

Department of Sociology

Student Advising Syllabus



Department of Sociology
(617) 573-8485

Advising

Suffolk University requires students to meet with an academic advisor each semester prior to registration. Your advisor is a professor or staff member of the Sociology Department. These advisors are available to guide you on your path to graduate in four years. The Sociology Department will email you a reminder that advising is coming up and you should come during the hours your advisor has scheduled to meet with you.

The Advisors

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Dr. Averil Clarke	averil.clarke@suffolk.edu
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You will be assigned to work with one advisor who you will see over the next four years. This person will help you chart your course to successful graduation. You will find that they will work as hard as you do to get you through the next four years.



You must meet with your academic advisor to have your registration hold removed. Core classes fill up early and you risk not being able to enroll in the courses you need if you do not go to advising.

Advising is an opportunity for you to reflect on how you are progressing toward graduation. Advisors are also available to help with career decisions and with deciding if you should minor/double major. You should come to advising prepared—meaning that you should have your courses filled out on your advising worksheet prior to arriving. Can't decide on what classes to take? Come see a peer-advisor the week before advising begins. Peer advisors can assist you in picking courses.

Graduation

To graduate you need:

1. to take at least 16 units each semester and accumulate a total of 128 credit hours.
2. 36 credits must be sociology.
you must have a 2.0 G.P.A. in both your minor and the college.
4. one course must be an ECR class (Extended Classroom Requirement)



What if I fail or drop a class?

It happens sometimes. We all can get a little off-track. The best advice we can give you is that if you drop or fail a class you will need to make that class up during the Summer in order to graduate on time. Don't forget, if you receive an incomplete (I) it will automatically become an F after one year. If you find yourself with an incomplete, resolve the issue quickly. Changing an F grade is next to impossible.

Other Important Information

Sociology required courses are NOT offered in the summer. You must take required courses during the regular school year.

If you plan on taking the Sociology Practicum (internship) course, you must meet the following requirements:

- ◆ You cannot come to advising late, or have any missed appointments.
- ◆ You must be in good academic standing with both the department and the university .

Preparing for Life After College--Setting Goals:

Yes, it's true, you just got here, so why are you reading this brochure about life after college? You may have known since you were 8 what you wanted to be, or you may have no idea. You may have parents that are heavily involved in planning your future or your parents might not necessarily know how best to help you attain your goals. Either way, keep in mind that long-term planning is an essential component to help you get the most out of your college experience. Thinking long-term about the goals you have (even if they are not perfectly defined) is an important thing to think about EVEN if you still have no idea what you want to do. College is a time to figure those things out. However, you are also in a city with lots and lots of other colleges. You will be competing for various college-graduate entry level jobs when you finish your four years at Suffolk. It is important to set some goals to help you succeed along your path.

We encourage you to keep this document and check off your accomplishments.



Freshman Year

By the end of your freshman year, you should:

- Take stock of your GPA. If you are thinking about going on in school, you need at least a 3.0 to get into virtually every reputable graduate program, which includes law school.
- Start to truthfully think about what career(s) you are interested in and do some research about the field. What kind of skills do you need? What is required for an entry-level position? Can you set up an informational interview with someone in that field during the summer to learn more about the career?
- Take stock of what you are doing for extra-curricular and volunteering activities. Can you start to volunteer at least 5 hours a week with an organization that is somewhat related to your career objectives?

Sophomore Year

By the middle of your sophomore year, you should:

- Do you have relationships with professors who will be willing to write you informative and engaging letters of recommendation? If you don't, now is the time to make sure you develop your existing relationship with faculty.
- Be exploring summer volunteer/internship opportunities. You have to wait until you are a junior/senior to get course credit for an internship (through our professional practicum course), but what can you do now? There are a lot of internship and volunteering opportunities in the summer months. Commit to 5-10 hours per week.
- Have you considered studying abroad? Suffolk has a campus in Madrid, Spain in addition to opportunities all over the world. Investigate whether study abroad is right for you.
- If you haven't made one yet, or you simply need to revise yours, work on your resume. Make an appointment with Career Services to review/make your resume.
- Take stock again about your career goals. Are they reasonable? Do you know enough about the field you are interested in? Who do you know in that field? Can you start to network with those people/relationships to increase your visibility?
- During Spring Break, job shadow through the Career Services Department.
- Commit to a minor if you are going to minor.

By the end of your sophomore year, you should:

- Keep an eye on that GPA, especially if you are thinking about going on in school.
- Spend time in the summer volunteering/interning or working on a community service project. Keep track of the skills you are building so you can add them to your resume.

Junior Year

By the middle of your junior year, you should:

- Be seeking internship opportunities for the summer in which you can dedicate at least 10 hours per week. Remember, virtually all internships are unpaid. They are a necessary step.
- Attend seminars/events at Career Services to improve your networking skills.
- Revise your resume. Use action words and talk with Career Services about your resume.
- Attend any career/job fairs even as practice. Remember, keep an eye out for the job fairs that are across the city, not just at Suffolk.
- Start very seriously considering your “work wardrobe.” Do you have clothes to wear on a professional interview? Have you asked someone OLDER than you about how appropriate your clothes are for professional positions? Remember, older people are more likely than people your age to be making hiring decisions. Your understanding of what is “professional” might not match your employer’s or the internship director’s.





By the end of your junior year, you should:

- Be committing to another long-term goal: what is your 5 year post graduation plan? Graduate school? Getting a job? You need to remind yourself that most Americans change careers, but working towards realistic five year goals can help you not flounder once you graduate.
- Revise your resume.
- If you are planning on going on in school, you need to be developing a strategy to prepare and take required examinations (ie, GRE, LSAT, GMAT).
- Do your best to get an “office-job.” Yes, retail jobs are a staple for college students, but they often do not require the level of professionalism that an office job does. Office jobs provide you an opportunity to practice professionalism. You want to make sure you have the chance to practice professional manners, clothing, attitude, and etiquette.

Senior Year

By the beginning of your senior year, you should:

- Have at least three possible careers you can consider in the immediate future. What are your skills? What are your strengths? What jobs might be a close match to your skills and strengths?
- You should make sure you are well-aware of application deadlines for graduate school, if you are pursuing that route. A lot of students think they want to “take a year off,” which is fine, but you do need to think of a plan to get you back into school.
- You should be interviewing for jobs during your senior year. A lot of jobs are aware that you may not be able to start full-time until you graduate.
- Who do you know? The best way to get a job is to work your networks. Who do you know that can help you get that college-educated entry level job? What if you can’t get that entry-level job, what is your back-up plan?
- Don’t stop volunteering. Someone who has volunteered all four years of college looks better prepared to have a career after college compared with someone who did not engage in volunteering.



Sociology Requirements for Graduation

You can concentrate in one of three areas in Sociology: General Sociology, Crime and Justice, or Health, Medicine and the Body. All students must take 36 credit hours (9 classes) in Sociology.

Core Requirements for every concentration (4 classes)

SOC 113 (Introduction to Sociology) OR SOC 116 (Social Problems)

SOC 214 (Research Methods) Prereq: SOC 113 or 116 with a C or better, plus one other sociology course

SOC 315 (Sociological Theory) or SOC 333 (Sociology of Crime)

SOC 433 or SOC 453 (Senior Seminar)

Sociology Electives (5 classes)

General Sociology students are required to take any five other sociology classes. One must be at the 200 level. Two courses must be at the 300 level.

Crime and Justice Studies students are required to take

SOC 234 (Criminal Justice Systems)

2 Sociology classes from the list of Crime and Justice electives (at least 1 must be at the 300 level)

2 Sociology classes that are not Crime and Justice electives .

Health, Medicine and the Body students must take SOC 253 (Sociology of Health and Illness). Students must take SOC 254 (U.S. Health Care Landscapes) OR SOC 357 (Global Health and Healing) and one Health, Medicine, and the Body elective. In addition, students must take two courses not related to the Health, Medicine, and the Body concentration.

Freshman Year

During your freshman year, you should take a few required first year courses. We strongly encourage you to take SOC 113 or 116. Please remember, you need a C or better in this class to take more advanced SOC classes.

You should take a math class (remember you need at least 130 to fulfill the graduation requirement). You will only be allowed to register for the math course you have placed into with the math placement exam.

You should also look for one History/Humanities course to fulfill your college requirement. You can get this class to double-count for another requirement if you look for classes that fulfill cultural diversity A as well. In addition, take one of the following philosophy courses: Phil 119, 123, or 127.

Fall	Spring
Eng 101	Eng 102
Freshman Seminar	History/Humanities***
Math*	Ethical and Philosophical Inquiry
Soc 113 or 116**	Soc 234 or other soc elective

Sophomore Year

First semester language courses are only offered during the fall. Take a language if you are a BA seeking student. If you take ENG 216 for your literature requirement, it will also fulfill Cultural Diversity A.

Fall	Spring
Literature ***	Humanities/history ***
	Soc 333/315 OR Soc 214
Soc elective	Cultural diversity a or b ***
Foreign Language 101 (BA)	Foreign Language 102 (BA)
OR	
Humanities/History (BS)	Quantitative Reasoning (BS)

Junior Year

Make sure to take stock of any lingering requirements. For instance, did you take an ECR course yet? You should seriously consider taking courses related to a minor as well. You must make sure you have your SOC 214 and SOC 315/333 requirement fulfilled this year as well.

Cultural Diversity a or b ***	Elective
Soc 300 crime and justice	Soc Elective
Elective	Elective
Science and Lab (BS)	Science and Lab (BS)
OR	
Science and Lab (BA)	Four credit non lab science (BA)

Senior Year

Make sure you are still continuing to meet with your advisor. She can likely catch an error or point out a class that is missing.

Soc 433	Soc Elective
Elective	Elective
Soc practicum ****	ECR
Elective	Elective

*Must be 130 or higher

** Must pass with a C or better

***Watch for double counting

**** Must meet requirements

Freshman Year

Fall	Spring
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

Sophomore Year

Fall	Spring
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

Junior Year

Fall	Spring
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

Senior Year

Fall	Spring
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

Questions for Advisor



Freshman Year

Fall	Spring
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

Sophomore Year

Fall	Spring
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

Junior Year

Fall	Spring
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

Senior Year

Fall	Spring
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

Questions for Advisor



Remember, although we have a formal advising system to assist you, taking the appropriate classes is ultimately your responsibility. Make it your business to be prepared, understand how to read your program evaluation, and know the graduation requirements.



NOTES
