

**From:** [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#)  
**To:** [Smith, Randy](#); [Reed, Katie](#)  
**Cc:** [Martin, Andrew](#); [Nagar, Ila](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Jenkins, Mary Ellen](#)  
**Subject:** Suspension of the Sociology Bachelor of Science  
**Date:** Friday, December 12, 2025 3:03:32 PM  
**Attachments:** [Suspension Bachelor of Science Sociology.pdf](#)  
[Suspension Bachelor of Science Sociology Letter of Motion.pdf](#)  
[image001.png](#)

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Dear Randy and Katie,

Please find attached a proposal to suspend the Sociology Bachelor of Science. The proposal was approved by the ASC Curriculum Committee (ASCC) on Friday, December 5, 2025.

We are now advancing the proposal for review by CAA. The attached documents are: (1) the actual proposal and (2) the Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee cover letter to ASCC .

Please use this email as a cover letter indicating that the proposal has been duly reviewed and approved by the appropriate ASC curricular bodies (including the full ASC Curriculum Committee).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best regards,  
Bernadette



**Bernadette Vankeerbergen, Ph.D.**

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Professor Ila Nagar  
Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

December 3, 2025

Dear Professor Nagar and Members of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee:

On November 5, 2025, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a proposal to immediately suspend the Sociology Bachelor of Science.

The Sociology Department requested this suspension for two main reasons. First, despite recruitment efforts, the major grew slowly and now only 15 current students are pursuing the major. Second, the degree will be less needed in the coming years given the development of a newly proposed Computational Social Science major in the College of Arts and Sciences that is working its way through the curriculum approval process. That new major will be a Bachelor of Science degree. The Computational Social Science major includes courses taught by Sociology faculty and meets many of the goals that led to the creation of the Sociology Bachelor of Science. The Department expects the interdisciplinary nature of that major as well as the college support for the major will result in more robust growth.

If approved, the Sociology Bachelor of Science will no longer be available for new enrollments. The Department has committed to offering the courses needed to ensure the current majors will be able to complete the BS.

The SBS Subcommittee voted unanimously to approve the request and now advances the proposal to the ASCC with a motion to approve.

Sincerely,

Rachel E. Dwyer, Ph.D.  
Professor and Vice Chair of Sociology  
Faculty Affiliate of the Institute for Population Research  
Chair of the Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee of the  
Arts and Science Curriculum Committee



October 23, 2025

To whom it may concern,

The Department of Sociology wishes to suspend our Sociology BS major. This decision has not been made lightly, as many years of work went into creating the BS, which has existed for over a decade. Nonetheless, the BS major has not taken off as hoped. Currently, there are 15 students pursuing a BS in Sociology (as addressed in more detail shortly). The major has typically had that number of students, despite several efforts to increase interest. Beyond this, the SBS Computational Social Science major leading to a Bachelor of Science degree that will be created shortly in the College of Arts and Sciences will provide students with a more rigorous option than we can, and many students who would select a Sociology BS may select that major instead. At this point, we are asking that the Sociology BS be suspended and not deactivated/terminated because we would like to keep our options open if for any reason we would need to reverse course.

As noted, there are currently 15 students enrolled in the major. Ten of these students are seniors and will complete the major in spring of 2026. This leaves five students who will complete the major: four juniors and one sophomore who intends to graduate in May of 2028. Our department is committed to ensuring that the courses they need to finish the degree will be offered. Indeed, several of these courses are regularly offered graduate-level courses. The Sociology BA degree will also certainly continue to be offered such that these individuals (and other students) will be able to take these courses. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Hollie Nyseth Nzitatira  
Director of Undergraduate Studies  
Professor, Sociology  
The Ohio State University

## Sociology Major (Bachelor of Science)

To officially declare a Sociology major, you need to meet with an academic advisor in the Sociology Department.

The major requires 121 credit hours which includes 13 courses (39 major credit hrs). For those

**Declared AU22 or beyond** the general education requirements can be found at

[https://artsandsciences.osu.edu/sites/default/files/2025-04/BS\\_%28new%29\\_GE\\_AU25.pdf](https://artsandsciences.osu.edu/sites/default/files/2025-04/BS_%28new%29_GE_AU25.pdf)

### Major Requirements

**Required Prerequisite:** (1 course / 3 credit hours)

Prerequisites are specific to courses within the major. There are no prerequisites that must be completed before declaring a Sociology major.

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisite
SOCIOL 1101	Introductory Sociology <b>OR</b>	3	None
SOCIOL 1102	Social Foundations of Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Social Class	3	None

**Core Courses:** (3 courses / 9 credit hours)

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisite
SOCIOL 3487	Research Methods in Sociology (Adv Writing Embedded Literacy)*	3	None
SOCIOL 3488	Introduction to Sociological Theory	3	3 cr hrs at 2000-3000 level
SOCIOL 3549	Statistics in Sociology (Data Analysis Embedded Literacy)*	3	None

**Additional Embedded Literacy:** (1 course / 3 credit hours):

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisite
SOCIOL 3302	Technology and Global Society (Technology Embedded Literacy)	3	None

**Advanced Methods / Statistics: (2 courses / 6 credit hours)**

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisite
SOCIOL 5649	Quantitative Research & Multiple Regression (offered AU) <b>AND</b>	3	3487, 3549, Math 1151, and Jr, Sr or Grad Standing
SOCIOL 5608	Qualitative Methods in Sociology <b>OR</b>	3	3487 and Jr, Sr or Grad Standing
SOCIOL 5650	Presenting and Communicating Quantitative Data	3	3487, 3549,& Jr or Sr Standing

**Substantive Area Focus Options (Select 1 with corresponding required, elective and research courses)**

- Population Dynamics and Wellness
- Criminology, Law & Society
- Social Inequality

**Population Dynamics and Wellness**

**Required Courses (2 courses / 6 credit hrs)**

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisites
SOCIOL 3597.02	World Population Problems <b>AND</b>	3	None
SOCIOL 4629	Health Disparities in Social Context <b>OR</b>	4	Soph, Jr, or Sr Standing
SOCIOL 5450	Sociology of Global Health and Illness	3	Jr, Sr, or Grad Standing

**Elective Courses (4 courses, 2 must be 3000+ level / 12 credit hrs)**

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisites
SOCIOL 2202	Social Problems and Public Policy	3	None
SOCIOL 2290	Sociology of Death and Dying	3	None
SOCIOL 2463	Social Inequality: Race, Class, and Gender	3	None
SOCIOL 3200	Sociology of Immigration	3	None
SOCIOL 3630	Medical Sociology	3	None
SOCIOL 4629	Health Disparities in Social Context	4	Soph, Jr, or Sr Standing
SOCIOL 5450	Sociology of Global Health and Illness	3	Jr, Sr, or Grad Standing

**Required Research (6 credit hrs)**

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisites
SOCIOL 4998	Undergraduate Research in Sociology (Graded S/U)	3	Instructor Permission
SOCIOL 4999.01	Honors/Non Honors Thesis Research Sociology (Graded S/U)	4	Instructor Permission

SOCIOL 4999.02	Honors/Non Honors Thesis Research Criminology & CJ (Graded S/U)	4	Instructor Permission
SOCIOL 3798.03	Genocide and its Aftermath in Rwanda (SU term Education Abroad)	3	Instructor Permission
SOCIOL 4629	Health Disparities in Social Context	4	Soph, Jr, or Sr Standing

## Criminology, Law & Society

### Required Courses (2 courses / 6 credit hrs)

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisites
SOCIOL 2309	Introduction to Law and Society <b>AND</b>	3	None
SOCIOL 3410	Criminology <b>OR</b>	3	None
SOCIOL 4511	Juvenile Delinquency	3	Jr or Sr Standing

### Elective Courses (4 courses, 2 must be 3000+ level / 12 credit hrs)

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisites
SOCIOL 2209	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3	None
SOCIOL 2380	Intersectionalities and Crime	3	None
SOCIOL 2463	Social Inequality: Race, Class, and Gender	3	None
SOCIOL 3410	Criminology	3	None
SOCIOL 4507	The Criminal Justice System	3	Jr or Sr Standing
SOCIOL 4509	Sociology of Law	3	Jr or Sr Standing

### Elective Courses: continued

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisites
SOCIOL 4511	Juvenile Delinquency	3	Jr or Sr Standing
SOCIOL 4611	Prisons, Jails, and Community Corrections	3	Jr or Sr Standing
SOCIOL 5525	Global Criminology	3	Jr, Sr, or Grad Standing

### Required Research (6 credit hrs)

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisites
SOCIOL 4998	Undergraduate Research in Sociology (Graded S/U)	3	Instructor Permission
SOCIOL 4999.01	Honors/Non Honors Thesis Research Sociology (Graded S/U)	4	Instructor Permission
SOCIOL 4999.02	Honors/Non Honors Thesis Research Criminology & CJ (Graded S/U)	4	Instructor Permission
SOCIOL 3798.03	Genocide and its Aftermath in Rwanda (SU term Education Abroad)	3	Instructor Permission
SOCIOL 4629	Health Disparities in Social Context	4	Soph, Jr, or Sr Standing

## Social Inequality

### Required Courses (2 courses / 6 credit hrs)

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisites
SOCIOL 2463	Social Inequality: Race, Class, and Gender <b>AND</b>	3	None
SOCIOL 3306	Sociology of Poverty <b>OR</b>	3	None
SOCIOL 3380	Racial and Ethnic Relations in America <b>OR</b>	3	None
SOCIOL 4635	Gender and Society	3	Jr or Sr Standing

### Elective Courses (4 courses, 2 must be 3000+ level / 12 credit hrs)

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisites
SOCIOL 2320	Sociology of Education	3	None
SOCIOL 2463	Social Inequality: Race, Class, and Gender	3	None
SOCIOL 3200	Sociology of Immigration	3	None
SOCIOL 3306	Sociology of Poverty	3	None
SOCIOL 3380	Racial and Ethnic Relations in America	3	None
SOCIOL 3464	Work, Employment and Society	3	None
SOCIOL 4635	Gender and Society	3	Jr or Sr Standing
SOCIOL 4655	Sociology of Sport	3	None
SOCIOL 5605	Sociology of Sexuality	3	Jr, Sr, or Grad Standing

### Required Research (6 credit hrs)

Course	Title	Hours	Required Prerequisites
SOCIOL 4998	Undergraduate Research in Sociology (Graded S/U)	3	Instructor Permission
SOCIOL 4999.01	Honors/Non Honors Thesis Research Sociology (Graded S/U)	4	Instructor Permission
SOCIOL 4999.02	Honors/Non Honors Thesis Research Criminology & CJ (Graded S/U)	4	Instructor Permission
SOCIOL 3798.03	Genocide and its Aftermath in Rwanda (SU term Education Abroad)	3	Instructor Permission
SOCIOL 4629	Health Disparities in Social Context	4	Soph, Jr, or Sr Standing

## Major Requirement Notations

### Embedded Literacies

There is an expectation that students will have experiences throughout their education in the major that develop their competencies in three key areas – data analysis, advanced writing, and technology.

- Data Analysis – fulfilled with SOCIOL 3549 Statistics in Sociology
- Advanced Writing - fulfilled with SOCIOL 3487 Research Methods in Sociology
- Technology - fulfilled with SOCIOL 3302 Technology and Global Society (can be used as an elective course)

### Students must earn at least a C- in a course for the course to apply to the major

Students must also receive a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) for all major course work. If a D+, D, or an E is earned in a course needed for the major, the course cannot be counted on the major. Advisors can assist students in determining whether the course should be repeated or if another course should be substituted. Courses taken on a pass/non-pass basis cannot be used on the major.

### The department must approve all courses in the major

Course choices should be made in consultation with a Sociology academic advisor. Academic advisors will assist students with planning the experiential major requirement. Courses that are listed for the major program cannot also be used to meet General Education Foundation requirements. If you are interested in completing a double major in Sociology and Criminology or a major and minor combination in the two disciplines, please consult with a Sociology Advisor

(<https://sociology.osu.edu/undergraduate-program/advising>)

### Transfer students

If a student transferred from another institution, no more than half of the credit hours on the major program may consist of transfer credit. The academic advisor, the chairperson of the department, and the appropriate assistant dean must approve any request for a variation in this policy.

**For Honors students, the GE curriculum and major must be approved by the assigned Honors advisor.** Information about the honors curriculum, requirements, and scheduling appointments with an honors advisor is available on the College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program website <https://aschonors.osu.edu/advising>. Students will also be assigned a faculty advisor in the Sociology department to help select courses and co-curricular opportunities that align with academic and professional goals.

**For more information about internship and career opportunities, visit the College of Arts and Sciences Career Services Office.** Their website is <http://asccareerservices.osu.edu/> .