

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

October 29, 2004

Mark A. Emmert. President

Dean David C. Hodge College of Arts and Sciences Box 353765

Dear David:

Based on the recommendation of its Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs, the Faculty Council on Academic Standards has recommended approval of the revised admission and program requirements for a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology. A copy of the changes is attached.

I am writing to inform you that the Department of Sociology is authorized to specify these requirements beginning winter quarter 2005.

The new requirements should be incorporated in printed statements and in individual department websites as soon as possible. The *General Catalog* website will be updated accordingly by the Registrar's Office.

Sincerely yours,

Mars

Mark A. Emmert

President

Enclosure

cc:

Professor Stewart Tolnay (with enclosure)

Mr. Robert Corbett (with enclosure)

Mr. W. W. Washburn (with enclosure)

Dr. Deborah Wiegand (with enclosure) SOC - 04 2604



Creating & Changing Undergraduate Academic Programs*

SOC-042604

After college/school review, send signed original and 8 copies to: FCAS, Box 351271

Department or Unit: Sociology Date: April 26, 2004 College: Arts and Sciences New Programs Leading to a _____Option within the existing major in _____ Leading to a Minor in Changes to existing programs New Admission Requirements for the Major in ______ within the Bachelor of Revised Admission Requirements for the Major in Sociology within the Bachelor of Arts Revised Program Requirements for the Major in Sociology within the Bachelor of Arts Revised Requirements for the Option in ______ within the major in ______ Revised Requirements for the Minor in _____ Other Changes New or Revised Continuation Policy for Eliminate program in Proposed Effective Date: (quarter/year) _____AUT 2004 or WIN 2005_____ Contact Person Phone Number Email 543-5396 kmihata@u.washington.edu Kevin Mihata

Explanation of and Rationale for Proposed Change: (Please use additional pages if necessary. For new rograms, please include any relevant supporting documentation such as student learning outcomes, projected enrollments, letters support, and departmental handouts.)

See attached.

^{*} For information about when and how to use this form please go to http://www.washington.edu/faculty/facsenate/councils/fcas/1503/.

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2. Catalog Copy

A. Catalog Copy as Currently Written (Include only sections/paragraphs that would be changed if your request is approved. Please cross out or otherwise highlight any deletions.)

NOTE: Earlier this academic year the general catalog office requested that we revise our catalog copy to conform to new format and content guidelines. We sent a revision on January 16, 2004, but those changes have not yet appeared in the online General Catalog. The excerpt below is from the *current* online General Catalog; the proposed changes on the next page will replace *only these sections* in the January revision.

Admission Requirements:

- 1. 10 credits from the following: SOC 110 or 111, 212, 240, 270, 271.
- 2. SOC 220 (5 credits).
- 3. Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 for all sociology courses completed at the time of application. Special circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- 4. Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 for all prior college work.
- 5. A one- to two-page personal statement indicating the relevance of a sociology degree to the student's life experiences and goals.
- 6. Application deadlines are the second Friday of each quarter. All applicants who meet the qualifications stated above will be admitted in time to register as Sociology majors for the following quarter.
- 7. Admission will be made to one of four major options: Law, Society, and Social Policy; The Life Course; Institutions, Organizations, and Markets; Clobalization and Social Change.

Major Requirements: 50 credits in sociology, to include the following: (1) 10 credits from the following: SOC 110 or 111, 212, 240, 270, and 271. (2) SOC 220 (5) and 316 (5). (3) 20 credits from one of the following options: Law; Society and Social Policy; Life Course; Institutions; Organizations, and Markets; and Globalization and Social Change. See department for list of courses that may be taken to complete the option requirements. (3) 10 credits of electives chosen from any other SOC course. (4) 20 credits of upper-division classes within the major. (5) Minimum grade of 2.0 in any course applied toward the major. Minimum GPA in SOC classes of 2.50.

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B. Proposed Catalog Copy, Reflecting Requested Changes (Include exact wording as you wish it to be shown in the printed catalog. Please underline or otherwise highlight any additions. If needed, attach a separate, expanded version of the changes that might appear in department publications.)

Department Admission Requirements

- 1. 10 credits from the following Any two of the following (10 credits): SOC 110 (or SOC 111), SOC 212, SOC 240, SOC 270, SOC 271.
- 2. -SOC 220 (5 credits).
- 2. Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 for all UW sociology courses completed <u>courses</u> <u>applied to the major requirements</u> at the time of application. Special circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- 3. Minimum grade of 2.0 in each course applied to the major requirements.
- 4. Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 for all prior college work.
- 5. A one- to two-page personal statement indicating the relevance of a sociology degree to the student's life experiences and goals.

Application deadlines are the second Friday of each quarter. All applicants who meet the qualifications stated above will be admitted in time to register as Sociology majors for the following quarter.

6. Admission is made to one of four major options: law, society, and social policy; individual and society; social organization; globalization and social change.

Major Requirements

50 credits as follows:

- 1. Introductory courses (10 credits):10 credits from the following: two courses from SOC 110 or SOC 111, SOC 212, SOC 240, SOC 270, and SOC 271.
- 2. Sociological Methods and Theory (10 credits): SOC 220 (5) and SOC 316 (5).
- 3. 20 credits from one of the following options: law; society and social policy; individual and society; social organization; and globalization and social change. See department for list of courses that may be taken to complete the option requirements. Upper-division Sociology, Electives (20 credits) chosen from any 300-level or 400-level SOC courses, excluding 3/6 independent study courses (SOC 399, 499).

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4. Sociology Electives (10 credits) of electives chosen from any other SOC course.

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5. Minimum grade of 2.0 in any course applied toward the major. Minimum GPA in UW SOC classes of 2.50.

A minimum grade of 2.0 is required in any course applied to major requirements. A minimum cumulative UW GPA of 2.5 is required for courses applied to major requirements. At least 25 of the 50 required Sociology credits must be completed in residence at the University of Washington.

3. Signatures (required)

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Department of Sociology Proposed Revisions to the Undergraduate Program April 2004

The Department of Sociology proposes the following changes to the admission and degree requirements Bachelor of Arts in Sociology:

1. Proposed Revisions to Admission Requirements

Current Admission Requirements. 15 credits, including:

- 10 credits from the following: SOC 110 or 111, 212, 240, 270, 271.
- SOC 220 (5 credits).

Proposal. Remove SOC 220 as an admission requirement for the major, leaving other entry requirements in place. SOC 220 will remain a graduation requirement.

Rationale. This change will accomplish several ends:

- SOC 220 is generally not available at community colleges (by decision of the
 department); transfer students therefore cannot complete all admission
 prerequisites before matriculating. This delays their admission to and progress
 within the major. Removing SOC 220 as an admission prerequisite will allow
 transfer students to declare the major upon arrival (or eventually make possible
 direct admission to the major).
- SOC 220 appears to have contributed to the significant decline in enrolled majors (and degrees granted) since 1999-2000, when the course was implemented as an admission prerequisite. Both the department and the College would like to reverse this trend.
- SOC 220 has increasingly been filled by students from other departments; as
 many as one third to one half of students who took 220 in 2001-02 have not
 become Sociology majors. This has strained departmental resources needed to
 serve majors. The proposed change will allow better management of enrollment.

2. Proposed Revisions to Program Requirements

Current Degree Requirements. 20 credits from one of the following options: Law, Society and Social Policy; Individual and Society; Social Organization; or Globalization and Social Change.

Proposal. Remove the degree option (pathways) requirement (20 upper division credits in selected Degree Option). Replace with a 20-credit upper division requirement. All new students will now enter the same path.

Rationale. The pathways requirement (i.e., the four degree options above) was designed both to provide advanced training through substantive specialization and to offer students a "path" to a career or other interests. It is not currently achieving either end.

- Due to limited availability of courses in some degree options in some quarters, advisors routinely approve substitutions between different pathways. Thus students miss the intended benefits of substantive specialization.
- Students do not appear to be gaining intellectual or career "path" benefits even from the pathway courses they do take. Students often have difficulty differentiating areas or understanding why courses fit in some areas rather than others. To the extent that this was a goal of the pathways, it is not being met.
- The pathways requirement has also exacerbated students' subjective perception of a shortage of courses. Although the department typically offers 10-12 upper division courses per quarter, students only "see" the courses available in their option, and thus (correctly) see only 2-3 courses per quarter, several of which they may already have taken. The proposed change would allow students to choose any of the 10-12 courses in a given quarter, and to select courses based on personal interest.
- The former pathways course list will be revised into an advising tool (e.g., a worksheet or "guidelines" document) used to help students articulate a coherent substantive focus, relate it to their interests, and communicate it to prospective employers.