

Dept. of Sociology

Sociology explores the causes of order and changes in human societies by analysing scientifically the structure and progress of a society as well as the characteristics of the human being. Sociologists understand individuals as both elements and products of a society. Therefore, a sociological perspective considers both individuals and their social contexts simultaneously in explaining all human behaviour and social phenomena. As modern societies become ever more diversified and complex, sociological perspectives and insights are increasingly required to understand social changes and to find useful lines of actions. The educational objective of this program is to offer students sociological insights to analyse scientifically the social phenomena through a variety of theories and research methods.

The following areas of knowledge are central to the graduate degree in sociology: Knowledge of the fundamental concepts, theories, and modes of explanation appropriate to the understanding of human societies: 1) Knowledge of the structure of modern societies, its social stratification, its ethnic, racial, religious, and gender differentiation, and its main social institutions-- family, polity, economy, sports, and religion: 2) Knowledge of the basic social processes that maintain and alter social structure, especially the processes of integration, organization, and conflict: and 3) Understanding the diversity of human societies, including the differences between major historical types such as agricultural, industrial, and information societies.

❑ **Sociological Theories & Korean Society Major**

This program has faculty with theoretical and research interests in Korean society. Its areas includes the history and culture of Korean society, and the characteristics of Korean people. The program also emphasizes the ability of applying various sociological theories and research tools to analyze the previous study of Korean society.

❑ **Future & Information Society Major**

Reflecting recent growth and development in future studies and information society, our graduate program includes studies of cyber-space, web-based lifestyle, and information, community.

❑ **Science, Technology & Environment Major**

The program emphasizes an interdisciplinary approach to technology and society. It also includes environment pollution and life of human being, and explores a new structure for their harmony.

Culture & Sports Major

This program emphasizes the study of culture-in-general and the process of the reproduction and consumption of mass culture. The program also focuses on the history of leisure and modern sports.

Courses

Core Courses

• **Debates on Sociological Thoughts (3)**

An overview of the major trends of sociological thoughts from the beginning to the modern period: and of connections between classical sociology and recent theoretical approaches including functionalism, structuralism, Marxism and symbolic interactionism.

• **Seminar on Contemporary Sociological Theory (3)**

This seminar deals with the various currents and issues of contemporary sociological thoughts.

• **Seminar on Social Statistics (3)**

A Seminar on Social Statistics covers special topics on Multiple Regression Analysis, Path Analysis, Factor Analysis, and Structural Equation Model.

• **Advanced Methodology of Social Research (3)**

An advanced overview of the research process in social science, including techniques of sampling, methods of data collection, principles of measurement, problems of inference and proof, basic methods of data analysis and ethical considerations.

• **Future Studies (3)**

Trends in the development of information and communication technologies and their related social changes. A discussion on alternative paths of future society and their respective characteristics and problems.

• **History of Sociology (3)**

An overview of the history of sociology from the early period to modern times.

• **Methodology of Sociological Research (3)**

A survey of methods and techniques used by sociologists and other social scientists for gathering and interpreting information about human social behavior. An advanced course of the practice of social research, including techniques of sampling, methods of data collection, and analyzing data.

- **Practice of Social Survey Analysis (3)**

A practice of conducting a research on a social phenomenon, based on the theories and methods learned throughout the course.

- **Sociological Theories & Korean Society Major**

- **Contemporary Sociological Theories (3)**

This course deals with the various currents and issues of contemporary sociological theories.

- **Seminar on Contemporary Social Thoughts (3)**

This seminar deals with the various current issues of contemporary sociological thoughts.

- **Comparative Sociology (3)**

The course focuses on the history and general theories of comparative sociology. Major focus on comparative analyses of social structure, kinship, policy and bureaucracy, economics and stratification, and institutionalized belief systems. Some attention is given to culture and personality and to cross-cultural methodology.

- **Historical Sociology (3)**

With sociological questions and theories, this course analyzes historically significant events, phenomena, and processes.

- **Research on Korean Culture (3)**

This course reviews various theoretical perspectives on culture studies dealing with culture change, mass culture, culture and class, culture and power, etc. It also studies cultural aspects of Korean society and especially focuses on the reproduction process and the condition of Korean culture.

- **Social Problems in Korea (3)**

The course attempts to analyze several problems in Korean society, paying attention to their causes and consequences.

- **Research on Social Structure of Korea (3)**

The course focuses on analyses of the social structure of Korean society from a viewpoint of actors and system.

- **Studies on North Korea (3)**

This course explores the history, structure, culture, and social problems of North Korea.

- **Sociology of Knowledge (3)**

This course studies sociological theories on the social conditions of knowledge making, and especially focuses on the nature of social construction of scientific knowledge.

- **Theories of Korean Studies (3)**

This course studies sociological thoughts in Korean society and sociologically analyzes its types and main issues.

- **Future & Information Society Major**

- **Research on Social Change (3)**

The course attempts to analyze the concept of social change and assess the strengths and weaknesses of the different theories of social change.

- **Methodology of Futuristics (3)**

This course explores the relationship between information technology and society with the aim of predicting modern societies and future society.

- **Social Problems of the Future (3)**

This course studies social problems of the future and especially focuses on the new social phenomena in future society.

- **Work and Occupational Structure of Information Society (3)**

The structure of information society is analyzed in comparison with the previous types of societies.

- **Organizations and Institutions of Information Society (3)**

This course studies social changes of organizations and institutions brought by the advances of information technology such as the Internet, and computer mediated communication. The issues cover the various perspectives in information society.

- **Quality of Life and Social Welfare (3)**

The course examines the concept of quality of life and various theories on social welfare.

- **Theories on Information Technology (3)**

The course analyzes the various aspects of information technology and current situation and future tasks of information industries.

❑ **Science, Technology & Environment Major**

• **Sociology of Science (3)**

The course analyses the relationship between science and society from sociological perspectives. It examines the theoretical approaches from the Mertonian School to the sociology of scientific knowledge(SSK). With such a theoretical understanding, it then deals with more practical issues on science as a social process.

• **Sociology of Technology (3)**

This course explores the relationship between technology and society, in both aspects of social shaping of technology and technological shaping of society. It introduces the recent theoretical developments in the field of sociology of technology. Then it covers more practical issues emerging from the interaction between technology and society.

• **Sociology of Environment (3)**

The problems of environmental pollution are analyzed in relation to social change, modernization, and urbanization. The changing relationships between nature and society are closely scrutinized. The concept of 'risk society', as a major theoretical development in this field of sociology, is critically examined in terms of its relevance to the realities of environmental problems.

• **Gender, Science and Environment (3)**

This course studies the complex inter-relations between gender, science and environment. It reviews how feminism has influenced perspectives on science and environment. Gender shapes science and technology, which are then used to understand and exploit natural environment. Eco-feminism is one of the major feminist perspectives to be dealt with in this course.

• **Actor-Network Theory (3)**

This course studies the characteristics of the actor-network theory as the major theory of science and technology studies(STS) and assesses its strengths/weaknesses by examining the empirical studies based on it.

• **Science, Technology and the Third World (3)**

The course examines the characteristics of the Third World development of science and technology and its differences from those of developed countries. It critically examines the causes of the dependency of non-Western countries on Western countries in science and technology. This leads to a deeper understanding of the implications of globalization for Third World development.

- **Technology and Politics (3)**

Technologies and things have not been subject to a systematic political study in spite of their great implications on politics and democracy. This course examines the value of new approaches around the concept of 'material politics'.

- **Sociology of Biotechnology (3)**

This course deals with the ethical and social issues of biotechnology. It covers diverse areas of biotechnological research and applications such as GM food, transgenic animal, cloning, stem cell research, genetic testing, genetherapy and so on. Each of these areas is critically examined in terms of its risk and ethical problems. A sociological approach to deal with these issues is explored.

- **Political Ecology (3)**

The course examines the various theories and practices of ecological politics. It reviews major theories of political ecology, from environmental managerialism to deep ecology, and their implications on ecological politics and environmental movement. The practical issues like nuclear power, global warming and GMOs are also reviewed.

- **Controversies on Science and Technology (3)**

Contemporary sciences and technologies give rise to serious social controversies on, for instance, the risks of nuclear technology and the ethical problems of biotechnology. This course explores the possibility and methods to solve such controversies through public participation.

- **Science and Technology Policy (3)**

The characteristics of science and technology policy in Korea are analyzed in a comparison with other countries. It examines how public policy on science and technology has evolved since the Second World War, from state-driven to market-oriented policies. It also explores the possibility of citizen participation in policy-making on science and technology.

- **Culture & Sports Major**

- **Introduction to Cultural Studies (3)**

It studies the formation and change of culture as a social phenomena.

- **Research on Popular Culture (3)**

The nature and impact of mass communication in contemporary society.

- **Sociology of Sports (3)**

Sport becomes an important event for everyone. Topic includes the changes of sport and the impact on society. In particular, this course examines the role of play, games, and sport in society and explores how sport as an institution interacts with other institution such as business, politics, education. family, and media.

- **Understanding Postmodernism (3)**

It examines the aspects of post modernism through the eyes of sociology.

- **Survey Research Methods (3)**

To study survey research methods including sampling, survey administration, and statistical inference.

- **Advanced Social Statistics (3)**

To study categorical data analysis, factor analysis, structural equation modeling, and panel data analysis.

- **Seminar on Criminology (3)**

This seminar offers an overview of sociological theories and empirical research on crime, deviance, and juvenile delinquency.

- **Seminar on Demography (3)**

To study demographic methods such life table and event history analysis; to review theories and methods to study population growth, distribution, fertility, mortality, migration and population aging.

- **Seminar on Social Inequality (3)**

To review sociological theories and research on the causes and consequences of social inequality.

□ **Faculty Members**

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