Sociology is a dynamic and exciting discipline with opportunities for a variety of career pathways. A major in sociology provides a strong background for students considering careers in a broad array of fields including the health and social service professions, criminal and juvenile justice agencies, social research, public administration and program development, journalism, market research, social work, communications, teaching and business. A sociology major also provides excellent preparation for law school, medical school and graduate study in sociology, social work, education and many other fields of graduate study. Sociology minor course work offers excellent preparation to students majoring in other social and behavioral sciences, natural sciences, or humanities.

Undergraduate majors in Sociology are encouraged to experience firsthand the excitement of discovering and creating new knowledge through individualized research projects or other research experiences, either as part of a regular class, an independent study or an Honors project. As an undergraduate Sociology student, you have the option of taking upper-level classes alongside graduate students in Sociology’s internationally recognized graduate program, which may provide added opportunities for research experience. Sociology majors have the option of choosing either a general Sociology curriculum or one of the four available concentrations: 1) Crime and Delinquency, 2) Health and Aging, 3) Gender, Work and Family and 4) Social Inequality. Concentrations are intended to guide you in the selection of courses relevant to your interests and future goals, as well as to provide a solid grounding in Sociology as one of the liberal arts sciences. Students may thus connect their concentration to topics of interests, to possible employment opportunities, or to specific graduate and professional programs that you intend to pursue.

**CONCENTRATIONS IN SOCIOLGy**

Concentrations are intended to guide students in the selection of courses relevant to their interests and future goals, as well as to provide them with a solid grounding in Sociology as one of the liberal arts sciences. Students may thus connect their concentration to their interests, to possible employment opportunities, or to specific graduate and professional school programs that they intend to pursue. The student majoring in Sociology has the option of choosing one of the 4 concentration fields taken in conjunction with the Sociology major, or he/she may choose to obtain the major in Sociology without choosing a concentration. The concentration consists of 12 credit hours. Students choosing a concentration (only one is permitted), must take 4 of the courses listed for the selected concentration. The Department offers four concentrations: Crime and Delinquency, Health and Aging, Gender, Work and Family, Social Inequality.

**1. CRIME AND DELINQUENCY CONCENTRATION—SO CI 204:**
- Criminology, SOCI 320: Delinquency and Juvenile Justice, SOCI 328: Urban Sociology, SOCI 333: Deviance, SOCI 349 Social Inequality, SOCI 360: Sociology of Law

**2. HEALTH AND AGING CONCENTRATION—SO CI 203:**

**3. GENDER, WORK, AND FAMILY CONCENTRATION—SO CI 208:**

**4. SOCIAL INEQUALITY—SO CI 203:**

**DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND COURSE OFFERINGS**

To fulfill department requirements, 30 hours of coursework must be completed successfully. All majors must complete the following:

- SOCI 101 Introduction to Sociology
- SOCI 300 Modern Sociological Theory
- SOCI 303 Social Research Methods
- STAT 201 Statistics OR
- PSCL 282 Quantitative Methods
  (Recommend prior to SOCI 303)

In addition, they must complete 18 hours of electives, consisting of any 6 courses in sociology. SOCI 375 (Independent Study) is available to selected majors in their junior or senior year.

In addition to the requirements listed above for Sociology major, Case Western Reserve University also requires all undergraduate students to participate in courses through SAGES. These requirements include a First Seminar, two University Seminars, a Department Seminar and finally a Senior Capstone.

**DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

- In addition to the B.A. degree, the Department of Sociology offers the M.A. and Ph.D degrees.
- Department faculty have recently been nominated for, or received, noteworthy awards such as the Diekhoff Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching, the Witte Award in Teaching Excellence, the Jackson Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Mentoring, the Outstanding Researcher in Gerontology, and the Mortar Board “Top Prof” Award.
- The multidisciplinary program in Gerontological Studies is designed to integrate research and theory about aging and old age. Humanists, scientists, social scien-
tists, and professionals strive to understand the position of the aged in society, the aging process in various contexts, the meaning of aging to individuals, and the physical changes that accompany aging.

- Alpha Kappa Delta, the sociology honors fraternity, welcomes selected juniors and seniors; membership requires a 3.4 GPA in sociology and a 3.0 GPA overall.
- Students may join the Sociology Club to become more involved in the Case experience with students with similar interests.

**SPECIAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

**Departmental Honors**

Admission to the Departmental Honors Program is by faculty approval, and the planning of this project must start during the second semester of your junior year. The year-long senior honors thesis program consists of two independent study courses: SOCI 397 and SOCI 398. To be accepted to senior honors courses, students must have demonstrated academic excellence and must earn at least a 3.4 general GPA and a 3.6 Sociology GPA. The program will be structured as a two-semester experience and it calls for research and data collection, which can focus either on primary or secondary data.

**Integrated Graduate Studies (IGS)**

The Department of Sociology participates in the Integrated Graduate Studies Program. Students in the program are able to obtain B.A. and M.A. degrees simultaneously. Admission to this program actually comprises admission to graduate school, and entails the same rigorous process of admission. Interested students should note the general requirements and the admission procedures in the appropriate section of this bulletin and may consult the department for further information.

**Internships, Service Learning, and Study Abroad**

Internships and service learning projects are available with organizations such as the AFL-CIO and the criminal justice system. In addition, there are many junior year abroad opportunities available through the University.

**RESEARCH PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

**The Elderly Care Research Center**

Funded research projects of the center focus on theory-based and public policy relevant issues in aging and medical sociology. Current projects relate to physical and mental health outcomes of stress, coping, cancer survivorship and adaptation to frailty and life-threatening illness in late life. The center is recipient of an NIA Merit Award for a long-term study of very old residents of a retirement community. This research seeks to understand health promotion, proactive adaptation, and maintenance of well-being in late life. Major research projects focusing on medi-cal Sociology deal with life-threatening illness, caregiver burden, and physician-patient interactions. The center serves as a laboratory for student research. Collaborative and cross-national research involves colleges from other disciplines and universities in Israel, Hungary, Britain, and Germany.

**Cancer Survivor Research Program**

Conducted at the Department of Sociology at Case Western Reserve University, the Cancer Survivors Research Program (CSRP) investigates important research issues in psychological oncology. Formally started in September 1998, the CSRP had been funded for 10 years by the National Cancer Institute. Dr. Gary Deimling serves as the CSRP’s director and principle investigator and is assisted by colleagues in the Department of Sociology and the Case School of Medicine. As with many other research programs within the department and the university at large, the CSRP also serves as a teaching facility by training graduate students in the many methodological and theoretical aspects of sociomedical research. The project allows students in the Sociology Ph.D. program to gain hands-on experience in a formal research setting while putting their coursework into practices.

**Health Aging in Neighborhoods of Diversity Across the Life Span**

Jessica Kelley-Moore studies how the community environment influences health over the life course. She is co-investigator on the National Institute on Aging intramural study “Healthy Aging in Neighborhoods of Diversity across the Life Span” [HANDLS]. This area probability study draws Black and White respondents from 12 neighborhoods in Baltimore, M.D. between the ages of 30-64. These subjects represent both high and low socioeconomic statuses in the city. In the HANDLS study, Dr. Kelley-Moore designed and conducts the ecological (environmental, city, and neighborhood) levels of the project, overseeing teams of trained researchers who code the physical and social characteristics of the area and conduct a full inventory of the businesses and services of the area. These teams also assess the type and cost of available food in the local grocery stores and markets. She is collaborating with researchers at CWRU and local public officials to extend this study to Cleveland, focusing on food availability in disadvantaged and underserved neighborhoods.

**Faculty**

**Dale Dannefer, Ph.D.**

(Rutgers University)

Selah Chamberlain Professor of Sociology

Department Chair

Theory, life course, aging, sociology of work, sociology of education

**Gary Deimling, Ph.D.**

(Bowling Green State University)

Professor

Sociology of aging, medical sociology, family sociology, research methods

**Brian Gran, Ph.D.**

(Northwestern University)

Assistant Professor

Comparative sociology, sociology of health policy, sociology of law

**Susan Hinze, Ph.D.**

(Vanderbilt University)

Associate Professor

Medical sociology; social inequality, sex and gender, work and family

**Eva Kahana, Ph.D.**

(University of Chicago)

Robson Professor of Sociology, Humanities Nursing and Medicine

Sociology of aging, medical sociology, social factors in stress and coping

**Jessica Kelley-Moore, Ph.D.**

(Perdue University)

Associate Professor

Health disparities, sociology of disability, sociology of the life course, and race/ethnicity

**Emilia McGucken, Ph. D.**

(University of Akron)

Senior Instructor

Criminology; theory, delinquency; deviance; urban studies

**David Warner, Ph.D.**

(Peninsula State University)

Assistant Professor

Demography of work and retirement; health inequalities; gender and the life course; marriage and marital quality; event history and multistate life table methods

**RECENT GRADUATES**

A recent survey of post graduation plans among graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences found that 62% went on to graduate or professional school and the remainder pursued other plans. Each year, approximately 28 students graduate with a B.A. in sociology. The majority of those students proceed to graduate or professional school. In recent years, graduates were accepted to Ph.D. programs at Case, the Univ. of Washington, Univ. of California, Univ. of Maryland, Duke Univ., Penn State Univ., Columbia Univ. and the Univ. of Pennsylvania. Other students enrolled in medical and law schools.

For More Information and complete list of courses with descriptions offered by the Department of Sociology please view the General Bulletin at:

http://www.case.edu/bulletin/

Case Western Reserve University

Department of Sociology

Mather Memorial, Rm 226