What is sociology? Sociology is the scientific study of human society and human interaction. From a sociological perspective, we gain a deeper understanding of our own experiences and begin to see human behavior and society in a more comprehensive way. This survey course addresses how social factors greatly affect opportunities, values, goals, actions, emotions and thoughts. Students will be challenged to understand world events in terms of historical content and social structure, and to more effectively envision one’s own impact on the world.

**SOC 1001:** Introduction to Sociology introduces the basic tools, techniques, and theories used to analyze the social world. Topics of discussion include the history or sociology, culture, research methods, social structure, socialization, stratification, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, family and intimate relationships.

**NOTE:** Intro to Sociology (SOC 1001) and The Sociological Imagination (SOC 1002) are equivalent courses; you cannot earn credit for both.
Few people intend to become criminals. Nor do we intend to become victims of crime. While some of us want to enter law enforcement or become lawyers, the closest many of us want to come to dealing with the law is watching *CSI* or *Orange is the New Black*. But in reality, we all have to deal with matters of criminal justice. This class addresses key issues – from speeding tickets to imprisonment, from Ferguson to the FBI – that affect ordinary citizens and criminal justice professionals alike. We’ll consider questions such as: What is or isn’t working in law enforcement? Do courts coddle criminals or convict the innocent? You’ll learn about various models and methodologies for studying criminal justice, and its impact on society and the individual. Join us for a closer look at the “real world” workings of the US criminal justice system.

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This course provides a sociological perspective on juvenile delinquency including historical, economic, and social conditions affecting the socialization of youth and the evolution of the state's formal response to juvenile delinquency.

We will cover the social construction of juvenile delinquency—its measurement and social distribution, social structural and institutional influences on delinquency, prevention and criminal justice system responses to this social problem.

After completing this course, you will:

- be able to describe how delinquency has been defined in America (from colonial times to the present), and the ways society has responded to delinquency
- have an understanding of the major theories of delinquency and knowledge about its prevalence, trends and correlates
- apply theory and research findings to problems such as gun violence among youth and acculturation of immigrant youth in the US
- have applied and interpreted data drawn from the principal sources (UCR, NCVS, and self-report studies) used to measure delinquency
- have gained knowledge of methods used to assess promising prevention programs
Social Entrepreneurship in the Nonprofit Sector will introduce students to the practices, methods, motivations, and outcomes of nonprofit social enterprises (nonprofits that earn income). The course will provide an overview of nonprofit management, cover earned-income strategies, and present frameworks to build and sustain a successful social enterprise. Students will also learn how to create a nonprofit social enterprise based on lived experiences.

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Students will learn about the history of the victim, and the victim’s role in the story of their own victimization – from a time when they had no role in recovering from damage done to modern day when they actively participate in the courtroom. Victimization varies across social, racial, ethnic, and class lines, and the boundaries of socially acceptable victims converge often with those of conflict sociological theory. Topics will include various historical and theoretical perspectives on various types of victims and victimization, and is intended to understand how social systems react to, respond to, and help victims. Students will also read victims’ voiced accounts of the experience of victimization.
This course is intended to examine the reasons and rationale around punishment – why we punish, and if we are accomplishing those goals. It will include an analysis of adult and juvenile correctional systems, including probation, parole, jails, and prisons. We will consider the philosophical and political arguments for and against the death penalty. Topics include theoretical perspectives, the impact of corrections on crime rates, and evaluations of sentencing and other reforms. The purpose, including the unpacking of reform is to examine the function and dysfunction through the lens of advocacy, argument, and progress.