

# COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY, B.S.

Sociologists study human social behavior and how societies are organized. The Department of Community and Environmental Sociology's focus is on the relationship between people and their natural environment and with the communities in which people live, work, and play.

A major in Community and Environmental Sociology is good preparation for jobs that involve an understanding of social issues, require knowledge of the functioning and organization of communities and the relationship between people and the natural environment, and involve data collection or data analysis. Community and Environmental Sociology graduates may be employed in nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) that focus on a number of issues surrounding community development, environment, and advocacy, governmental planning or social service agencies, agricultural or environmental organizations, and cooperative or agribusiness enterprises. A major in Community and Environmental Sociology also provides excellent preparation for careers in international development, law, and further academic work in sociology or other social sciences.

The Department of Community and Environmental Sociology offers a wide range of courses for both beginning and advanced students. The department's introductory course, C&E SOC/SOC 140 Introduction to Community and Environmental Sociology, is designed to explore the changing nature of rural development in the global economy.

UW–Madison Community and Environmental Sociologists teach about a wide range of issues that are of critical importance to people and communities from Wisconsin to the low-income countries of the developing world. For example, students can study such matters as the growing controversies around energy, the implementation of environmental laws, sustainability, and the special problems and unique concerns of people in resource-dependent communities. Students can also focus on issues such as the effect of new agricultural technologies on family farms, the ways gender and race affect educational and occupational opportunities, and how community leaders and citizens address problems such as urban sprawl or rural poverty. In addition, students can examine issues such as population growth, the causes of world hunger, tropical rainforest destruction, and the prospects for achieving sustainable development in poor countries.

Many Community and Environmental Sociology students build on their major by selecting one of the certificate programs available from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences or from other UW–Madison schools or colleges. Certificate programs enable students to expand their skills and study particular topics or issues in more depth. Community and Environmental (C&E) Sociology majors often choose certificate programs in the concentration in analysis and research, global health, food systems, criminology, and environmental studies. Many students choose to pursue a double major, combining C&E Sociology with fields such as Spanish, environmental studies, nutritional sciences, agronomy, biology, wildlife ecology, or environmental science. Students have also combined their undergraduate major in C&E Sociology with graduate work in public policy through the La Follette School of Public Affairs accelerated master's of public affairs program.

## HOW TO GET IN

To declare this major, students must be admitted to UW–Madison and the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALs). For information about becoming a CALs first-year or transfer student, see Entering the College (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/#enteringthecollegertext>).

Students who attend Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR) with the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences have the option to declare this major at SOAR. Students may otherwise declare after they have begun their undergraduate studies. For more information, contact the advisor listed under the Advising and Careers tab.

## REQUIREMENTS

### UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison are required to fulfill a minimum set of common university general education requirements to ensure that every graduate acquires the essential core of an undergraduate education. This core establishes a foundation for living a productive life, being a citizen of the world, appreciating aesthetic values, and engaging in lifelong learning in a continually changing world. Various schools and colleges will have requirements in addition to the requirements listed below. Consult your advisor for assistance, as needed. For additional information, see the university Undergraduate General Education Requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatestudytext>) section of the *Guide*.

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| General Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breadth—Humanities/Literature/Arts: 6 credits</li> <li>• Breadth—Natural Science: 4 to 6 credits, consisting of one 4- or 5-credit course with a laboratory component; or two courses providing a total of 6 credits</li> <li>• Breadth—Social Studies: 3 credits</li> <li>• Communication Part A &amp; Part B *</li> <li>• Ethnic Studies *</li> <li>• Quantitative Reasoning Part A &amp; Part B *</li> </ul> |
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\* The mortarboard symbol appears before the title of any course that fulfills one of the Communication Part A or Part B, Ethnic Studies, or Quantitative Reasoning Part A or Part B requirements.

### COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the University General Education Requirements, all undergraduate students in CALs must satisfy a set of college and major requirements. Courses may not double count within university requirements (General Education and Breadth) or within college requirements (First-Year Seminar, International Studies, Science, and Capstone), but courses counted toward university requirements may also be used to satisfy a college and/or a major requirement; similarly, courses counted toward college requirements may also be used to satisfy a university and/or a major requirement.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL CALS B.S. DEGREE PROGRAMS

Code	Title	Credits
Quality of Work: Students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.000 to remain in good standing and be eligible for graduation.		
Residency: Students must complete 30 degree credits in residence at UW–Madison after earning 86 credits toward their undergraduate degree.		
First Year Seminar ( <a href="http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/#requirementstext">http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/#requirementstext</a> )		1
International Studies ( <a href="http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/#requirementstext">http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/#requirementstext</a> )		3
Physical Science Fundamentals		4-5
CHEM 103	General Chemistry I	
or CHEM 108	Chemistry in Our World	
or CHEM 109	Advanced General Chemistry	
Biological Science		5
Additional Science (Biological, Physical, or Natural)		3
Science Breadth (Biological, Physical, Natural, or Social)		3
CALS Capstone Learning Experience: included in the requirements for each CALS major (see "Major Requirements") ( <a href="http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/#requirementstext">http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/#requirementstext</a> )		

## MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core</b>		
C&E SOC/SOC 140	Introduction to Community and Environmental Sociology	4
C&E SOC/SOC 475	Classical Sociological Theory	3
C&E SOC/SOC 357	Methods of Sociological Inquiry	3-4
C&E SOC/SOC 360	Statistics for Sociologists I <sup>1</sup>	4
<b>Electives within the Major</b> <sup>2</sup>		<b>15</b>
Select 6-9 credits from the Community course set <sup>3</sup>		
Select 6-9 credits from the Environment course set <sup>3</sup>		
<b>Capstone</b>		
C&E SOC 500	Capstone Experience	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>32-33</b>

<sup>1</sup> We strongly encourage our majors to take C&E SOC/SOC 360 Statistics for Sociologists I, if they have not already taken a statistics course at time of major declaration. Acceptable statistics courses other than C&E SOC/SOC 360 Statistics for Sociologists I are: STAT 301 Introduction to Statistical Methods, STAT 371 Introductory Applied Statistics for the Life Sciences, ECON 310 Statistics: Measurement in Economics, PSYCH 210 Basic Statistics for Psychology, GEOG 360 Quantitative Methods in Geographical Analysis, and MATH/STAT 310 Introduction to Probability and Mathematical Statistics II. Please note that statistics courses taken outside the major do not count toward the credit requirement in the major.

<sup>2</sup> Must complete a total of 15 credits of Community and Environment electives. No more than 6 credits may be 100- or 200-level courses. At least 6 credits must be taken in each course set.

<sup>3</sup> Consult advisor to request permission to use C&E SOC 299 Independent Study, C&E SOC 399 Coordinative Internship/ Cooperative Education, or C&E SOC 699 Special Problems toward the Community or Environmental course sets. No more than 4 such credits may be counted toward the major.

## ELECTIVE COURSES WITHIN THE MAJOR COMMUNITY COURSE SET

Code	Title	Credits
C&E SOC/SOC 210	Survey of Sociology	3-4
C&E SOC/SOC 211	The Sociological Enterprise	3
C&E SOC/GEN&WS/ SOC 215	Gender and Work in Rural America	3
C&E SOC/SOC 245	Technology and Society	3
C&E SOC/ AFROAMER/ ANTHRO/GEOG/ HISTORY/LACIS/ POLI SCI/SOC/ SPANISH 260	Latin America: An Introduction	3-4
C&E SOC/SOC 341	Labor in Global Food Systems	3
C&E SOC/SOC 365	Data Management for Social Science Research	3-4
C&E SOC 375	Special Topics	1-4
C&E SOC/POP HLTH/ SOC 380	Contemporary Population Problems for Honors	3
C&E SOC/CURRIC/ ENVIR ST 405	Education for Sustainable Communities	3
C&E SOC/SOC 532	Health Care Issues for Individuals, Families and Society	3
C&E SOC/SOC 533	Public Health in Rural & Urban Communities	3
C&E SOC/ENVIR ST/ SOC 540	Sociology of International Development, Environment, and Sustainability	3
C&E SOC/ AGRONOMY/ MED HIST/ PHILOS 565	The Ethics of Modern Biotechnology	3
C&E SOC/SOC 573	Community Organization and Change	3
C&E SOC/AMER IND/ SOC 578	Poverty and Place	3
C&E SOC/SOC/ URB R PL 617	Community Development	3
C&E SOC/SOC 623	Gender, Society, and Politics	3
C&E SOC/SOC 630	Sociology of Developing Societies/ Third World	3
C&E SOC/SOC/ URB R PL 645	Modern American Communities	3
C&E SOC/SOC 652	Sociology of Economic Institutions	3
C&E SOC/SOC 655	Microfoundations of Economic Sociology	3

C&E SOC/SOC 676	Applied Demography: Planning and Policy	3
C&E SOC/SOC 693	Practicum in Analysis and Research	3

## ENVIRONMENT COURSE SET

Code	Title	Credits
C&E SOC/ AGROECOL/ AGRONOMY/ ENTOM/ ENVIR ST 103	Agroecology: An Introduction to the Ecology of Food and Agriculture	3
C&E SOC/SOC 222	Food, Culture, and Society	3
C&E SOC/ HIST SCI 230	Agriculture and Social Change in Western History	3
C&E SOC/F&W ECOL/ SOC 248	Environment, Natural Resources, and Society	3
C&E SOC/A A E/ SOC 340	Issues in Food Systems	3-4
C&E SOC 375	Special Topics	1-4
C&E SOC/CURRIC/ ENVIR ST 405	Education for Sustainable Communities	3
C&E SOC/ENVIR ST/ GEOG 434	People, Wildlife and Landscapes	3
C&E SOC/ENVIR ST/ SOC 540	Sociology of International Development, Environment, and Sustainability	3
C&E SOC/SOC 541	Environmental Stewardship and Social Justice	3
C&E SOC/ AGRONOMY/ MED HIST/ PHILOS 565	The Ethics of Modern Biotechnology	3
C&E SOC/SOC 650	Sociology of Agriculture	3
C&E SOC/SOC 693	Practicum in Analysis and Research	3

## CREDIT REQUIREMENT

Must complete a total of 30 credits of C&E SOC courses. Students may count up to 4 credits of Independent Study (C&E SOC 299 Independent Study, C&E SOC 699 Special Problems), Internship (C&E SOC 399 Coordinative Internship/Cooperative Education), or Thesis (C&E SOC 681 Senior Honors Thesis/C&E SOC 682 Senior Honors Thesis/C&E SOC 691 Senior Thesis/C&E SOC 692 Senior Thesis) here, with permission of their advisor.

## UNIVERSITY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

**Total Degree** To receive a bachelor's degree from UW–Madison, students must earn a minimum of 120 degree credits. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 degree credits. Students should consult with their college or department advisor for information on specific credit requirements.

**Residency** Degree candidates are required to earn a minimum of 30 credits in residence at UW–Madison. "In residence" means on the UW–Madison campus with an undergraduate degree classification. "In residence" credit also includes UW–Madison courses offered in distance or online formats and credits earned in UW–Madison Study Abroad/Study Away programs.

**Quality of Work** Undergraduate students must maintain the minimum grade point average specified by the school, college, or academic program to remain in good academic standing. Students whose academic performance drops below these minimum thresholds will be placed on academic probation.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Understand how social science arguments are constructed and evaluated.
2. Develop ability to assess data quality and understand whether particular data is appropriate to answer specific questions.
3. Learn general theories on basic social processes, especially those related to the relationships between society and the environment and the social organization of communities.
4. Learn communication skills in the social sciences.

## FOUR-YEAR PLAN

### FOUR-YEAR PLAN

#### SAMPLE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY FOUR-YEAR PLAN

##### Freshman

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
COMM A or COMM B Course		2-3 COMM A or COMM B Course	2-3
C&E SOC/SOC 140		4 CHEM 103, 108, or 109	4-5
First Year Seminar		1 C&E SOC Elective <sup>2</sup>	3
Electives <sup>1</sup>		8 Electives (to reach ~15 credits)	4-6
		<b>15-16</b>	<b>13-17</b>

**Total Credits 28-33**

##### Sophomore

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
C&E SOC/SOC 357		3 C&E SOC/SOC 360	4
C&E SOC Elective <sup>2</sup>		3 C&E SOC Elective <sup>2</sup>	3
Ethnic Studies		3 Biological Science Course	2
Electives		6 Humanities Elective	3
		Additional Electives	3
		<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

**Total Credits 30**

**Junior**

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
C&E SOC/SOC 475		3 C&E SOC Elective <sup>2</sup>	3
C&E SOC Elective <sup>2</sup>		3 International Studies	3
Biological Science		3 Additional Science Course	3
Additional Electives		6 Electives	6
	<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>

**Total Credits 30****Senior**

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
C&E SOC 500 <sup>3</sup>		3 Humanities	3
Electives		12 Electives	12
	<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>

**Total Credits 30**

- <sup>1</sup> Electives should be chosen in order to satisfy university and CALS requirements. See Requirements tab for details.
- <sup>2</sup> C&E SOC electives include the Community course set and the Environmental course set. See Requirements tab for details.
- <sup>3</sup> Students may take the capstone course either semester of their senior year. The fall semester and spring semester courses may have different content.
- The above plan assumes that a student enters with standard high school preparation (algebra, geometry, third-year math, two years' foreign language).

**ADVISING AND CAREERS**

Students have access to two advisors once they declare the major. Megan Banaszak advises students on the technical aspects of the major. She helps students plan their class schedule, makes sure they're on schedule to graduate, and discuss general questions about the major. Students will also be assigned a faculty mentor. Faculty mentors can help students find internship opportunities and discuss career aspirations. Prospective students are welcome to contact Megan Banaszak (mbanaszak ([@wisc.edu](http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/community-environmental-sociology/community-environmental-sociology-bs/mbanaszak@wisc.edu))@wisc.edu (lmtigges@wisc.edu)) or Professor Randy Stoecker (rstoecker@wisc.edu) for more information.

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**PEOPLE****PROFESSORS**

Michael Bell (chair), Katherine Curtis, Nan Enstad, Randy Stoecker

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS**

Samer Alatout, Noah Feinstein, Monica White

**ASSISTANT PROFESSORS**

Josh Garoon, Sarah Rios

**EMERITUS PROFESSORS**

Jane Collins, Glenn Fuguitt, Jess Gilbert, Gary Green, Tom Heberlein, Daniel Kleinman, Jack Kloppenburg, Gene Summers, Leann Tigges, Paul Voss

**WISCONSIN EXPERIENCE**

The program excels in offering our majors high-impact experiences that characterize the Wisconsin Experience, from rich capstone courses to varied internships and study abroad experiences.

- Many of our students spend a summer or a semester studying abroad. Some students attend universities in Europe, Latin America, and Asia, while other students participate in a variety of alternative learning experiences. Study abroad programs offer the opportunity to earn credits toward your degree while learning about new cultures, communities, and environments.
- Students also gain experiences outside of the classroom through internships and community-based service learning courses, including certain sections of our capstone course.
- The variety of internships undertaken by our majors is vast but all offer students the opportunity to apply their knowledge to "real world" settings. A list of some of the internship opportunities is provided on our website (<http://dces.wisc.edu/programs/opportunities/possible-internships/>).
- Our majors have opportunities to enhance their research skills by working on a faculty member's research or undertaking a senior thesis project.
- The department offers scholarships for students to conduct research, and to present their results at conferences. Information about scholarships available to undergrads is on the Scholarships (<https://dces.wisc.edu/programs/scholarships/>) page on our website.