

Social Sciences, Division of

253.535.7669

www.plu.edu/social-sciences

The faculty within the Division of Social Sciences seek to provide a challenging education in the social sciences that critically analyzes the past and the present social history and structures of human interaction. Instruction is vibrant and relevant to the time and world in which we live and encourages responsible citizenship for today and tomorrow. Through classroom learning and applied settings such as supervised internships, students in the social sciences acquire an understanding of society while developing the analytical tools with which to provide solutions to a diverse range of social problems.

The Division of Social Sciences fully supports interdisciplinary programs. The programs in Legal Studies and Women's and Gender Studies are housed within the division. In addition, Social Sciences faculty also participate actively in other interdisciplinary programs including Chinese Studies, Environmental Studies, Global Studies and the International Honors Program.

The Forest Foundation Severtson Undergraduate Fellowship supports students conducting research in the social sciences.

Faculty: Peterson, *Dean*; faculty members of the Departments of Anthropology, Economics, History, Marriage and Family Therapy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology and Social Work.

As a division within the College of Arts and Sciences, the Division of Social Sciences offers programs in each constituent department leading to the B.A. degree. Additionally, a B.S. degree is offered in psychology and an M.A. degree is offered in Marriage and Family Therapy. Course offerings and degree requirements are listed under:

Anthropology	Political Science
Economics	Psychology
History	Sociology and Social Work
Marriage and Family Therapy	

See also sections specific to affiliated degrees and programs for Chinese Studies, Environmental Studies, Global Studies, Legal Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies.

Sociology and Social Work

253.535.7595

www.plu.edu/sociology-social-work

Sociology and social work, as distinct disciplines, are concerned with understanding contemporary social issues, policies, and solutions. While sociology emphasizes research, interpretation, and analysis, social work emphasizes intervention and practice. The disciplines share an interest in human relationships and experience, contemporary family life and family policies, ethnic diversity and race relations, poverty and social stratification, social justice and community organization. Both disciplines encourage hands-on learning through field placements, internships, and service learning projects.

Students may major or minor in either sociology or social work, or complete a double major in sociology and social work. Social work majors are encouraged to minor in sociology.

Faculty: Gregson, *Chair*; Ciabattari, Fieland, Keller, Leon-Guerrero, Keller, Luther, Russell (*Social Work Director*).

SOCIOLOGY

Sociology examines the processes and structures which shape social groups of all sizes, including friends, families, workplaces, and nations. The study of sociology provides students with unique interpretive tools for understanding themselves and others in a changing world. Sociology has broad appeal to those who are interested in developing practical skills and analytical talents. Some of the practical pursuits enabled by sociological training are in the areas of program development, counseling, research, criminal justice, management, and marketing. The academic preparation is valuable to those interested in pursuing degrees in law, administration, social work, theology, or the social sciences.

The department's curriculum offers a variety of courses in sociological analysis while permitting an optional concentration in the specialized areas of family/gender or crime/deviance. The curriculum is deliberately flexible to permit students to study individual subject areas, or to pursue majors or minors in the field. Students majoring in business, nursing, education, and computer science find the sociological minor particularly useful for broadening their understanding of social rules and relationships, programs and solutions, and continuity and change.

The faculty is attentive to the individual needs of students in their efforts to provide academic excellence to a diverse student body.

BACHELOR OF ARTS

• General Major

40 semester hours, including:

- SOCI 101, 232, 240, 330, 496, 499
- 12 semester hours in sociology chosen in consultation with the department
- STAT 233 for Sociology and Social Work majors

• Major with Concentration in Family/Gender

40 semester hours including:

- SOCI 101, 232, 330, 440, 496, 499
- 12 semester hours in sociology chosen in consultation with the department
- STAT 233 for Sociology and Social Work majors

• Major with Concentration in Crime/Deviance

40 semester hours including:

- SOCI 101, 232, 336, 413, 496, 499
- 12 semester hours of sociology chosen in consultation with the department
- STAT 233 for Sociology and Social Work majors

• Requirements for those majoring in both sociology and social work

80 semester hours including:

- SOCW 245, 250, 350, 360, 460, 465, 475, 476, 485, 486, and 499
- SOCI 101, 232, 496, 499