



COLLEGE OF  
ARTS AND  
SCIENCES

# Sociology

*Did you know? The Winthrop chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta is the oldest in South Carolina and one of the oldest in the southern region.*

Sociology is the study of human social behavior, its causes and consequences. The subject matter ranges from the intimate family to mob behavior; from crime to religion; from the divisions based on race, sex and social class to the shared beliefs of an entire society and culture; from the sociology of work to the sociology of sport. Few fields of study have such a broad scope and relevance to problems and issues of society today. The Bachelor of Arts program at Winthrop focuses on undergraduate study in criminology and deviant behavior, the urban community and population, and the sociology of aging. The department's goal is to provide a well-rounded liberal arts program, while exposing students to a wide variety of knowledge and expertise within the field of sociology.

## The Program

In addition to the university's general education requirements, the sociology major consists of 33 semester hours in sociology. All students take a set of four core sociology courses; social research I and II, social theory and the senior seminar. The remaining semester hours selected are related to the student's interests and career objectives.

The department offers two 33-semester hour concentrations. The criminology option provides training for a wide variety of occupations in corrections, law enforcement, and the judiciary. Criminology does not focus on techniques of police investigation or other applied courses, but focuses on providing a broad liberal arts education. Courses include criminology, criminal and juvenile justice systems, law enforcement and social control, and corrections.

The anthropology option exposes students to all major specialty areas in the field such as cultural, biological, archaeology, and linguistics. Careers include teaching, research and cultural research management.

Recent course titles have included: Native Peoples and the Environment, Ancient Civilization of the Americas, Cultures of Latin America, Forensic Anthropology, Ecological Anthropology, and Amerindian Warfare and Ritual Violence.

## Minors

The department offers minors in sociology and anthropology. Certain sociological classes for the African-American studies and international studies minors are also facilitated through the department.

## Student Organizations

Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD), the national honorary sociology fraternity, is open for membership to those undergraduate students interested in sociology who qualify for admission. Students must have an overall GPA of 3.0 and have completed four courses in sociology. The department also sponsors the Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology Club.

## Internships/Practicums

Many seniors choose to participate in an internship, although it is not a requirement for the sociology degree. Internships are available at a variety of locations throughout York County and the metro Charlotte area. In their senior year of study, students completing the sociology major with a criminology concentration are encouraged to enroll in an internship related to the field. Winthrop students have completed internships at such places as York County Solicitor's Office, the York County Public Defender's Office, the Rock Hill Police Department, and Safe Passage, the shelter for battered women.

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WINTHROP  
UNIVERSITY  
ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA

### **Career/Graduate School**

Sociology graduates have a variety of career opportunities and are quickly employed in a broad range of settings. These opportunities include social case work, counseling, teaching, criminal and juvenile corrections, journalism, sales, personnel relations, community recreation and leisure, law enforcement and other business-related and public administration positions. Also, a large number of Winthrop sociology graduates go on to post-graduate programs, either immediately after completion of their bachelor's degree or after a few years of working.

### **Faculty**

All faculty members hold a Ph.D. in sociology or anthropology. They have published in nationally recognized scholarly journals such as the American Sociological Review, Demography, Sociology of Education, and Signs. They also participate in a variety of professional organizations including the American Sociological Association and American Statistical Association. Professors have been elected to lead important professional associations such as the Southwestern Sociological Association and Southwestern Social Science Association. The faculty includes recipients of Winthrop's "Outstanding Junior Professor" Award, the "Kinard Award" for outstanding contributions to teaching, and the "Faculty/Student Life Award." These facts illustrate their dedication to their profession and to their students.



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