

# Sociology/Anthropology

Phyllis Riddle, Chairperson

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The Department offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and in Anthropology as well as a minor in three courses of study: Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice. The philosophical foundation of the Department embraces the institution's emphasis on the need for a holistic liberal arts education. The unique perspective given by the department is particularly appropriate and helpful to any major or career path that would benefit from an understanding of human behavior. The Department seeks to develop a student's scientific understanding of the cultural and social forces that shape human behavior. By making use of the perspectives found in the fields of Sociology and Anthropology students come to understand the science of human behavior within a cross-cultural and historical context.

An undergraduate degree in sociology provides a strong liberal arts foundation for entry-level positions in social services, law or criminal justice, education, community development, marketing or other business-related fields, and government jobs. Those who enter human services might work with youths at risk, the elderly, or people experiencing problems related to poverty, substance abuse, or the justice system. Those who enter the business world might work in sales, marketing, customer relations, or human resources. Others may choose a teaching career. Sociology also offers valuable preparation for careers in journalism, politics, public relations, business, or public administration — fields that involve investigative skills and working with diverse groups. In addition, an undergraduate degree in sociology is excellent preparation for future graduate work in sociology in order to become a professor, researcher, or applied sociologist.

With a B.A. in Anthropology, students are prepared for graduate school work in areas ranging from museology to pathology, from archaeology to ethnography, leading to careers in fieldwork, publication, cultural resource management, archival administration, or teaching. For those not pursuing graduate work, careers are available in secondary school teaching, social services, business, government, and culture and human resource management.

All Sociology and Anthropology majors are encouraged to undertake internships in areas that will allow them to explore career options and help determine what aspects of sociology or anthropology they find most interesting. Sociology and Anthropology majors are also encouraged to select minors or concentrations that will support their career goals.

Students with a major in Sociology are eligible to participate in a cooperative program between Saint Vincent College and Duquesne Law School that allows students to earn their bachelor's degree and Juris Doctor degree in six years. In this program, qualified students who complete their first three years of study at Saint Vincent, fulfilling the Core Curriculum requirements and the requirements for the major, may transfer into the Law Program and complete the requirements for the Juris Doctor in three years. For details, see the explanation of this program in the Pre-Law section of the *Bulletin*.

## Requirements for a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology

(See Core Curriculum requirements.)

### B.A. Sociology Requirements: (36 credits)

SO 101	Introduction to Sociology	3
AN 222	Cultural Anthropology	3
SO 235	Inequality and Social Problems	3
PY 203	Statistics I	3
SO 307	Sociological Theory	3
SO 356	Social Research Methods	3
SO 405	Senior Seminar I	3
SO 450	Senior Seminar II	3
	Sociology Electives	12

## Requirements for a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Anthropology

### B.A. Anthropology Requirements: (39 credits)

AN 121	Anthropology I	3
SO 101	Introduction to Sociology	3
SO 235	Inequality and Social Problems	3
AN 221	Physical Anthropology	3
AN 222	Cultural Anthropology	3
AN 223	Economic Anthropology	3
AN 230	Archaeology	3
AN 328	Anthropology and Communication	3
SO 307	Sociological Theory	3
or		
AN 245	Anthropological Theory	3
PY 203	Statistics I	3
AN 332	Ethnology	3
AN 450	Senior Seminar in Anthropology	3
	Anthropology Elective	3

## Requirements for a Minor in Sociology: (18 credits)

### Required Courses:

SO 101	Introduction to Sociology	3
SO 235	Inequality and Social Problems	3

### Elective Courses:

Any four additional Sociology courses (12 credits)*	12
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\* Students who are also pursuing a minor in Criminal Justice may not count SO 115, SO 195, SO 215, or SO 315 as their elective courses.

## Requirements for a Minor in Anthropology: (18 credits)

### Required Courses:

AN 121	Anthropology I	3
AN 221	Physical Anthropology	3
AN 222	Cultural Anthropology	3

### Elective Courses:

9 credits from the following:

AN 223	Economic Anthropology	3
AN 230	Archaeology	3
AN 242	Anthropology of Religion	3
AN 328	Anthropology and Communication/Linguistics	3
AN 332	Ethnology	3

## Requirements for a Minor in Criminal Justice: (18 credits)

### Required Courses:

SO 204	Deviance	3
SO 115	General Administration of Justice	3
SO 195	Probation & Parole	3
SO 215	Juvenile Justice	3
SO 315	Special Topics in Criminal Justice	3
PS 227	Criminal Law and Process	3

Internships with various social service/criminal justice agencies are available for qualified students.

## Teacher Preparation

Sociology or Anthropology majors interested in obtaining a teaching certificate should consult the requirements of the Education Department of Saint Vincent College in the *Bulletin*.

## Typical Freshman Year Schedule

### *Sociology\**

SO 101	Introduction to Sociology	3
	Sociology Elective	3
AN 222	Cultural Anthropology	3
EL 102	Language and Rhetoric	3
RS 119	Exploring Religious Meaning	3
PY 100	Introduction to Psychology	3
	Modern Languages (2)	6
	Math Core	3
	History Core	3

\*Actual schedule will depend on student's prior preparation and course availability. All students will take one three (3) credit course designated as a First-Year Seminar which will satisfy a Core Curriculum requirement.

## Typical Freshman Year Schedule

### *Anthropology\**

AN 121	Anthropology I	3
SO 101	Introduction to Sociology	3
AN 222	Cultural Anthropology	3
EL 102	Language and Rhetoric	3
RS 119	Exploring Religious Meaning	3
PY 100	Introduction to Psychology	3
	Modern Languages (2)	6
	Math Core	3
	History Core	3

\*Actual schedule will depend on student's prior preparation and course availability. All students will take one three (3) credit course designated as a First-Year Seminar which will satisfy a Core Curriculum requirement.

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## Course Descriptions

### Anthropology

#### **AN 121 Anthropology I**

This course presents an introduction to the field of anthropology and a survey of theories concerning the biological and cultural origins, nature, and development of humankind. It offers a perspective of humankind using cultural, ecological, and archaeological perspectives to create a holistic context. Typically offered Fall semester. Three credits.

#### **AN 221 Physical Anthropology**

This course pursues the genetic, evolutionary, anatomical, and physiological inheritance of *Homo sapiens*. Also called Biological Anthropology, the course explores Primatology, the fossil record, Pleistocene man, human evolution, variation, and behavior as the basis on which human culture is predicated. Prerequisite: AN 121. Typically offered every other Spring semester (even-numbered years). Three credits.

#### **AN 222 Cultural Anthropology**

Holistic, comparative approach to the study of humankind that draws on a variety of disciplines such as archaeology, linguistics, and ethnology to understand the nature of culture. Topics include cultural diversity and adaptive strategies, language, social persona, marriage and kinship, religious beliefs and rituals, politics, economics, art, subsistence types, social change, and issues of cross-cultural contact and cultural survival. Typically offered Spring semester. Three credits.

#### **AN 223 Economic Anthropology**

The course explores a variety of non-western economic strategies employed by societies in diverse environments with varying levels of technological skills. Systems of exchange based upon reciprocity rather than profit are discussed, as well as other alternative economic systems, giving the student a sense of the plasticity of markets. The symbolic significance of money and other forms of currency are analyzed. Symbolic uses of wealth (status, prestige, power) are examined as they interarticulate with cosmology and values of differing societies. Typically offered every other Fall semester (even-numbered years). Three credits.

#### **AN 225 Anthropology and World Art**

This course pursues the foundations of art and aesthetics throughout the world, based on humankind's ideational, creative, and expressive nature. This is followed by an analysis of prehistoric, tribal (primitive and modern) culture in the arts. Media from mostly non-western art are emphasized. Typically offered every other Fall semester (even-numbered years). Three credits.

#### **AN 230 Archaeology**

This course explores the social-cultural dimensions of humankind before written history. Archaeology is introduced as the necessary tool of uncovering humankind's past. Cultures of earliest peoples, tribals, and moderns are viewed in their ecological, social, and symbolic context. Typically offered every other Spring semester (odd-numbered years). Three credits.

#### **AN 231 Primatology**

The human race belongs to the Order Primates. Primatology is the science of the description of this complex order of mammals with an eye toward a better understanding of the profound embeddedness of humanity in its animal taxon. Taxonomy, communication, social plasticity, locomotion, tool capabilities, and the contrast of field observation and laboratory experimentation are topics within the course. Typically offered every other Fall semester (odd-numbered years). Three credits.

#### **AN 242 Anthropology of Religion**

A study of the origins, presuppositions and phenomena of the universal imperative of religion, as a subdivision of Cultural Anthropology. Early and modern theories are related to the ecological, social, ideational adaptations of peoples of all times and places. Typically offered every other spring (even-numbered years). Three credits.

#### **AN 245 Anthropological Theory**

The theorists analyzed in this class represent three of the major schools of cultural anthropological theory that arose in the 19th and 20th centuries. Theorists will include Radcliffe-Brown of the British school, Claude Levi-Strauss of the French school, and Franz Boas, the founder of American Anthropology. Topics such as cultural origins, ritual behavior, art, sport, cosmology, kinship, economy, political organization, and symbolism will be analyzed in light of each paradigm. Theories will be placed in context of their development through history, leading to contemporary anthropological perspectives. Occasional offering. Three credits.

#### **AN 250 Biblical Archaeology**

Biblical Archaeology is the process of correlating archeological evidence with the Biblical record in order to illuminate the Biblical text. Topics covered include the environment, material culture, social organization, chronology and events of the Syro/Palestinian/Egyptian Middle East — the context within which the Bible took its oral and written form. Some background in anthropology/archeology and Bible studies is expected and most helpful. Typically offered every Fall semester. Three credits.

**AN 328 Anthropology and Communication/Linguistics**

The course examines the origins, nature, and development of communication, symbol and language of humankind. Along with sociolinguistic theory, cognitive habits of *Homo sapiens* are explored in their tribal and modern counterparts. Prerequisites: AN 121, 222. Typically offered every other Spring semester (odd-numbered years). Three credits.

**AN 332 Ethnology**

A survey and an analysis of a variety of cultural types, based upon their particular embodiments in certain actual social and ethnic settings. Ethnographies of human groups based on differing subsistence methods will be schematized. Cultural evolution will be emphasized in the context of human diversity. Prerequisites: AN 121, 222. Typically offered every other Fall semester (odd-numbered years). Three credits.

**AN 350 Independent Study — Anthropology**

Independent investigation and research into a special topic for selected students. Topics are determined by both student and professor. Prerequisite: permission of faculty member and departmental chair. May be repeated. Variable credit.

**AN 375 Special Topics in Anthropology**

Topics vary, but the focus of this course is an in-depth examination of specific issues and/or developments in anthropology. Prerequisite: junior or senior standing. Occasional offering. Three credits.

**AN 450 Senior Seminar in Anthropology**

This course is a capstone course for Anthropology majors. It is designed to facilitate critical reflection and analysis through completion of an independent senior project as well as a self-evaluation of anthropological skills/knowledge and personal objectives. Prerequisite: permission of the faculty member. Typically offered Spring semester. Three credits.

**AN 550 Internship/Cooperative Education — Anthropology**

Students may arrange to receive credit for employment experience in various non-college settings. It is also possible to have paid or unpaid professional work entered into the transcript as “no credit.” Prerequisite: permission of the departmental coordinator. May be repeated. Variable credit.

**Sociology****SO 101 Introduction to Sociology**

This course is an overview and survey of the scientific study of human interactions in society. The course explores the basic concepts that are the foundation of the discipline. Students are introduced to research methods, theoretical perspectives, culture, socialization, social interaction, deviance, and inequality. Typically offered every semester. Three credits.

**SO 105 Chemical Dependency**

An overview of addictive disorders. The study involves four different models: the medical/biological, the psychosocial, the sociological and the spiritual. The emphasis is on etiology and a holistic grasp of the phenomenon. Specific topics include psychopharmacology, macro- and micro-neurophysiology, a chemical history of the U.S., prevention and intervention strategies and self-help groups as examples of micro-group interactive therapeutic milieu. Typically offered Fall semester. Three credits.

**SO 106 Sociology and Global Issues**

This course is an introduction to sociological perspectives on globalization and the global dimensions of problems facing contemporary society. The course will review globalization theories

and trends, and the processes and structures of globalization. While the emphasis is on theoretical frameworks and data from sociology, this course takes an interdisciplinary approach to the issues surrounding globalization. Prerequisite: SO 101 recommended. Typically offered Fall semester. Three credits.

**SO 115 General Administration of Justice**

This is an introductory course to the study of criminology dealing with the philosophical background of criminal justice and the historical development of law enforcement. This course covers the various components of the criminal justice system (police, courts, and corrections). Prerequisite: SO 101 recommended. Typically offered every other Spring (odd-numbered years). Three credits.

**SO 161 Environmental Sociology**

This course is designed as an introductory course on environmental policy and administration. The course will examine the varied forces and perspectives that have an impact on environmental policy making. Subject areas include environmental policy-making, the concepts of ecology and sustainability, renewable and nonrenewable resources, pollution, energy policy, and global environmental degradation. Prerequisite: SO 101 or permission of instructor. Typically offered every other Fall semester (even-numbered years). Three credits.

**SO 184 Marriage and the Family**

This course provides an introduction to the study of marriage and the family from a sociological perspective. This course will provide an opportunity to look at something familiar (the family) in a new way. Using statistics, research, and sociological theories, we will examine marriage and the family with a focus on diversity in families and trends in forming and maintaining family life. Prerequisite: SO 101 recommended. Typically offered Spring semester. Three credits.

**SO 195 Probation, Parole, and Treatment of the Criminal Offender**

This course offers an in-depth view of society's treatment of criminal offenders. The history and administration of probation and parole in American society are discussed. Other topics include the U.S. penal system and community-based treatment of criminal offenders. Prerequisite: SO 101 and SO 115 recommended. Typically offered every other Fall semester (odd-numbered years). Three credits.

**SO 200 Race and Ethnicity**

This course explores the causes and consequences of prejudice and discrimination in America. We will connect the historical emergence of racial and ethnic groups to the social, cultural, political, and economic forces that shaped their experiences. The continuing role of these social forces will be highlighted in order to nurture a sociological vision of contemporary minority group life. The course will also accent relations between racial and ethnic groups and the evolution of social movements that resist oppression. Prerequisites: SO 101 recommended. Typically offered Fall semester. Three credits.

**SO 204 Deviance**

This course begins with an overview of sociological theories of deviance and applies the different theoretical perspectives to current topics in deviance. A variety of definitions, key theoretical perspectives, and concepts are presented and analyzed in an effort to understand the numerous ways that deviant behavior may be defined, explained and interpreted. The field of deviance provides an opportunity to study interesting and important substantive areas of sociology, as well as an opportunity to study basic concepts and theoretical approaches in sociology. Prerequisite: SO 101 or permission of instructor. Typically offered every other Spring semester (even-numbered years). Three credits.

**SO 215 Juvenile Justice**

A look at causative factors of juvenile delinquency and the treatment of juvenile offenders. Specific topics include gang subcultures, peer pressure, juvenile offenses, and the juvenile justice system. Prerequisite: SO 101 and SO 115 recommended. Typically offered every other Fall semester (even-numbered years). Three credits.

**SO 217 Sociology of Religion**

All forms of religious experience are connected to a social environment. The focus of the course is the impact of the social context upon religious belief and behavior. Special topics include apocalyptic movements, Catholics and modernity, cults, sects, fundamentalism, satanism, conversion experiences, the charismatic movement, and the changing role of women in religious institutions. Prerequisite: SO 101 or permission of instructor. Typically offered every other Spring semester (odd-numbered years). Three credits.

**SO 235 Inequality and Social Problems**

This course is an introduction to stratification, class theory, and social inequality, with an emphasis on the United States. We will explore relevant sociological theories and research findings concerning economic, political, and gender disparities, and the social problems created by these structures of inequality. Prerequisite: SO 101 recommended. Typically offered Fall semester. Three credits.

**SO 276 Sociology of Gender**

This course explores the social formation of gender inequality as well as the accompanying cultural construction of masculine and feminine ideologies and identities. Our investigations will focus on the following themes: the institutionalization of patriarchy; the intersection of class, power, and racial disparities between men and women; sexual violence against women; the transformation of gender roles; and the social movements and organizations that resist discrimination. Prerequisite: SO 101 recommended. Typically offered every other Spring semester (odd-numbered years). Three credits.

**SO 307 Sociological Theory**

This course traces the origin and development of sociological theory from the Enlightenment to the twenty-first century. The first part of the course will investigate the primary works of the classical theoreticians, focusing on Marx, Durkheim, and Weber. The second part of the course explores contemporary theories that have shaped sociology since the early 1900s, focusing on functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interactionism. Additional theories such as social exchange theory, phenomenology, and postmodernism will also be discussed. Prerequisite: SO 101, junior or above. Typically offered every other Spring semester (even-numbered years). Three credits.

**SO 315 Special Topics in Criminal Justice**

This course deals with specific problems, developments, and practices in the criminal justice system, including prisoner's rights, capital punishment, victimization, sentence disparity, and various other law enforcement issues. Prerequisite: SO 101 or SO 115 recommended. Typically offered every other Spring semester (even-numbered years). Three credits.

**SO 350 Independent Study — Sociology**

Independent investigation and research into a special topic for selected students. Topics are determined by both student and professor. Prerequisite: permission of faculty member and departmental chair. May be repeated. Variable credit.

**SO 356 Social Research Methods**

This course is an overview of research methodology in the social sciences. The general subject areas include research design, sampling, quantitative and qualitative methods, ethical issues, and computer-assisted analysis of results. Prerequisites: junior Sociology major or permission of instructor. Typically offered Fall semester. Three credits.

**SO 375 Special Topics in Sociology**

Topics vary, but the focus of this course is an in-depth examination of specific social issues and/or developments in sociology. Prerequisite: junior or senior standing. Occasional offering. Three credits.

**SO 405 Senior Seminar I**

This is a required course for senior Sociology majors. The seminar will review each step of the research process, and students will complete an original research project. Prerequisite: SO 356. Typically offered Fall semester. Three credits.

**SO 450 Senior Seminar II**

This course is a capstone course for Sociology majors. It is designed to facilitate critical reflection and analysis through completion of an independent senior project as well as a self-evaluation of sociological skills/knowledge and personal objectives. Prerequisites: SO 356, SO 405. Typically offered Spring semester. Three credits.

**SO 550 Internship/Cooperative Education — Sociology**

Students may arrange to receive credit for employment experience in various non-college settings. It is also possible to have paid or unpaid professional work entered into the transcript as "no credit." Prerequisite: permission of the departmental coordinator. May be repeated. Variable credit.