

The family studies curriculum covers the family life cycle, human development from infancy to old age, family relational dynamics, the family relationships with the other social systems. In addition, courses in methods of social research and an internship provide students with knowledge and skills necessary to either continue their study in graduate school or seek employment immediately following graduation.

Students graduating with a major in family studies who do not go on to graduate school typically seek employment as youth services workers, program directors, family life educators, and child life specialists, in public and private agencies dealing with family issues.

I. Family Studies major—42 hours

- A. Prerequisites: SOC 211, PSY 213, SW 200.
- B. SOC 313, 319, 333, 370, 400, 422, 425
- C. CHR 244, COM 235, ECF 415, PSY 219
- D. Select 9 hours from 2 different areas:
 - 1. SOC 310, 321, 411, 420
 - 2. PSY 313, 324, 418, 425, 435
 - 3. PEWS 113, 301, 325
- E. Optional experience: a semester of study at Focus on the Family Institute may substitute for one or more courses above. See the Department Chair for details.

II. Family Studies minor—21 hours

- A. SOC 313, 425
- B. 15 semester hours from 2 different areas shown in II. C. of the major.

Student Organizations

Pi Gamma Mu, Tennessee Kappa Chapter, is a national social science honor society which seeks to improve scholarship in social studies; to inspire social service to humanity by an intelligent approach to the solution of social problems; and to engender sympathy towards others with different opinions and institutions. Students who have completed twenty semester hours of social science with a “B” average or above are eligible for election to membership.

Sociologists in Motion involves Sociology majors and minors in a University organization offering opportunities for fellowship, sociological networking, and to guide individuals in the field of Sociology; to open the field of Sociology to prospective students; and to demonstrate Christian love through ministry opportunities.

Student Awards

The Academic Excellence Medal is awarded to the graduating senior with the highest average in the major provided the average is not less than 3.5. Before Awards Day, the student must have completed at least 15 credit hours in the major at Union University, exclusive of pass/fail courses. If no major is eligible, the medal will be given to the minor meeting the minimum requirements.

The **Pi Gamma Mu Scholarship Medal** is presented to the graduating member of the society with the highest academic average.

Course Offerings in Sociology (SOC)

()-Hours Credit; F-Fall; W-Winter; S-Spring; Su-Summer

211. Principles of Sociology (3) F, W, S, Su

An introduction to the scientific study of human behavior in group settings.

213. Social Problems (3) S—Odd Years

A practical introduction to some of the specific contemporary social issues such as crime, domestic violence, and alcohol and drug addiction.

300. Sport Sociology (3) S—Even Years

Reciprocal credit: PEWS 300.

Application of sociological principles to sport and athletics. Exploration of sport as a social institution in American society and how it is an agent of social change.

310. Social and Economic Justice (3) S

Prerequisites: CHR 111 and 112. Reciprocal credit: SW 310.

See SW 310 for course description.

313. Relationships, Marriage and Families (3) F, S, Su

Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: SW 313.

An investigation of the sociocultural and historical factors influencing relationships, marriage and families emphasizing challenges, prevention and intervention.

316. Criminology (3) S

Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: SW 316.

A study of the sources of crime and delinquency, theories of punishment, treatment of crime, etc.

317. Sociology of Community (3) F—Even Years

Prerequisite: SOC 211.

An introduction to sociological theory and research on community life, both rural and

370. Gender and Society (3) S

Prerequisite: SOC 211. Reciprocal credit: SW 370.

Analysis of gender and human sexuality in American society and cross-culture with consideration to the role of gender in structuring identity, male and female interaction, and constraining or expanding opportunities. Sexual development, function and dysfunction, and cultural and socio-psychological issues are examined. Christian, ethical

425. Strengthening Marriage and Families (3) F

Prerequisites: SOC 211, 313.

An examination of the broad scope of family theories and models from sociological and family studies perspectives exploring historical roots, basic assumptions, core concepts, and applications for strengthening interpersonal and family relationships. Emphasizes premarital and family life education, marriage and family enrichment.

435. Contemporary Issues in the Family (3) S

Prerequisites: SOC 211, 313. Reciprocal credit: PSY 435.

An in-depth look at the family, life issues, threats and challenges facing the family today. Biblical principles related to such issues as parent-child relationships, work and family, divorce and family violence are discussed. Preventive techniques and solutions are considered.