



The Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts & Letters
Department of Sociology, CU 253
Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Rd
Boca Raton, FL 33431
Tel: 561-297-3270
Fax: 561-297-2511

To: DFSCAL Undergraduate Programs Committee

From: Ann Branaman, Professor and Chair of Sociology

Date: March 30, 2020

Re: BA Sociology Curriculum Change Proposal

In an effort to create some modest verticality in our curriculum so as to allow student progression in the development of sociological research and writing skills, the faculty in the Department of Sociology have devised the following plan for revision of our BA curriculum. This proposed curriculum change is comprehensive, superseding all prior requirements for the major in Sociology.

1. We propose a new requirement for the major. All students will be required to complete SYG 1000 (Sociological Perspectives) *or* SYD 3792 (Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality).
2. We propose to move SYA 4010 Sociological Theory and SYA 4300 Sociological Analysis: Survey of Research Methods to the 3000-level. Both courses will remain requirements for Sociology majors. The prerequisite for these courses will be SYG 1000 or SYD 3792.
3. We propose to move several of our courses, listed below, from 4000 to 3000-level. With respect to content and rigor, these courses will remain the same as they were when delivered at the 4000-level. The purpose of moving many of our courses to the 3000-level is so that we may be able to heighten the rigor of the 4000-level courses. There will be no prerequisites for any of our 3000-level courses.
4. We propose adding SYA 3010 and SYA 3300 as prerequisites for our 4000-level courses. 4000-level courses will include:
 - SYA 4310 Qualitative Research Methods
 - SYA 4400 Sociological Analysis: Quantitative Research Methods
 - SYA 4930 Special Topics
 - SYP 4063 Social Construction of Sexuality
 - SYP 4453 Global Social Change
 - SYP 4464 Sociology of Climate and Disaster
 - SYP 4610 Cultural Sociology

Sociology majors will be required to take at least two 4000-level courses to fulfill the requirements of the major. These courses will require students to conduct full-scale sociological research projects and, in so doing, develop proficiency on each of the six sociological research

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and writing skills our faculty defined through the WEC process (incorporating many of the learning objectives of our prior URI development project).

In sum, effective Spring 2021, the new requirements for the Sociology major will be as follows:

1. SYG 1000 Sociological Perspectives *or* SYD 3792 Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality (3 credits)
2. SYA 3010 Sociological Theory (3 credits)
3. SYA 3300 Sociological Analysis: Survey of Methods (3 credits)
4. Six 3000-level electives in Sociology (18 credits)
5. Two 4000-level courses (6 credits) (SYA 3010 and SYA 3400 are formal prerequisites for enrollment in 4000-level courses)

Additional 4000-level courses may be substituted for 3000-level elective courses.

The total number of credits for the major will be 33 (including SYG 1000). The major may be completed, however, with only 30 credits in Sociology if majors opt to take SYD 3792 as a substitute for SYG 1000).

Comprehensive list of courses changes:

SYA 4310 Qualitative Research Methods – change prerequisites
SYA 4400 Sociological Analysis: Quantitative Research Methods – change prerequisites
SYA 4930 Special Topics – change prerequisites
SYP 4610 Cultural Sociology – change prerequisites
SYP 4063 Social Construction of Sexuality – change prerequisites
SYP 4453 Global Social Change – change prerequisites
SYP 4464 Sociology of Climate and Disaster – change prerequisites
SYP 4610 Cultural Sociology – change prerequisites
SYP 4451 Globalization and U.S. Cities to SYP 3451 Globalization and Cities
SYA 4010 Sociological Theory to SYA 3010 – change prerequisites
SYA 4120 Contemporary Social Theory to SYA 3120
SYA 4300 Sociological Analysis: Survey of Methods to SYA 3300
SYD 4510 Environmental Sociology to SYD 3510
SYD 4602 Urban Community to SYD 3600
SYD 4702 Race in Global Context to SYD 3701
SYD 4804 Sociology of the Body to SYD 3804
SYG 4244 Sociology of Food to SYG 3242
SYO 4200 Sociology of Religion to SYO 3200
SYO 4250 Sociology of Education to SYO 3250
SYO 4534 Poverty & Society to SYO 3534
SYO 4370 Gender and Work to SYO 3370
SYO 4377 Labor and Globalization to SYO 3371
SYO 4410 Sociology of Mental Health to SYO 3410

SYO 4448 Animals & Society to SYO 3442
SYP 4014 Sociology of Happiness to SYP 3011
SYP 4112 Microsociology to SYP 3112
SYP 4304 Social Movements to SYP 3302
SYP 4420 Sociology of Consumption to SYP 3420
SYP 4454 Globalization and Social Movements to SYP 3454
SYP 4530 Adolescence & Delinquency to SYP 3530
SYP 4714 Sociology of Youth to SYP 3712
SYP 4774 Youth Subcultures to SYP 3772
SYA 4150 Social Conflict to SYA 3150

New course proposals

SYA 3930 Special Topics. Our current special topics course, SYA 4930, will be used for research courses in areas of faculty expertise. SYA 3930 will be necessary to accommodate new course development at the 3000-level.

List of courses to be terminated:

SYD 4812 Women, wealth, and power
SYD 4815 Sociology of Fashion

List of courses on hold (will not be taught until a decision is made regarding retention/termination or 3000/4000 level):

Writing Social Theory (SYA 4511)
Social Conflict (SYA 4150)
Gender, Power and Relationships (SYD 4814)
Sociology of Religion (SYO 4200)
Sociology of the Marketplace (SYO 4353)
Sociology of Happiness (SYP 4014)
Organizational Sociology (SYO 4570)

3000-level courses already in our curriculum and regularly offered, with no changes to prerequisites required:

SYD 3700 Race and Ethnic Relations
SYO 3100 Family and Society
SYO 3400 Social Change
SYO 3530 Class, Status, and Power
SYO 3550 Drugs & Society
SYP 3060 Human Sexuality & Social Change
SYP 3110 Self & Society
SYP 3570 Deviance & Social Control
SYP 3650 Sociology of Sport
SYP 3740 Sociology of Aging and Dying