Sociology

Department of Sociology
Social Sciences Building (SSB), Room 372, (907) 786-1665

Sociology is the study of society, ranging from interactions in small groups to large-scale forces transforming entire civilizations. As a social science, sociology seeks to investigate human behavior using a range of quantitative and qualitative methods. Alaska is an ideal setting for the study of sociology due to the diversity of its people, its dynamic social landscape, and its distinct urban and rural ways of life. The UAA undergraduate sociology program prepares students to work collaboratively in organizations characterized by complexity, rapid change and high levels of cultural diversity.

The UAA Sociology Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree provides students with a strong foundation in sociological practice. For this degree, students must complete 37 credits in sociology courses including social theory, globalization, research methods, and a range of elective courses, two of which come from the department’s emphasis area in diversity and inequality. In addition to sociology courses and general education requirements, BA students will take courses in writing, ethics, and their choice of electives in humanities, fine arts, languages, or other social sciences. This degree is a good route for students interested in graduate school and/or a variety of careers in fields such as law, public policy, corrections, advocacy, social services, corporate communications, or education.

The Sociology Bachelor of Science (BS) degree provides training in sociology along with a focus on quantitative research methods. For this degree, students must complete 37 credits in sociology courses including demography, research methods, statistics, environmental sociology, social theory, and a range of elective courses, one of which comes from the department’s emphasis area in diversity and inequality. In addition to sociology courses and general education requirements, BS students will take courses in mathematics and statistics, writing, ethics, and their choice of electives in the natural sciences, health sciences, geomatics, geography, or environmental studies. This degree is a good route for students who are interested in graduate school and/or a variety of careers in applied research fields such as planning, marketing, or public health.

Our faculty study an assortment of topics that intersect with life in the North, including housing and environmental issues, globalization, food and culture, and urbanization and inequality. Our students are active in university and community life and have an excellent reputation for social science and policy research. Our alumni can be found in a range of fields including research, business, advocacy, public health, law enforcement, education, and policy.

Programs of Study
Bachelor of Arts

• BA in Sociology (suspended) (http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/cas/sociology/ba-sociology/)

Bachelor of Science

• BS in Sociology (suspended) (http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/cas/sociology/bs-sociology/)

Minor

• Minor in Sociology (http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/cas/sociology/minor-sociology/)