

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Sociology is the scientific study of people in groups—from friendship networks to communities to entire nations. Sociologists describe the characteristics of social groups and consider explanations for social stability and social change. They promote critical thinking on issues such as social inequality, racial and ethnic conflict, law and justice, and the role of gender and sexuality.



Highlights

- ▶ The Department of Sociology has consistently received top 20 national rankings. In the most recent available report from *U.S. News and World Report*, our specialty area of Sociology of Population received 14th.
- ▶ Four members of our faculty have been honored with UW Distinguished Teaching Awards and two have received UW Distinguished Graduate Mentor Awards.
- ▶ The department is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2016-2017; the Department's first PhD was awarded in 1932.

Education

The undergraduate major in sociology provides students with knowledge of and a perspective on social life that transcends their personal experience and helps them understand trends such as changes in family content and composition, differential experiences of immigrant groups, extent of health disparities across social groups, the role of political and religious institutions in society, and sources of and changes in social inequality.

UW Sociology courses attract more than 6,000 students each year, many of them non-majors fulfilling general education requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences and other units. We have about 300 majors annually.

The Sociology Honors Program offers an academically rigorous alternative to the general major including a student generated research experience. Our honors program is designed for students interested in graduate work in sociology or in related professional fields.

The department has a set of strong practicum programs offering undergraduates real world experiences in conjunction with classroom learning. Sociology students have worked with the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Contracts Compliance Program on workplace discrimination issues; in Seattle Public Schools as tutors; at Helping Link, a Vietnamese grass-roots organization; and with the American Civil Liberties Union. Our undergraduate research practicum takes research experience into the community, including evaluation of City of Seattle program initiatives.

The department's graduate program consistently ranks among the top twenty in the country. Graduate study is offered in a number of substantive areas and has strong connections to affiliated research centers on campus. (See reverse.)

Alumni from the Department of Sociology have translated their degrees into successful careers in business, education, law, law enforcement, social work, and government.

STUDENTS (Autumn 2016)

295	Undergraduate majors
70	Graduate students

DEGREES AWARDED (July 2015-June 2016)

209	Bachelor of Arts degrees
11	Master of Arts degrees
7	PhD degrees

MAJOR STUDENT AWARDS (Since 2007)

1	Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship
8	American Sociological Association (ASA) Graduate Student Paper Awards
3	ASA Fellowships
10	Fulbright Fellowships
2	American Society of Criminology Gene Carte Student Paper Awards
6	National Science Foundation (NSF) Fellowships
6	NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants
1	Stanford Sociology Fellowship
1	Harvard-Yenching Institute Doctoral Fellowship
3	Mary Gates Scholars
2	UW Graduate School Distinguished Dissertation Awards
3	UW John C. Flanagan Dissertation Fellowships
5	Chester A. Fritz International Research and Study Fellowships
1	IREX International Research Fellow
1	WAGS/UMI Distinguished Master's Thesis Award

Faculty

Department of Sociology faculty awards and honors include:

- 2 Members of the National Academy of Sciences
- 6 Members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- 6 Members of the Washington Academy of Sciences
- 8 Members of the Sociological Research Association
- 2 Fellows of the American Society of Criminology
- 1 Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics
- 1 Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science
- 1 Ireland's St. Patrick's Medal for Contributions to Science
- 2 Past Presidents of the Pacific Sociological Association
- 1 Past President of the Population Association of America
- 1 Past President of the American Sociological Association
- 2 Population Association of America Clifford C. Clogg Awards
- 1 American Society of Criminology Sutherland Award
- 1 Distinguished Alumnus, St. Louis University Award
- 2 Russell Sage Foundation Visiting Scholars
- 1 UW Presidential Term Professorship
- 4 UW Distinguished Teaching Awards
- 2 UW Distinguished Graduate Mentor Awards
- 1 UW Distinguished Public Service Award
- 1 UW Honors Program Excellence in Teaching Award
- 1 UW Annual Faculty Lecturer
- 1 UW Graduate School Legacy Award
- 2 UW Center for Statistics and Social Sciences Directors
- 2 Robert Wood Johnson Health Scholar Fellows (past)

In addition, awards from the American Sociological Association include: 1 W.E.B. DuBois Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award, 1 Paul F. Lazarsfeld Memorial Award, 5 awards for published articles, 1 Award for Public Understanding of Sociology, 1 Simon & Gagne Award for Career Achievement, 1 James Short Award and 1 Otis Dudley Duncan Book Award.

Research

Department faculty are engaged in research on a wide variety of important issues, including: how different economic and social institutions shape political participation and inequality (racial, ethnic, health, income, educational), the complex role of neighborhoods on violence, crime and health outcomes; the role of housing finance in shaping the urban landscape; the creation and implications of racial disparities in the juvenile and the adult justice systems; the role of law in reproducing inequality; demographic processes in Asia; the role of social networks in organizational processes, migration and health outcomes; and the role of gender and sexuality in family organization and life course experience.

FACULTY (Autumn 2016)

- 14 Professors
- 5 Associate Professors
- 3 Assistant Professors
- 1 Senior Lecturer
- 2 Lecturers
- 18 Emeritus Professors

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Demography and Ecology

Deviant Behavior and Social Control

Economic Sociology and Organizations

Family and Kinship

Health

Political Sociology

Race and Ethnicity

Research Methodology

Sex and Gender

Stratification/Social Inequality

DEPARTMENT/FACULTY AFFILIATIONS WITH INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH CENTERS

Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences

Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology

Comparative Law and Society Studies Center

Center for Social Science Computation and Research

West Coast Poverty Center

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