

Nature of Program

Sociology and anthropology courses constitute an important part of the social processes which operate in all groups, organizations, and institutions. The student is exposed to the methods of inquiry, to the special knowledge and insights of sociology and anthropology principles, and to the wide range of contemporary social problems. Sociology and anthropology constitute an important part of the undergraduate education for those pursuing careers in law, health professions, or business, and for engineers and scientists concerned with environmental and ecological problems. Majors in sociology and anthropology often find employment in applied research with government agencies, assisting in community development and planning, or using knowledge of social organization and social processes in a variety of settings within the United States or abroad. Majors are well-equipped for graduate training in the social sciences in pursuit of academic or applied research careers.



Division of Sociology and Anthropology
School of Applied Social Sciences
Eberly College of Arts and Sciences
West Virginia University
PO Box 6326
Morgantown, WV 26506-6326
Phone: 304-293-5801
Fax: 304-293-5994
[Http://www.as.wvu.edu/soc_a](http://www.as.wvu.edu/soc_a)

The image is a vertical poster for an Anthropology program. At the top left, it features the West Virginia University logo (a gold 'W' with a blue outline) and the text 'West Virginia University' in blue, with the tagline 'Where Greatness is Learned' in a smaller font below it. The word 'Anthropology' is written in a large, stylized, multi-colored font (green, blue, purple) that arches across the center of the poster. Below this, the text 'Area of Emphasis' is centered. Further down, it states 'An integrated course of study offered by the Division of Sociology and Anthropology'. The background of the poster is a mix of purple and teal colors with a wavy, organic border.

Anthropology Emphasis

Students are introduced to the classic four-field perspective in this discipline: archaeology, physical, linguistic, and cultural anthropology. The program attracts students with a strong interest in physical anthropology and archaeology who have a deep interest in other cultures and places in the contemporary world. Courses deal with third-world health problems provoked by first-world systems, traditional cultural area studies, and the nature of our cultural and biological past.

Students majoring in the Division of Sociology and Anthropology must earn a minimum of 33 credit hours in division courses. Twenty-seven hours are required at the 200 level or higher, of which twelve (including SocA 311 and 401) must be 300 level or higher. Specific courses are identified for each area of emphasis. It is assumed that all elective courses are three-credit courses.

Students are encouraged to do independent study, fieldwork, or an internship in the senior year, combining experiential work with previously acquired skills in a project appropriate to their emphasis. Up to three credit hours of independent study or field experience may be counted toward fulfilling departmental elective requirements.

An overall 2.0 GPA is required for graduation; a 2.0 GPA is also required in departmental courses for graduation.

Admission Requirements

Students may apply for admission as pre-majors during their freshman or sophomore year. Application for admission into the major requires completion of



SocA 101 or SocA 105 with a grade of C or higher; completion of Stat 211 (recommended) or Stat 111 with a grade of C or higher; completion of 58 credit hours with a minimum cumulative GPA of at least

2.0; and a minimum GPA of 2.25 across all SocA courses.

Degree Requirements

General Requirements All students in the division are required to take the following courses in addition to the required courses in their chosen area of emphasis:

SocA 101 Introduction to Sociology
SocA 105 Introduction to Anthropology
SocA 311 Social Research Methods
SocA 401 Sociological Theory
SocA 488 Capstone Experience
Stat 111 Understanding Statistics
or Stat 211 Elementary Stat

Emphasis Requirements Every major must complete the requirements of one of the divisional areas of emphasis. In addition to general degree requirements, students must take:

SocA 252 Physical Anthropology
SocA 258 Intro to Archaeology & (SocA 250 Archeology Laboratory)
or SocA 359 World Prehistory

and must take 12 hours selected from:

SocA 251 Culture and Language
SocA 255 Latin American Cultures
SocA 256 Traditional and Changing Africa
SocA 257 The Art of Primitive Peoples
SocA 353 Anthropology of Religion
SocA 358 Anthropology of Health and Illness
SocA 455 Anthropology Theory
SocA 456 Field Methods
SocA 493 Special Topics (must be an approved Anthropology course)

(three credit hours of field work may be substituted for three credit hours); three elective hours in sociology (200 or above); and three elective hours in either sociology or anthropology (200 or above).