2009-2010 Undergraduate advising sheet, Sociology

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Sociology Requirements

Course	Hours	Grade
Sociology Major Requirements	**39**	
Required Courses	**21**	
SOC 200 Introductory Sociology	**3**	
SOC 344 Social Research I	**3**	
SOC 345 Social Statistics I	**3**	
SOC 360 Sociological Perspectives	**3**	
SOC 375 Social Stratification	**3**	
SOC 391 Junior Seminar	**3**	
SOC 475 Senior Seminar (Capstone)	**3**	
Elective Courses (a minimum of 18 credits)	**18**	
A minimum of 6 credits must be selected from courses on social diversity: SOC 401 Population and Human Ecology SOC 423 Social Class, Power and Conflict	**3**	
SOC 425 Race and Ethnicity SOC 440 Introduction to the Sociology of Aging SOC 455 Sociology of Sex and Gender Or any anthropology course (courses with the prefix ANT)	**3**	
A minimum of 3 credits must be selected from courses on social institutions: SOC 342 American Society SOC 408 The Family SOC 433 Industrial Sociology SOC 450 Sociology of Religion	**3**	
	3	
	3	
	3	
TOTAL HOURS	**39**	

The sociology program at Marshall seeks to ensure that each student develops a solid foundation in the principles, theories and techniques of analysis in the discipline. While allowing for a great deal of flexibility to accommodate students' diverse interests, the curriculum ensures that students are introduced to social theory, stratification and institutions and courses in the basic methods of the discipline.

Sociology Minor Requirements	Hours	Grade
A minor in sociology requires at least 15 credits. As listed below, 9 of these credits constitute the core of the minor. The remainder of the required credits can be taken from any class with the prefix SOC. A maximum of 6 credits below 300-level can be counted towards the minor.		
SOC 200 Introductory Sociology	**3**	
SOC 344 Social Research I	**3**	
SOC 360 Sociological Perspectives	**3**	
Elective	**3**	
Elective	**3**	
TOTAL HOURS	**15**	

Sociology is the study of human societies. We ask basic questions like “why do humans do what we do” and “how does society work.” Along the way we pick up essential human questions like: What does it mean when we say that we live in a socially constructed reality? What is the place of the individual in society?

If you have ever thought about questions like these, you might want to consider a degree in sociology. Humans are social beings and we interact in a social environment. Sociology is the scientific discipline that studies human behavior and social interactions of individuals, groups, organizations and whole societies. Sociology focuses primarily on contemporary societies, though we incorporate a historical and developmental perspective.

The sociology program at Marshall University offers students the opportunity to study the intricacies of social life: how to negotiate the collaboratively constructed institutions through which our social world works, how social stratification affects opportunities for individuals and groups, how to critically analyze the problems inherent in the way we construct society, how to empirically determine the facts we construct into truths. The social and analytical skills developed through the program are essential for any job dealing with people and organizations – especially those dealing in multiethnic and global environments and that require breadth and adaptability.

You don’t often see jobs with “sociologist” in the title, but a sociology BA is recognized as an excellent preparation for a wide variety of occupations, especially for careers in social policy, education, union organizing or other social movements, health care, criminology, aging network, industrial or public relations, marketing, human resource management, organizational research, or community and social services. Of course, Marshall’s sociology program also offers an excellent preparation for professional degrees and/or advanced degrees in sociology. A recent study by CareerCast.com ranked sociology as the eighth most appealing job in its analysis of 200 occupations based on job characteristics such as perceived work environment, income, employment outlook, physical demands, security, and stress.