

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

Non-Governmental Organizations and Social Change

USC Department of Sociology

Total units: 36

This interdisciplinary program focuses on the roots of social conflict, on theories and methods for understanding them, and on the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and nonprofits that address them. To remedy social problems, we need to examine their economic, political, and social roots, as well as the varied forms of organizations that aim to fix them. Students will engage in various methods of analysis, from investigations of everyday interactions to explorations of larger economic, political, and social structures. In classrooms and internships, students will learn how people in NGOs and nonprofits promote new forms of citizenship and governance, aiming to protect the environment and to lessen the suffering of people around the world.

The major requires nine courses (36 units) chosen from the specific lists of requirements below. As with all interdisciplinary majors, students may double-count no more than three courses from this degree to satisfy any other major.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Lower Division Requirement (4 Units)

Roots of the problems NGOs aim to solve, including the many ways that people have tried to understand and solve social problems.

Choose one course from the following:

Course Prefix	Course Title	Units
AMST 252gmw	Black Social Movements in the U.S. GE (C)&(G)	4
COMM 201	Rhetoric and the Public Sphere	4
ECON 238xg	Political Economy and Social Issues	4
ENST 150gx	Environmental Issues in Society GE (C)	4
ENST 255	American Environmentalism	4
ENST 270	Introduction to Environmental Law and Politics	4
GEOL 108Lg	Crises of a Planet GE (E)	4
IR 101gxw	International Relations GE (C)&(G)	4
IR 210gw	International Relations: Introductory Analysis	4
PHIL 141g	The Professions and the Public Interest in American Life GE (B)&(H)	4
POSC 248gw	Human Rights GE (C)&(G)	4
POSC 255g	Cultures, Civilizations and Ethnicities in World Politics	4
POSC 265gw	Environmental Challenges GE (C)&(G)	4
SOCI 100gm	Los Angeles and the American Dream	4
SOCI 150gm	Social Problems	4
SOCI 200gm	Introduction to Sociology GE (C)	4
SOCI 225gw	Sociology of Health and the Body GE (C)&(G)	4

SOCI 255g	Sociology of Globalization GE (C)	4
SWMS 210gm	Social Analysis of Gender GE (C)&(G)	4
SWMS 215gp	Gender Conflict across Cultural Contexts GE (B)&(H)	4

B. Core Methods (4 Units)

Become critical consumers of research in order to assess solutions for social problems.

Choose one course from the following:

SOCI 313	Sociological Research Methods	4
SOCI 314	Analyzing Social Statistics GE (F)	4

C. Core Theory (4 Units)

Analyze different perspectives of proposed solutions and explore how approaches to understanding social problems vary.

Choose one course from the following:

PHIL 337	History of Modern Political Philosophy	4
PHIL 437	Social and Political Philosophy	4
POSC 380	Political Theories and Social Reform	2 or 4
SOCI 270	Sociological Theory GE (C)	4

D. Perspectives on NGOs (4 Units)

Examine the social environments in which NGOs operate.

Choose one course from the following:

IR 371	Global Civil Society: Non-State Actors in World Politics	4
SOCI 250gmw	Grassroots Participation in Global Perspective	4
SOCI 408	Volunteers, Non-Governmental Organizations, and Everyday Politics	4

E. Analyzing and Identifying Roots of Social Conflict (8 Units)

Understand the underlying reasons of social problems, including the history, location, and nature of conflict.

Choose two courses from the following:

ANTH 355	Urban Anthropology	4
ANTH 316gmp	North American Indians in American Public Life GE (C)&(H)	4
ANTH 357g	Cultures of Genocide GE (C)	4
ANTH 371gm	Cross-Cultural Research on Urban Gangs GE (C)	4
ANTH 380	Sex and Gender in Anthropological Perspective	4
BISC 427	The Global Environment	4
ECON 340	Economics of Less Developed Countries*	4
ECON 344	Economic Development of Sub-Saharan Africa*	4
ECON 350	The World Economy*	4
GERO 340	Policy, Values, and Power in an Aging Society	4

GERO 483	Global Health and Aging	4
HIST 323	The Holocaust in 20th Century Europe	4
HIST 372	Modern Latin America	4
IR 308w	Economic Globalization	4
IR 315	Ethnicity and Nationalism in World Politics	4
IR 323	Politics of Global Environment	4
IR 324	Multinational Enterprises and World Politics	4
IR 325	North-South Relations in the Global Economy	4
IR 344	Developing Countries in World Politics	4
IR 349	International Law and Politics	4
IR 364	The Political Economy of Latin American Development	4
IR 367	Africa in International Affairs	4
PHIL 340	Ethics	4
POSC 320	Urban Politics	4
POSC 321	Urban Political Problems	4
POSC 345	International Law	4
POSC 347	Environmental Law	4
POSC 350	Politics of Latin America	4
POSC 363	Cities and Regions in World Politics	4
POSC 381	Sex, Power, and Politics	4
POSC 436	Environmental Politics	4
SOCI 362	Global and Transnational Sociology	4
SOCI 402	Human Trafficking	4
SOCI 429	Immigration, Work and Labor	4
SOCI 430m	Work and the Workplace	4
SOCI 432m	Racial and Ethnic Relations in a Global Society	4
SOCI 460	Key Issues in Contemporary International Migration	4
SOCI 464	Sociology of Gender and Work	4

*Requires pre-requisite

F. Addressing Social Conflict and Organizing Advocacy (8 Units)

Learn the strategies that organizations use to try to solve social problems and inspire change.

Choose two courses from the following:

AMST 357m	Latino Social Movements	4
BAEP 491	Introduction to Social Entrepreneurship	4
BUCO 485	Business Communication Management for Nonprofits	4
COMM 322	Argumentation and Advocacy	4
COMM 366	Designing Media and Communication Projects for Social Change	4
COMM 402	Public Communication Campaigns	4
COMM 412	Communication and Social Movements	4
COMM 413	Propaganda, Ideology and Public Controversy	4
COMM 487	Communication and Global Organizations	4
GERO 350	Administrative Problems in Aging	2 or 4
GERO 451	Policy and Program Development in Aging	4

IR 306	International Organizations	4
IR 318	Violent Conflict	4
IR 337	The Impact of Remittances on Development in Mexico	4
JS 360m	Identity, Community, and Service: Jews and Other Americans	4
POSC 323	Applied Politics	4
PPD 318	Financial Accounting in Public and Nonprofit Organizations	4
PPD 353	Introduction to Philanthropy and Grant-writing	4
SOCI 340	Organizations: Bureaucracy and Alternatives to Bureaucracy	4
SOCI 425	Crowds, Publics, and Social Movements (
SOCI 445	Political Sociology*	4
SOWK 350	Adolescent Gang Intervention	4
THTR 488mw	Theatre in the Community	4

*Requires pre-requisite

G. Internship Experience (4 Units)

Capstone course that applies ideas learned in the major during a concurrent internship, culminating in a major research project.

One course required:

SOCI 450	Non-Governmental Organizations/Non-profits Field Practicum	4
----------	--	---

For additional information or to make an advising appointment, contact:

Deja Powell

Academic Advisor (student last name A - K)
Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences
213-740-2534

dejapowe@usc.edu

To make an appointment, please visit: <http://bit.ly/accessappointment>

Rika Yano

Academic Advisor (student last name L - M)
Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences
213-740-2534

rikayano@usc.edu

To make an appointment, please visit: <http://bit.ly/accessappointment>

Nicholas Coleman

Academic Advisor (student last name N - Z)
Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences
213-740-2534

colemann@usc.edu

To make an appointment, please visit: <http://bit.ly/accessappointment>

Last updated 11/2023