

Community Studies

Degree:
A.A. – Community Studies

Certificate of Achievement:
Community Studies

Department of Sociology
Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Kasey Gardner, Dean
Rodda Hall North, room 226
916-558-2401

Community Studies

Associate in Arts Degree
Certificate of Achievement

Program Information

Community Studies is an applied sociology program that provides a foundation for students to explore the social services, community development practices, and social justice efforts to address social inequities. Sociological theory and research principles will guide critical academic exploration and development, which will be applied to a hands on practicum field experience under the supervision of faculty and professionals in the community. The A.A. degree and certificate in Community Studies will offer additional broader employment options and career advancement opportunities.

Career Opportunities

The degree and certificate in Community Studies are designed to prepare students to work in public, private, and nonprofit community service organizations such as social service, educational, correctional, mental health, community development and community health agencies, and programs. The A.A. degree may also serve as the first level of education in a career ladder leading to a BA in social work, community development, or sociology and then on to advanced study in a variety of graduate programs leading to masters and doctoral degrees.

Gainful Employment

For more information about program costs, graduation rates, median debt of program graduates, and other important information regarding gainful employment, please visit: <http://www.losrios.edu/gainful-emp-info/gedt.php?major=051238C01>

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of the evolution of the social services, community development practice, and related public policy.
- identify, analyze, and help to construct strategies for social change through participation in the social justice work of an organization.
- analyze how communities attempt to overcome problems associated with inequality, cultural stigma, prejudice, and discrimination.
- analyze social service and community development organizational structures and their functions.
- identify and evaluate the various roles of a community worker.
- assess, compare, and develop core interventions and community resources.
- integrate personal sensitivity and awareness of the cultural diversity of clients, professionals, and communities.
- assess and apply knowledge of existing professional codes of ethics and laws related to the social services and community development.

Required Program

Units

SOC 321 Race, Ethnicity and Inequality in the United States (3) 3
or SOC 482 Sociology of Race, Ethnicity and
Inequality In the United States – Honors (3)
SOC 375 Introduction to Community Development 3

Fall Semester:

SOC 380 Introduction to Social Services 3

Spring Semester:

SOC 382 Introduction to Casework in Social Services 3

A minimum of 3 units from the following: 3
SOC 385 Practicum in Sociology (1 – 4)

A minimum of 6 units from the following: 6

ADMJ 304 Juvenile Delinquency (3)
ADMJ 340 Introduction to Correctional Services (3)
COMM 325 Intercultural Communication (3)
PSYC 370 Human Development: A Life Span (3)
or FCS 324 Human Development: A Life Span (3)
PSYC 390 Psychology of Death and Dying (3)
ADMJ 303 Substance Abuse: Effects on Body and Behavior (3)
or PSYC 405 Substance Abuse: Effects on Body and
Behavior (3)
SOC 301 Social Problems (3)
or SOC 481 Social Problems – Honors (3)
SOC 310 Marriage and the Family (3)
or FCS 320 Marriage and the Family (3)
SOC 318 Introduction to Crime, Deviance, and Social Control (3)
or ADMJ 349 Introduction to Crime, Deviance, and Social
Control (3)
SOC 335 Sociology of Aging (3)
or GERON 300 Sociology of Aging (3)
SOC 343 Women and Social Action (3)

Total Units Required

21

Suggested Electives

PSYC 320, PSYC 340

Associate in Arts (A.A.) Degree

The Associate in Arts degree may be obtained by completion of the required program, plus general education requirements, plus sufficient electives to meet a 60-unit total. See SCC graduation requirements.

Certificate of Achievement

The Certificate of Achievement may be obtained by completion of the required program with grades of “C” or better.