

**SOCIOLOGY TOPIC COURSES  
SPRING 2009**

**SOC 3550, Section 001, Call # 12605**  
**Topics in Sociology: Language and Diversity**

**Tuesday/Thursday 4:00pm-5:15pm**

This course investigates the regional and social variation of language, the numerous factors that influence the ways in which we use language in social contexts, and what language reveals about who we are, where we come from, who we identify and associate with, and our position in society. Topics include: language and gender, age, social status, and ethnicity, and sexuality; language and world view; the ethnography of communication; language attitudes; multilingualism.

**SOC 4510, Section 001, Call # 11907**  
**Advance Study: Social Change**

**Monday/Wednesday 4:00pm-5:15pm**

Historical change of societies from one epoch to another (e.g., from feudalism to capitalism) and from one stage to another (e.g., competitive capitalism to monopoly capitalism), with focus on attendant social processes such as development of the working class, the rise of the corporation, the expanding role of the state, the irrationality of growth, and economic crises and imperialism.

**SOC 4700, Section 001, Call # 12672**  
**Sociology of Law**

**Monday/Wednesday 7:00pm-8:15pm**

This class will explore the origins and sources of law, the functions of law in contemporary American society, major theories of the connection between law and society, the sources of law within all three branches of our government, and the uses of law for social control, dispute resolution, and social change. The class is taught by Dr. James Simmons, who has earned both a Ph.D. degree in Sociology and a law degree, and who is a licensed attorney. The class will focus on several recent important Supreme Court cases on subjects, such as gun ownership rights and the death penalty for adults who sexually assault children, to explore these topics.

**SOC 4774, Section 001, Call # 11911**  
**Special Topic: Violence in Relationships**

**Monday/Wednesday 2:30pm-3:45pm**

This course focuses on the study of violence among individuals who are linked together in intimate relationships (e.g. family members, lovers, friendships and dates) from a sociological perspective. Thus, the course focuses on factors in society such as norms, laws and institutions that may produce and/or perpetuate violence among intimates. In addition, the course focuses on current social policies, as well as prevention and treatment programs aimed at reducing these types of violence.

**SOC 5774, Section 001, Call # 12497**  
**Special Topic: Violence in Relationships**

**Monday/Wednesday 2:30pm-3:45pm**

This course focuses on the study of violence among individuals who are linked together in intimate relationships (e.g. family members, lovers, friendships and dates) from a sociological perspective. Thus, the course focuses on factors in society such as norms, laws and institutions that may produce and/or perpetuate violence among intimates. In addition, the course focuses on current social policies, as well as prevention and treatment programs aimed at reducing these types of violence.