

South Dakota Board of Regents

EXISTING PROGRAM: SUBSTANTIVE PROGRAM MODIFICATION

This form is used to request substantive changes in already existing programs (majors, minors, specializations).

1. INSTITUTION: **Northern State University**

2. CURRENT PROGRAM NAME: **Sociology**

3. THIS PROPOSAL DEALS WITH A CHANGE IN:

Distribution of Credits

 x total credits required within the discipline

 Program name

 total credits of supportive course work

 Existing specialization

 x total credits of elective course work

 Addition of specialization

 x total credits required for program

 Other (explain)

4. LEVEL:

 Certificate

 Associate Degree

 x Bachelor's Degree

 Master's Degree

 Doctoral Degree

5. CATEGORY:

 Minor

 x Major

 x Specialization

6. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHANGE: August 2017

7. IF A NAME CHANGE IS PROPOSED, THIS WILL OCCUR:

 on the effective date for all students

 on the effective date for students new to the program
(enrolled students will graduate from existing program)

8. PRIMARY ASPECTS OF THE MODIFICATION:

Existing Curriculum				Proposed Curriculum (Highlight Changes)			
Current Program Name:				Proposed Program Name:			
Pre	Num	Title	Cr Hrs	Pre	Num	Title	Cr Hrs
		System, General Education				System, General Education	
		Institutional General Education	0			Institutional General Education	0
		Major (Core Classes)	12			Major (Core Classes)	15
		Supporting Courses	0			Supporting Courses	0
		Unspecified Electives	9			Sociology Electives	3
		Specialization Courses	21			Specialization Courses	18

Total number of hours required for major, minor, or specialization

42

Total number of hours required for degree

120

Total number of hours required for major, minor, or specialization

36

Total number of hours required for degree

120

9. EXPLANATION OF THE CHANGE:

The Sociology department wishes to restructure the curriculum within our major to better provide a logical progression of coursework that will give students a stronger foundation within the discipline and a broader scope of skills that will benefit them in the job market. The specific changes primarily focus on the core classes of the Sociology discipline (required of all majors, regardless of specialization), core Sociology electives, and the specializations of Criminal Justice and Human Services. The proposed curriculum is as follows:

Sociology Core Classes (all course required of all majors):

SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology OR SOC 150 Social Problem 3 credit hours

SOC 209 Statistical Reasoning for Social Science 3 credit hours

SOC 281 Socio-Cultural Theory 3 credit hours

SOC 410 Methods of Social Research 3 credit hours

SOC 489 Capstone 3 credit hours or Internship 3 credit hours

Total credits: 15

Changes to the Sociology core include: the addition of SOC 150 (Social Problems) as a foundational course equivalent to SOC 100 (Introduction to Sociology), the restructuring of the core so that our Theory and Methods-based courses are laid out in a more logical and competency-based manner, and the inclusion of a capstone course to give students the opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have acquired at NSU. Finally, we have decided to move the upper division theory course (SOC 403) from our required core (replaced by SOC 281) to an elective. These changes increase the credit hours within the Sociology core from 12 to 15.

Sociology Core Electives (1 course required of all majors):

SOC 260 Popular Culture and Society 3 credit hours

SOC 261 Human Sexuality 3 credit hours

SOC 330 Self and Society 3 credit hours
SOC 350 Race and Ethnic Relations 3 credit hours
SOC 395 Sport and Society 3 credit hours
SOC 403 Sociological Theory 3 credit hours
SOC 423 Social Stratification 3 credit hours
SOC 483 Sociology of Gender Roles 3 credit hours
Total credits: 3
Total credits within the Sociology core: 18

Changes to the Sociology electives include the addition of four new electives (SOC 260, SOC 261, SOC 395, SOC 403), the removal of three obsolete (i.e., low student interest, no faculty expertise in these areas) electives (SOC 340, SOC 353, SOC 462), as well as the overall reduction of credit hours required from electives from 9 to 3.

Criminal Justice Specialization Core Classes (all courses required for the Criminal Justice specialization):
CJUS 201 Introduction to Criminal Justice 3 credit hours
SOC 351 Criminology 3 credit hours
CJUS 433 Criminal Procedure 3 credit hours
Total credits: 9

Changes to the Criminal Justice core: none

Criminal Justice Specialization Electives (3 classes required for the specialization):
CJUS 203 Policing in a Free Society 3 credit hours
POLS 210 State and Local Governments 3 credit hours
POLS 320 Public Administration 3 credit hours
SOC 354 Victimology 3 credit hours
SS 360 The Traveling Classroom 1-4 credit hours
SS 396 Field Experience 1-12 credit hours
CJUS 401 OR SOC 401 Law and Society 3 credit hours
SOC 402 Social Deviance 3 credit hours
POLS 430 Constitutional Policy 3 credit hours
SOC 452 Prisons and Penology 3 credit hours
SOC 455 Juvenile Delinquency 3 credit hours
SOC 456 Community Corrections 3 credit hours
SOC 459 - Sociology of Death and Dying 3 credits
Total credits: 9
Total credits within the specialization: 18

Changes within the Criminal Justice electives include the addition of two electives that had previously been taught as special topics (SOC 354 and SOC 456) as well as the inclusion of SOC 459 as an elective.

Human Services Specialization Core Classes (all course required for the Human Services specialization):

SOC 270 Introduction to Social Work 3 credit hours
SOC 315 Social Work Practice I 3 credit hours
SOC 320 Social Work Practice II 3 credit hours
Total credits: 9

Changes within the Human Services core include the transfer of SOC 400 (Social Policy) from a core required class to an elective.

Human Services Specialization Electives (3 classes required for the specialization):

SOC 150 Social Problems 3 credit hours
POLS 210 State and Local Government 3 credit hours
POLS 320 Public Administration 3 credit hours
SOC 354 Victimology 3 credit hours
SS 360 The Traveling Classroom 1-4 credit hours
SOC 382 The Family 3 credit hours
SS 396 Field Experience 1-12 credit hours
SOC 400 Social Policy 3 credit hours
CJUS 401 Law and Society OR SOC 401 (Law and Society) 3 credit hours
CJUS 452 Prisons and Penology 3 credit hours
SOC 455 Juvenile Delinquency 3 credit hours
SOC 456 Community Corrections 3 credit hours
SOC 458 Sociology of Aging 3 credit hours
SOC 459 - Sociology of Death and Dying 3 credits
SOC 470 Child Abuse and Neglect 3 credit hours
SOC 471 Medical Sociology 3 credit hours
Any Sociology or Anthropology course 3 credit hours
Total credits: 9
Total credits within the specialization: 18

Changes within the Human Services specialization include the addition of three new electives (SOC 354, SOC 456, SOC 492) that had previously been offered as special topics, the inclusion of SOC 459 as an elective, as well as the transfer of SOC 400 (Social Policy) from a required course to an elective.

Gerontology Specialization Core Classes (all courses required for the Gerontology specialization):

SOC 205 - Introduction to Aging 3 credit hours
BIOL 288 Health and Physiological Aspects of Aging OR HLTH 240 Health and Fitness for Older Adults 3 credit hours
SOC 288 - Gerontology Issues on Aged Care and Community Services 3 credit hours
PSYC 328 - Psychology of Adulthood and Aging 2 credit hours
SS 396 - Field Experience 1-3 credit hours
SOC 458 - Sociology of Aging 3 credit hours
Total credits: 15 to 17 credit hours

Changes to the Gerontology Core: none

Gerontology Specialization Electives (2 classes required for the specialization):
BIOL 288 Health and Physiological Aspects of Aging OR HLTH 240 Health and Fitness for Older Adults 3 credit hours
PSYC 221 Lifespan Developmental Psychology 3 credit hours
HLTH 251 First Aid and CPR 1 credit hour
SOC 305 Aging and the Humanities 3 credit hours
SOC 459 Sociology of Death and Dying 3 credit hours
Total credits: 4 to 6 credits
Total credits in the specialization: 19 to 23

Changes to the Gerontology electives: none

Our final specialization, Gerontology, is still relatively new to the Sociology curriculum and we believe we need more time to assess the efficacy of the program before making substantive changes.

Institutional Authorization (President or Designee)

Date Submitted