

## **SOCIOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE MISSION AND GOALS**

The mission of the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice is to achieve excellence in scholarship, teaching, and service that impacts our students, our colleagues, the university, and community. Our faculty members are nationally and internationally recognized scholars in diverse areas such as health, environment, disasters, law, criminal justice, race, and gender.

The core undergraduate curriculum provides thorough training in the general disciplines of sociology and criminal justice, while our sociology major contains four specialty tracks for students, including Health and Health Services, Law and Society, Social Welfare, and Emergency and Environmental Management.

Our undergraduate programs in Sociology and Criminal Justice promote critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and numerical literacy, teach oral and written communication skills, and convey core Sociology and Criminal Justice concepts and theories. We produce well-rounded, informed, and engaged undergraduate students who are able to analyze critically and insightfully participate in a variety of social environments. Furthermore, our core curriculum is both specialized and broadly-based in order to equip students to pursue many career options across multiple fields.

Our undergraduate programs accomplish this through multiple pedagogical approaches and opportunities, including lectures, seminars, and a variety of Discovery Learning opportunities such as Inside/Out courses, internships, undergraduate research, and study abroad. The undergraduate program is designed to enable Sociology and Criminal Justice majors to achieve several intellectual and practical outcomes (numbers in parentheses refer to University of Delaware General Education goals):

1. Students will develop and master critical thinking and analytical reasoning skills.
2. Students will develop and master oral and written communication skills.  
(1a/1b)

3. Students will develop and master the ability to understand and apply major sociology and criminal justice concepts and theories to complex contemporary social phenomena. (4, 5, 9, 10)
4. Students will develop and master the ability to access, comprehend and synthesize the professional sociology and criminal justice literatures in order to assess others' work and for use in their own work. (1, 2, 3, 5)
5. Students will develop and master the ability to apply basic research skills including research design, data analysis and interpretation. (1,2,3,5)
6. Students will be able to understand cultural diversity in the US and compare it to a diverse and globalizing world of social institutions and justice programs. (9, 10)