

Sociology

Our Sociology program provides an exceptional opportunity to match your studies and values in order to create positive social change.

As a sociology major, you will gain the knowledge and skills to understand people and contemporary culture.

Our exceptional faculty have specialized in culture, race and ethnicity, social inequality, family, religion, and social change.

Our sociology students also have the option of completing the Human Services certificate program. This program has an applied focus in sociology, with opportunities to choose from a wide variety of practicums in helping professions. Practicums include areas in social service agencies that are governmental, non-governmental, profit or non-profit organizations, or faith-based organizations.

Sociology students may complete a semester at the Laurentian Leadership Centre in Ottawa, where they complete classes toward their degree while enjoying a rewarding internship.

HUMAN SERVICES CERTIFICATE

The Human Services certificate enriches students with a wide range of courses in the social sciences, psychology, and sociology programs, preparing them for the helping professions. The program focuses on issues such as child and family development, criminal justice, faith-based social services, general human services, and global issues. Students are also equipped to work with individuals who experience social, emotional, and cognitive problems.

GENDER STUDIES MINOR

A Gender Studies minor offers students the opportunity to understand the role of gender in society, its structural framework in different countries, the perception of gender in the West, and a study of how the concept of gender has evolved throughout the centuries. Offered through the Gender Studies Institute at TWU, a multi-disciplinary minor in gender studies provides students with several courses, ranging from feminist philosophy to engendered history.

ID	COURSE	CREDITS
SOCI 101	<p>SOCI 101 - Introduction to Sociology 2022-2023</p> <p>Students are invited into using the discipline of sociology as way of a mode of inquiry. Through concepts like the sociological imagination, students experience the social world around them by interacting with the norms, values and beliefs of local and global cultures.</p>	3
SOCI 105	<p>SOCI 105 - Introduction to Gender Studies 2022-2023</p> <p>An introduction to Gender Studies, an interdisciplinary field that asks critical questions about the</p>	3

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	meanings of sex and gender in society. Students will examine key issues, questions and debates in Gender Studies, both historical and contemporary, and will analyze the multiple ways that sex and gender have interacted with and continue to intersect with race, class, nationality and other social identities, including religious ones.	
SOCI 201	<p>SOCI 201 - Introduction to Human Services 2022-2023</p> <p>An examination of the basic philosophies and social influences which underlie the helping professions and a brief review of the history of professional human services workers. This course must be completed successfully before a student is assigned a field placement.</p>	3
SOCI 204	<p>SOCI 204 - Social Psychology 2022-2023</p> <p>The relationship between the individual and society. Motivation, interpersonal relationships, attitude formation and change, communication, effective group dynamics, and leadership.</p>	3
SOCI 210	<p>SOCI 210 - Race and Ethnicity 2022-2023</p> <p>This course introduces students to the concept of race and ethnicity and to the major theories that the discipline employs as a means of understanding race and ethnic relations.</p>	3
SOCI 221	<p>SOCI 221 - Sociology of Family 2022-2023</p> <p>This course is a sociological examination of families in society. The emphasis is on the structural and cultural aspects of family life. Topics include: theories and methods for understanding families; formation of intimate relationships; mate selection processes, marriage, and parenting; families over the life course; gender issues; and transitions in families.</p>	3
SOCI 234	<p>SOCI 234 - Intro to CDN Government & Politics 2022-2023</p> <p>Provides the student with an overview of the Canadian system of government in a comparative approach that includes study of British, American, and Canadian political and government institutions and practices. A comparative study of how basic concepts, principles, and institutions associated with different expressions of liberal-democratic governments highlight the diversity of political experience, reveal the interdependence of political systems and show the uniqueness of Canada's political system. Particular attention is given to the manner in which Parliament attempts to facilitate and develop public policy which reflects the diverse interests and aspirations of its citizens.</p>	3
SOCI 240	<p>SOCI 240 - Individual and Society 2022-2023</p> <p>This course aims to provide students with an introductory overview of the micro-level, interpretive tradition in sociology. Focusing on the everyday lived reality of human experience and interaction with social institutions, we will explore a variety of sociological topics like gender, health and illness, technology and social problems from a micro-perspective. This course will help students understand how humans engage in meaning-making activity in their day-to-day lives, and how this, in turn, contributes to the creation of broader sociological norms and institutions</p>	3

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SOCI 252	<p>SOCI 252 - Contemporary Social Issues 2022-2023</p> <p>An examination of the complex nature of issues confronting individuals, groups, and society at large. An examination of the various situations which produce these issues, the social symptoms that result, and an evaluation of possible solutions to social problems.</p>	3
SOCI 305	<p>SOCI 305 - Youth and Emerging Adulthood 2022-2023</p> <p>This course will offer a sociological examination of youth in society, including identity, subcultures, sexual behavior, music, consumerism, religion, schooling, work, social problems, and other issues affecting youth transitions to adulthood.</p>	3
SOCI 309	<p>SOCI 309 - Sociological Aspects of Aging 2022-2023</p> <p>A study of human aging in its sociological, psychological, and physiological dimensions. An examination of changing social roles during the life cycle.</p>	3
SOCI 315	<p>SOCI 315 - Globalization 2022-2023</p> <p>The study of culture, social institutions, and systems from a global perspective. Various sociological theories and concepts are examined.</p>	3
SOCI 318	<p>SOCI 318 - Technology & Social Change 2022-2023</p> <p>This course provides an analysis of the relationship between technological advances and social change. Ideas about which technologies are to be developed, deployed, or abandoned are socially constructed. The use of all technologies has both intended and unintended social consequences.</p>	3
SOCI 320	<p>SOCI 320 - Practicum I 2022-2023</p> <p>Students are provided with an opportunity for experiential learning through a supervised practical experience with a community or social agency related to the student's interest and/or future career plans. Readings, written assignments, and group meetings invite students to discover a new synthesis of knowledge through integrating theory and practical experience. Students develop cognitive complexity as they consider how to apply the knowledge gained in the social sciences, to acquire praxis skills, and to experience personal transformation while serving and empowering others.</p>	3
SOCI 325	<p>SOCI 325 - Sociocultural Aspects of Sport and Leisure 2022-2023</p> <p>An examination of the sociological and cultural dynamics of sport and how sport has become a socializing agent of society and culture. Topics include religion and sport, women in sport, minorities and sport, big business of sport, drugs and sport performance, and sport deviance</p>	3
SOCI 331	<p>SOCI 331 - Sociology of Religion 2022-2023</p> <p>An introduction to the theories and concepts utilized by sociologists to interpret religious</p>	3

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	behaviour and the organization of religion.	
SOCI 335	<p>SOCI 335 - Classical Theory 2022-2023</p> <p>This course explores the ideas of social theorists central to the development of sociology, the role of social theory in the social sciences, and its application to social research.NB: Not offered every year See department chair</p>	3
SOCI 336	<p>SOCI 336 - Contemporary Theory 2022-2023</p> <p>An examination of major theoretical perspectives in sociology, such as functionalism, symbolic interactionism, phenomenological sociology, ethnomethodology, neo-Marxism, critical theory, exchange theory, rational choice, postmodernity, and globalization.</p>	3
SOCI 340	<p>SOCI 340 - Religion and Culture in Canada 2022-2023</p> <p>This course examines the role of religious beliefs and practices in Canadian culture from a sociological perspective. Emphasis is on understanding pluralism, multiculturalism, and contemporary religious expression in relation to other social institutions like family, economics, and politics. Attention is given to cross-cultural comparisons of religions in Canada.</p>	3
SOCI 350	<p>SOCI 350 - Urban Sociology 2022-2023</p> <p>This course examines the evolution of the city, from its earliest pre-industrial roots to cities of the New Economy, and provides a sociological analysis of selected urban social issues. The course explores the urban effect on society and the various efforts, past and present, to make cities more livable.</p>	3
SOCI 355	<p>SOCI 355 - Community Development 2022-2023</p> <p>The goal of this course is to clarify thinking about the use of the term community, to explore the role of community in contemporary society, and to consider societal and cultural factors that either promote or undermine the building of community.</p>	3
SOCI 356	<p>SOCI 356 - Self and Identity 2022-2023</p> <p>This course offers an in-depth exploration of the development and applicability of the theoretical perspective of symbolic interactionism to the study of self and identity. Students will encounter the work of several classical and contemporary theorists on the topic of self and identity including different perspectives on socialization, self-presentation and authenticity. This course will provide students with a greater understanding of how broader social institutions and narratives intertwine with and influence individual self-narratives, agency and expression.</p>	3
SOCI 360	<p>SOCI 360 - Research Methods in Social Sciences 2022-2023</p> <p>An introduction to the concepts and processes of both qualitative and quantitative social research. Research processes include problem definition, data collection, and analysis. Students are</p>	3

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	expected to develop research skills through practical application.	
SOCI 365	<p>SOCI 365 - Sociology of Education 2022-2023</p> <p>An analysis of the role of the school in culture; societal trends affecting the institutions and practices of education; interpretive paradigms and related research studies; group dynamics in education; religious, social, and economic factors and issues in Canadian education.</p>	3
SOCI 380	<p>SOCI 380 - Criminology and Justice 2022-2023</p> <p>An introduction to key concepts and issues in criminology and to operational practices of the Canadian criminal justice system. Topics include principal criminological theories, the social construction and elements of criminal behaviour, policing, court structure and procedures, sentencing, corrections, alternatives, and contemporary issues.</p>	3
SOCI 390	<p>SOCI 390 - Special Topics in Sociology 2022-2023</p> <p>An examination of the ideas of a particular theorist, school of thought, or conflicting theories within the behavioural sciences; or an examination of particular sociological issues from a theoretical or empirical perspective.</p>	3
SOCI 391	<p>SOCI 391 - Canadian Governmental Leadership 2022-2023</p> <p>In the setting of the historical Booth Mansion in Ottawa, students are invited to explore the history of Canadian political leadership. Using the historical method, including research in primary sources, they will evaluate the leadership of Canadian Prime Ministers and examine how they addressed the needs and crises of the nation. By means of their enquiries into Canada's political leadership, students will develop their own theories of effective leadership.</p>	3
SOCI 392	<p>SOCI 392 - Ethics and Public Affairs 2022-2023</p> <p>The philosophical basis for and nature of ethical decision-making. Recent and contemporary ethical issues facing leaders in the political, business, and communication fields. Students observe how today's leaders engage ethical dilemmas in the Ottawa setting of their discipline.</p>	3
SOCI 395	<p>SOCI 395 - Indigenous Peoples in Canada 2022-2023</p> <p>This course is an introduction to the culture, languages, history and enduring presence of Indigenous Peoples in Canada. It will explore a range of indigenous social and cultural formations. Attention will be given to the cultural, economic, political, and religious aspects of Indigenous societies, as well as the changes that have occurred since the arrival of the Europeans.</p>	3
SOCI 400	<p>SOCI 400 - Critical Issues in Human Services 2022-2023</p> <p>This seminar explores critical issues which occur across the helping professions. Basic questions concerning human nature and the influence of society are examined. This course also serves as key preparation and support for upper level field placement experience.</p>	3

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SOCI 405	<p>SOCI 405 - Globalization and Religion 2022-2023</p> <p>This course is an analysis of the character of religion in relationship to globalization. Attention is paid to the nature of religion in global society, responses of religions to global change, religious/theological reflections on the various meanings of globalization, and the development of religion as a global culture.</p>	3
SOCI 410	<p>SOCI 410 - Advanced Studies: Race & Ethnicity 2022-2023</p> <p>An analysis of race and ethnicity including contemporary theories about racism, ethnic identity, ethnic relations, nationalism and globalization.</p>	3
SOCI 411	<p>SOCI 411 - Practicum 2022-2023</p> <p>Students are provided with an opportunity for experiential learning through a supervised practical experience with a community or social agency related to the student's interest and/or future career plans. Readings, written assignments, and group meetings invite students to discover a new synthesis of knowledge through integrating theory and practical experience. Students develop cognitive complexity as they consider how to apply the knowledge gained in the social sciences, to acquire praxis skills, and to experience personal transformation while serving and empowering others.</p>	3
SOCI 418	<p>SOCI 418 - Social and Political Concepts of Community in Contemporary Political Theory 2022-2023</p> <p>Provides the student with an in-depth study of the social and political concepts of community. Attention is focused on how recognition of community brings into play the tension between individual and collective/group rights. Course lectures, reading assignments, and in-class discussion provide an overview of the following topics: interpretation/hermeneutics of community, roots of community theory, myth of community, quest for community, Christian community, recognition of minority communities in politics, problems associated with the concept of community, recognition of group rights, the liberal-communitarian debate over community, and problems associated with communitarian theory.</p>	3
SOCI 420	<p>SOCI 420 - Practicum 2022-2023</p> <p>Students are provided with an opportunity for experiential learning through a supervised practical experience with a community or social agency related to the student's interest and/or future career plans. Readings, written assignments, and group meetings invite students to discover a new synthesis of knowledge through integrating theory and practical experience. Students develop cognitive complexity as they consider how to apply the knowledge gained in the social sciences, to acquire praxis skills, and to experience personal transformation while serving and empowering others.</p>	3
SOCI 450	<p>SOCI 450 - Seminar in Sociology 2022-2023</p> <p>Students analyze and reflect upon major issues in sociology. This integrative seminar addresses</p>	3

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a variety of methodological, theoretical, and practical questions.