed, unless the student has completed the major or there are extenuating circumstances.
- Transfer in the program from another program within the College is based upon the following performance standards in these “foundation courses”: SOC 101 (B-), STA 115 (B-) or STA 215 (C).
- Graduation standards: requires a GPA of 2.0 in sociology courses. Only grades of C- or higher in SOC/ANT major options and SOC 499, B- or higher in SOC 101, C or higher in SOC 301 and SOC 302, and B- or higher in STA 115 (or C or higher in STA 215) can be applied toward graduation degree requirements. Students who want to apply a course toward graduation for which they received a D+ or lower must repeat the course, earning a higher grade.

Four-Year Suggested Sequence**First Year**

FSP	First Seminar	1 course unit
HSS	99/ Orientation Course for Humanities and Social Sciences	0 course units
SOC	101/Introduction to Sociology	1 course unit
SOC/ANT	Major Options	1 course unit
STA	115/Statistics	1 course unit
<i>or</i>		
STA	215/Statistical Inference	
WRI	102/Academic Writing (if not exempted)*	1 course unit Foreign
	Language (if not exempted)**	2 course units Second
	major and/or minor courses and/or electives	1-2 course units

**It is recommended that students exempted from these courses take other liberal learning courses.*

***Arabic 151 and 152, Chinese 151 and 152, Japanese 151 and 152, and Russian 151 and 152 are intensive courses and carry two course units of credit each. Students should take this into account when planning a normal four-course semester.*

Total for year **8-9 course units**

Sophomore Year

SOC	301/Development of Socio-Cultural Theory*	1 course unit
SOC	302/Quantitative Research Methods*	1 course unit
SOC/ANT	Major Options (except 400-level)	2 course units
	Liberal Learning courses	2 course units
	Foreign Language (if not exempted)**	1 course unit
	Second major and/or minor courses	2 course units

**Students must have received a B- or above in SOC 101 or HON 216 before taking SOC 301. Students must have received a B- or above in SOC 101 and a B- or above in STA 115 (or a C or above in STA 215) before taking SOC 302.*

***It is recommended that students exempted from this course take another liberal learning course*

Total for year **8-9 course units**

Junior Year

SOC/ANT	Major Options	2 course units
	Liberal Learning courses	3 course units
	Second major and/or minor courses and/or electives	2-3 course units

Total for year **7-8 course units**

Senior Year

SOC	499/Senior Seminar in Sociology—Capstone*	1 course unit
SOC/ANT	Major Options	1 course unit
	Liberal Learning courses	2 course units
	Second major and/or minor courses and/or electives	3-4 course units

Total for year **7-8 course units**

**Students must have received a C or above in SOC 301 and SOC 302, and have taken at least four major options, three of which must be 300-level or above before taking SOC 499.*

Transfer Student Course Sequence

The department encourages prospective transfer students to take an introductory course in sociology, a course in statistics, and up to two sociology electives before enrolling at the College. If transfer students have received the minimum grades for the introductory sociology and statistics courses, they should enroll in SOC 301 or SOC 302, and choose additional SOC/ANT options during their first semester at TCNJ.

Sociology Honors Thesis Requirements & Process

Students who earn Departmental Honors in Sociology write an Honors Thesis: an original piece of sociological scholarship on a topic. The Honors Thesis should be an original piece of scholarship using empirical data, but can take multiple forms based on the needs of the individual project. The department will accept theses organized as journal articles or as “mini-books” (with more extensive literature review and introduction), and will accept any rigorous, project-appropriate sociological method including, but not limited to: quantitative analysis, ethnography, interview, content analysis, visual analysis, or meta-analysis of others’ original data.

The thesis process stretches over two semesters, and students must meet the requirements at each stage before being accepted into the next. Students may elect to take their Honors Thesis semesters beginning as soon as second semester Junior year (after completing SOC 101, SOC 301, and SOC 302, with departmental approval as outlined below). The honors sequence requires two units, SOC 495 Honors Thesis I and SOC 496 Honors Thesis II.

To apply for Departmental Honors, students with a GPA of 3.5 or above must complete the proposal process by the announced deadline prior to the semester in which they begin SOC 495. A “Call for Departmental Honors Thesis Proposals” will be emailed to majors each Spring semester.

To complete the proposal, students identify a faculty member willing to serve as a faculty sponsor and two additional faculty readers. Students, in consultation with the faculty advisor, then submit a completed proposal to the Sociology & Anthropology Department Chair by the announced deadline. Faculty will only agree to supervise students for Departmental Honors who demonstrate a likelihood of success through the high quality of their previous coursework in the Sociology & Anthropology department, have completed the prerequisite courses, have submitted a clear and persuasive proposal, and have completed sufficient background coursework in the area of their proposed research plan.

The proposal must include:

1. A description of the project, with research question(s), theoretical framing, and empirical study description
2. A brief literature review that includes at least five scholarly sources
3. Preliminary plan for data collection
4. Identification of primary thesis advisor and second and third readers, with their signatures on the proposal
5. A detailed timeline, with allocation of hours (200 each semester)

During the first semester of the Honors Thesis (SOC 495), which may be Spring, Summer, or Fall, the student must complete the following:

1. IRB cleared (if necessary)
2. Data collection complete or well underway

3. First draft of literature review, methods and expected findings
4. Consult regularly with thesis advisor and faculty readers
5. Grade assigned by primary thesis advisor; if it is an A, recommend to continue

During the second semester of the Departmental Honors Thesis (SOC 496), which may be either Spring or Fall, the student must complete the following:

1. Complete draft to primary thesis advisor and second and third readers by Week 10 of the semester
2. Revisions as necessary, with guidance from primary thesis advisor and second and third reader
3. Oral presentation at Celebration of Student Achievement, to be attended by the entire department faculty
4. Grade assigned for SOC 496: half by thesis advisor, quarter by second and third readers (averaging the two assigned grades), quarter by department faculty following oral presentation
5. Final draft to be submitted no later than one week before the date of the May graduation for permanent collection in the department library, along with the proposal.
6. Kenen Thesis Award if final grade in SOC 496 is A and the final thesis is submitted by the deadline.

Anthropology Honors Thesis Requirements & Process

Students who earn Departmental Honors in Anthropology write an Honors Thesis: an original piece of anthropological scholarship of at least 50 pages on a topic, based on primary anthropological research (For example, osteology, archaeology, ethnography). The Honors Thesis should be an original piece of scholarship using empirical data, but can take multiple forms based on the needs of the individual project. The department will accept theses organized as journal articles or as “mini-books” (with more extensive literature review and introduction), and will accept any rigorous, project-appropriate anthropological method including, but not limited to: ethnography, interview, content analysis, visual analysis, osteology, archaeology, linguistic analysis, or meta-analysis of others’ original data.

The thesis process stretches over two semesters, and students must meet the requirements at each stage before being accepted into the next. Students may elect to take their Honors Thesis semesters beginning as soon as second semester Junior year (after completing ANT 110 and SOC 301, and with departmental approval as outlined below). The honors sequence includes two units, ANT 495 Honors Thesis I and ANT 496 Honors Thesis II.

To apply for Departmental Honors, students with a GPA of 3.5 or above must complete the proposal process by the announced deadline prior to the semester in which they begin ANT 495. A “Call for Departmental Honors Thesis Proposals” will be emailed to majors each Spring semester.

To complete the proposal, students identify a faculty member willing to serve as a faculty sponsor and two additional faculty readers. Students, in consultation with the faculty advisor, then submit a completed proposal to the Sociology & Anthropology Department Chair by the announced deadline. Faculty will only agree to supervise students for Departmental Honors who demonstrate a likelihood of success through the high quality of their previous coursework in the Sociology & Anthropology department, have completed a research methods course in the research methodology they will use in their thesis research, have completed the prerequisite

courses, have submitted a clear and persuasive proposal, and have completed sufficient background coursework in the area of their proposed research plan.

The proposal must include:

1. A description of the project, with research question(s), theoretical framing, and empirical site
2. A brief literature review that includes at least five scholarly sources
3. Preliminary plan for data collection
4. Identification of primary thesis advisor and second and third readers, with their signatures on the proposal
5. A detailed timeline, with allocation of hours (200 each semester)

During the first semester of the Honors Thesis (ANT 495), which may be Spring, Summer, or Fall, the student must complete the following:

1. IRB cleared (if necessary)
2. Data collection complete or well underway
3. First draft of literature review, methods and expected findings
4. Consult regularly with thesis advisor and faculty readers
5. Grade assigned by primary thesis advisor; if it is an A, recommend to continue

During the second semester of the Departmental Honors Thesis (ANT 496), which may be either Spring or Fall, the student must complete the following:

1. Complete draft to primary thesis advisor and second and third readers by week 10 of the semester
2. Revisions as necessary, with guidance from primary thesis advisor and second and third reader
3. Oral presentation at Celebration of Student Achievement, to be attended by the entire department faculty
4. Grade assigned for ANT 496: half by thesis advisor, quarter by second and third readers (averaging the two assigned grades), quarter by department faculty following oral presentation
5. Final draft to be submitted no later than one week before the date of the May graduation for permanent collection in the department library, along with the proposal.
6. Anthropology Thesis Award if final grade in ANT 496 is A and the final thesis is submitted by the deadline.