

SOCIOLOGY - B.A.

College of Sciences and Humanities
 Department of Sociology and Criminology
www.kent.edu/sociology

About This Program

The Sociology major provides you with a deep understanding of the social factors that shape our world. With a focus on critical thinking and problem solving, you will gain the skills needed to analyze complex social issues and develop effective solutions. Enroll now and become a change agent in society. Read more...

Contact Information

- **Manacy Pai** | mpai@kent.edu | 330-672-3405
- Speak with an Advisor
 - Ashtabula Campus
 - Kent Campus
 - Stark Campus
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor: Kent Campus | Regional Campuses

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - Mostly online
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Ashtabula Campus
 - Kent Campus
 - Stark Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Social science research assistants

- 5.8% faster than the average
- 40,100 number of jobs
- \$49,210 potential earnings

Sociologists

- 3.6% about as fast as the average
- 3,200 number of jobs
- \$86,110 potential earnings

Sociology teachers, postsecondary

- 3.8% about as fast as the average
- 17,000 number of jobs
- \$75,610 potential earnings

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at

which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students.

First-Year Students on the Kent Campus: First-year admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campuses to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

First-Year Students on the Regional Campuses: First-year admission to Kent State's campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Twinsburg Academic Center, is open to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of proficiency of the English language (unless they meet specific exceptions) through the submission of an English language proficiency test score or by completing English language classes at Kent State's English as a Second Language Center before entering their program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students who have not attended another institution since Kent State and were not academically dismissed will complete the re-enrollment process through the Financial, Billing and Enrollment Center. Former students who attended another college or university since leaving Kent State must apply for admissions as a transfer or post-undergraduate student.

Transfer Students: Students who attended an educational institution after graduating from high school or earning their GED must apply as transfer students. For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog's Academic Policies.

Students may be required to meet certain criteria to progress in their program. Any progression requirements will be listed on the program's Coursework tab

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
SOC 12050	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (KSS)	3
SOC 32210	RESEARCHING SOCIETY (ELR) (WIC) ¹	3
SOC 32220	DATA ANALYSIS ²	3
SOC 32221	DATA ANALYSIS LABORATORY ²	1
SOC 42126	SOCIOLOGICAL THEORIES	3
Sociology (SOC) Electives ³		6
Sociology (SOC) Upper-Division Electives (30000 or 40000 level) ³		15

Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)

UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Foreign Language (see Foreign Language College Requirement below)		10-16
American Civic Literacy Requirement ⁴		3
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each)		6-9
⁴		
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines) ⁴		0-3
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Kent Core Additional		6
General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 39 upper-division credit hours)		42
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

¹ A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

² Students who have declared majors in both Sociology and Psychology may substitute PSYC 21621 for SOC 32220 and SOC 32221.

³ Students may earn a maximum of 12 credit hours of SOC 42092; however, only 6 credit hours will count toward major requirements.

⁴ If students complete the American Civic Literacy requirement by taking HIST 12061, the course will apply to the Kent Core Humanities category. If they complete it with POL 10101, the course will apply to the Kent Core Social Sciences category.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.000	2.000

Foreign Language College Requirement, B.A.

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Arts degree in the College of Sciences and Humanities must complete the following:

- Elementary I and II of any language (or equivalent) **and**
- One of the following options:
 - Intermediate I and II of the same language
 - Elementary I and II of a second language
 - Any combination of two courses from the following list:
 - Intermediate I of the same language
 - One to two college-level course(s) completed outside the United States
 - Courses: ARAB 21401, ASL 19401, CHIN 25421, MCLS 10001, MCLS 20001, MCLS 20091, MCLS 21417, MCLS 21420, MCLS 22217, MCLS 28403, MCLS 28404

All students with prior foreign language experience should take the foreign language placement test to determine the appropriate level at which to start. Some students may start beyond the Elementary I level and will complete the requirement with fewer courses. This may be accomplished in one of three ways:

- Passing a course beyond Elementary I through Intermediate II level
- Receiving credit through one of the alternative credit programs offered by Kent State University
- Demonstrating language proficiency comparable to Elementary II of a foreign language

Certain programs may require specific languages, limit the languages from which a student may choose or require coursework through Intermediate II. Students who plan to pursue graduate study may need a particular language proficiency.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. Students will work with their advisor to develop a sequence based on their academic goals and history. Courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One		Credits
SOC 12050	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (KSS)	3
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
	Foreign Language	4
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		14
Semester Two		Credits
	Sociology (SOC) Elective	3
	Foreign Language	4
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		16
Semester Three		Credits
	Sociology (SOC) Elective	3
	Foreign Language and/or General Elective	3
	American Civic Literacy Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Four		Credits
	Sociology (SOC) Upper-Division Elective (30000 or 40000 level)	3
	Foreign Language and/or General Elective	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Five		Credits
!	SOC 32210 RESEARCHING SOCIETY (ELR) (WIC)	3
	Sociology (SOC) Upper-Division Electives (30000 or 40000 level)	6
	General Electives	6
Credit Hours		15
Semester Six		Credits
!	SOC 32220 DATA ANALYSIS	3
!	SOC 32221 DATA ANALYSIS LABORATORY	1
	Sociology (SOC) Upper-Division Electives (30000 or 40000 level)	6
	General Electives	6
Credit Hours		16
Semester Seven		Credits
!	SOC 42126 SOCIOLOGICAL THEORIES	3
	General Electives	12
Credit Hours		15

Semester Eight	
General Electives	14
Credit Hours	14
Minimum Total Credit Hours:	120

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor’s degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCOMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	36-37

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Describe how sociology is similar to and different from other social sciences.
2. Show how one’s personal life is shaped by the time and place in which one lives.
3. Demonstrate how institutions of family, education, religion, medicine and the economy are interrelated.
4. Understand the interrelationships between social structures and individuals in society.
5. Distinguish between individualistic, cultural and structural explanations of social events.

Program Policies Foreign Language Requirements

In general, students may elect any foreign language taught through the Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies. However, certain majors, concentrations and minors require specific languages or limit the languages from which students may choose. In addition, students who plan to pursue graduate study may need particular languages for that study. In such cases, students should seek the advice of the appropriate department before selecting a language.

Progress Toward Fulfillment

College of Sciences and Humanities students are encouraged to begin meeting the foreign language requirement as early as possible in their program to ensure timely degree completion.

Mandatory Outcomes Assessment

In addition to the other General Requirements of the college, candidates for an undergraduate degree in the College of Sciences and Humanities are required, as a condition of graduation, to participate in an outcomes assessment. These outcomes assessments are conducted by each undergraduate degree program in the College of Sciences and Humanities.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology provides broad training in the theories and methods that sociologists use to understand contemporary social issues and problems. Students are encouraged to think critically as they examine issues ranging from small group behavior to global social movements. The core curriculum focuses on social inequalities, social psychology and health and illness. In addition, the program offers courses on a variety of topics that include urban living, deviant behavior, religion and family.

Sociology students are increasingly interested in courses that prepare them for meaningful careers that change the world (Seemiller & Grace, 2016). One only needs to look at Black Lives Matter or the Sunrise Movement to see evidence of this generational disposition. Sociology, as a discipline, provides students with rigorous coursework on social inequality and social change and helps students find careers in government, teaching, community organizing, non-governmental organizations and social work.

Students may work with faculty and advisors to pursue their own individualized specialization in such areas as medical sociology; social inequalities; sociological social psychology; social change and social justice; family and life course sociology; and social problems, deviance and crime.

Sociology students may apply early to the M.A. degree in Sociology and double count 9 credit hours of graduate courses toward both degree programs. See the Combined Bachelor’s/Master’s Degree Program Policy in the University Catalog for more information.