

**Date:** 27 May 2009

**Subject:** Revision of Sociology Minor

**From:** John D. Harder, Chair

CCI Sciences Subcommittee

The CCI Sciences Subcommittee first considered the proposal for revision of the Sociology Minor at its meeting on 9 February 2009. The proposed revision involves 1) retention of the current Sociology minor program with no changes, 2) restructuring and renaming of the other two existing minor programs: Social Stratification and Inequality and Criminology, and 3) the addition of a new minor program in Health and Society as outlined in the attached summary and Table 1. The proposed changes do not change the current total credit hours (25) required of Sociology minors.

Social Stratification and Inequality to be renamed: Inequality and Society, 25 credit hours

This minor program currently suffers from low enrollment, perhaps because students are unfamiliar with the term “stratification”. Also, it not well differentiated from the Sociology minor. These shortcomings are addressed with the name change and the addition of two courses (Sociology 202 and 306), both of which deal with social stratification. Sociology 463 is retained and Sociology 101 is dropped as a requirement. Students choose from a list of some 67 courses in Sociology (Appendix A) for two electives (5 hrs each) to complete their minor of 25 hours.

Criminology to be renamed: Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies, 25 credit hours.

This is a popular minor (67 enrolled, SP’08), but it is poorly differentiated from Sociology minor. The department intends to strengthen this program with a name change that reflects areas of strength in the department and its major by the same name. Introduction to Criminal Justice (209) and Sociology of Youth and Crime (511) replace Sociology 101 and 487 as prerequisites. Students choose from a list of some 38 courses in Sociology (Appendix B), focused on criminology, for two electives (5 hrs each) to complete their minor.

Health and Society: a new minor in Sociology, 25 credit hours

The department proposes this minor to take advantage of growing faculty strength (4 new hires) in population, aging, and medical sociology and their participation in the Initiative in Population Research. Students completing this minor will be knowledgeable in sociological theory as it relates to operation of the health care industry and social trends in health related issues.

The revision of the Sociology minor programs builds on the strength of the current Sociology minor (105 enrolled, SP’08) to offer four programs organized around substantive areas of expertise among faculty in the department. The Subcommittee believes that the rationale for the proposed revision is compelling and that curricular structure of the four programs is well developed and differentiated.

The Sciences Subcommittee was concerned in its deliberations with two issues:

- 1) prerequisites for required courses in two of the programs: Sociology 511, 629, and 630, and
- 2) the status of Sociology 101 as a required course in the Sociology minor program but as an elective in the other three.

The use of 100-level courses in minors is discouraged (page 20 of the Curricular Operations Manual), and the subcommittee was concerned that use of Sociology 101 as an elective in three of the minors would effectively constitute a 20-hour minor for students who had taken 101 prior to enrolling in the minor, while use of 101 as a required course in the Sociology minor would constitute a 25-hour minor for students who had not yet taken the course. The proposal was returned to the department with the recommendation to remove Sociology 101 from the elective list or to provide a rationale for retaining it as an elective in three of the four minors.

The Subcommittee considered the response (3/12/09) from Sociology on 7 April 2009: With regard to the prerequisites for Sociology 511, 629, and 630, Sociology is very confident that students will have taken a 200-400 level course prior to enrolling in the aforementioned upper level courses. They have numerous lower-level (i.e., 200-400) courses that are regularly offered and new minors will be advised to complete either 209 (Introduction to Criminal Justice) or 410 (Criminology) before taking 511 (Sociology of Youth and Crime), or in the case of Health and Society minor that they will need 290 (Sociology of Death and Dying) before enrolling in 629 or 630.

With regard to Sociology 101, the department noted that the Manual states that if a 100-level course is included in the minor program, there must be 20 additional hours of non-100 level coursework. That is the case in the Sociology minor program. Dr. Bellair also emphasized that most students who elect one of their minor programs will have taken 101. Thus, there would be no inequality in the rigor of the four programs or the hours required for the Sociology minor compared to the other three minor programs.

At its meeting on 12 May 2009 the Subcommittee voted to withdraw the 4/7/09 contingencies, which instructed the department to remove statements about not increasing credit hours and to remove Sociology 101 as required or elective course within the Sociology minor programs. The subcommittee found the rationale set forth for each of Sociology minors to be compelling and well supported by the proposed curricula and voted to unanimously approve the four Sociology minor programs.

### Proposal to revise undergraduate minor program requirements in the Department of Sociology

The Faculty of the Department of Sociology proposes a revision of its *Social Stratification and Inequality* and *Criminology* minor programs, and the creation of a new *Health and Society* minor program. The proposed changes will not increase the total credit hours required of minors beyond the current requirement of 25 hours. The changes are designed to create minor programs that are focused around major substantive areas of sociological expertise among faculty within the department as opposed to sole reliance on the "mini-major" philosophy that is the basis of the current form. No changes are proposed for the *Sociology* minor program because it is our most successful minor program (enrollment in SP '08 = 105).

Current and proposed minor program requirements for each minor offered by Sociology are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1 - Current and proposed changes to Sociology minor programs.**

	<u>Current requirements</u>	<u>Proposed requirements</u>
<i>Sociology</i>	Intro. to Sociology (101) Types of Sociological Inquiry (487) Intro. to Sociological Theory (488) 2 electives	No changes proposed
<i>Social Stratification and Inequality</i>	Intro. to Sociology (101) Social Stratification (463) Types of Sociological Inquiry (487) 2 electives	Social Problems (202) Sociology of Poverty (306) Social Stratification (463) 2 electives <sup>a</sup>
		<i>new title: Inequality and Society</i>
<i>Criminology</i>	Intro. to Sociology (101) Criminology (410) Types of Sociological Inquiry (487) 2 electives	Introduction to Criminal Justice (209) Criminology (410) Sociology of Youth and crime (511) 2 electives <sup>b</sup>
		<i>new title: Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies</i>
<i>Health and Society</i>	Not currently a minor program	Sociology of Death and Dying (290) Illness and Social Behavior (450) Sociology of Health (629) or Medical Sociology (630) 2 electives <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Electives for this program are listed in Appendix A. <sup>b</sup> Electives for this program are listed in Appendix B.

To: CCI Sciences Subcommittee

From: Department of Sociology (Paul E. Bellair, DUS, and J. Craig Jenkins, Chair)

Subject: CCI Sciences Subcommittee comments on Sociology proposal to revise minor programs

Date: March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009

1. Sociology 511, 629 and 630 all list their prerequisite as: 5 credit hours in Sociology at the 200-400 level. How confident is the department that a student will have taken a 200-400 level course by the time they sign up for one of these 3 courses? Any increase to time of graduation anticipated?

We are very confident that students will have taken a 200-400 level course prior to enrolling in the aforementioned upper level courses. We have numerous lower-level (i.e., 200-400) courses that are regularly offered. In the case of 511 a student would probably be seeking the *criminology and criminal justice studies* minor, and in the case of 629 and 630 the student would probably be seeking the *health and society* minor. When the new minors are eventually approved our advisors and web pages will recommend to students that they will need to complete either 209 (Introduction to Criminal Justice) or 410 (criminology) before taking 511 (Sociology of youth and crime), or in the case of health and society minors that they will need 290 (Sociology of death and dying) before enrolling in 629 or 630. Alternatively, students can also take any of our other 200-400 level offerings first and those would count towards the minor. In the rare case that a student could not take a 200-400 level prior to enrolling in an upper level course and was too close to graduation to wait we would be flexible and waive the pre-requisite and allow the student to enroll in the upper level course. This would not be ideal, but Sociology is committed to ensuring that our students can complete our programs without increasing their time to graduation and on a case by case basis exceptions can be made.

2. 101 has been removed as a required course in 2 of the minor tracks. The ASC Curriculum and Assessment Operations manual (on p.20) discourages the use of 100-level courses in fulfilling a minor. Some students will have a 25 hour minor with 101 included, while others will have a 25 hour minor with 5 higher-level courses in fulfillment. Are these 2 minors equal? Please provide a rationale for why 101 remains a suitable elective, or please remove 101 from the elective lists to fulfill minors.

We include 101 (Introduction to Sociology) as a required course in the Sociology minor program only, whereas in the other 3 proposed minor programs (Inequality and Society, Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies, and Health and Society) 101 is included as an option in the list of electives. The committee argues that this could create a situation in which the Sociology major is an "easier" minor program than the others. We disagree with this characterization.

First, as noted above, students electing any of the minor programs other than Sociology can take 101 and still apply it towards the 25 hours required in the minor (see the list of electives in the appendices). This is perfectly consistent with arts and sciences rules, although we note that it is discouraged. Nevertheless, the rules state that if a 100-level course is included in the minor program that there be 20 additional hours of non-100 level coursework. That is the case in the Sociology minor program.

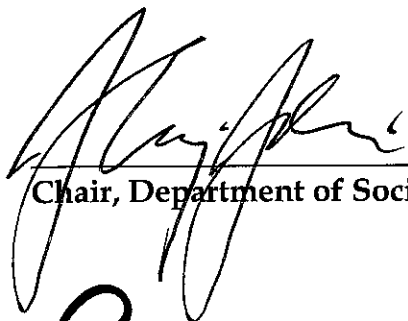
That issue notwithstanding we suspect that most students who elect one of our minor programs will have taken 101. Thus, there would be no difference in perceived difficulty. In the case of students

who opt not to take 101 in their pursuit of any of the other minor programs we still don't feel that they would be more difficult than the Sociology minor. After all, the Sociology major requires 487 (types of sociological inquiry) which is a fairly rigorous course on research methods with some statistical procedures covered. In addition 488 (introduction to sociological theory) is a rigorous treatment of classical sociological theory. In the end, the requirements of the Sociology minor program have been intact since the late 1980's and afford non-majors with a comprehensive introduction to the field. We remain comfortable with it.

Proposal to revise undergraduate minor program requirements in the Department of Sociology

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

November 18, 2008



Chair, Department of Sociology

11/25/08  
Date



Director, Undergraduate Studies

11-25-08  
Date

## Proposal to revise undergraduate minor program requirements in the Department of Sociology

The Faculty of the Department of Sociology proposes a revision of its *Social Stratification and Inequality* and *Criminology* minor programs, and the creation of a new *Health and Society* minor program. The proposed changes will not increase the total credit hours required of minors beyond the current requirement of 25 hours. The changes are designed to create minor programs that are focused around major substantive areas of sociological expertise among faculty within the department as opposed to sole reliance on the "mini-major" philosophy that is the basis of the current form. No changes are proposed for the *Sociology* minor program because it is our most successful minor program (enrollment in SP '08 = 105).

Current and proposed minor program requirements for each minor offered by Sociology are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1 - Current and proposed changes to Sociology minor programs.**

	<u>Current requirements</u>	<u>Proposed requirements</u>
<i>Sociology</i>	Intro. to Sociology (101) Types of Sociological Inquiry (487) Intro. to Sociological Theory (488) 2 electives	No changes proposed
<i>Social Stratification and Inequality</i>	Intro. to Sociology (101) Social Stratification (463) Types of Sociological Inquiry (487) 2 electives	Social Problems (202) Sociology of Poverty (306) Social Stratification (463) 2 electives <sup>a</sup>
		<b>new title: <i>Inequality and Society</i></b>
<i>Criminology</i>	Intro. to Sociology (101) Criminology (410) Types of Sociological Inquiry (487) 2 electives	Introduction to Criminal Justice (209) Criminology (410) Sociology of Youth and crime (511) 2 electives <sup>b</sup>
		<b>new title: <i>Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies</i></b>
<i>Health and Society</i>	Not currently a minor program	Sociology of Death and Dying (290) Illness and Social Behavior (450) Sociology of Health (629) or Medical Sociology (630) 2 electives <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Electives for this program are listed in Appendix A. <sup>b</sup> Electives for this program are listed in Appendix B.

## RATIONALE

### *SOCIAL STRATIFICATION AND INEQUALITY*

This minor, approved in 2004, has three requirements: Introduction to Sociology (101), Social Stratification (463), and Types of Sociological Inquiry (487). Beyond the requirements students must complete 2 additional electives of their choice for a total of 25 credit hours. To the best of our knowledge very few students are enrolled in this program. Discussion among faculty has identified two potential reasons for low enrollment. First, the minor is not well differentiated from the Sociology minor program, differing only by the requirement to take Social Stratification (463) rather than Introduction to Sociological Theory (488). Second, there was agreement that the program title, "Social Stratification and Inequality," does not resonate well with students who may be unfamiliar with the term "stratification." Based on these observations we propose to shift the focus of this program away from what is offered in the Sociology minor towards a more substantive concentration in social stratification coursework, and to re-title the minor program "Inequality and Society." We retain the requirement to take social stratification (463), and add to it two courses that are substantively focused in the area of stratification: Social Problems (202) and Sociology of Poverty (306). The requirements for the proposed *Inequality and Society* minor will provide a solid substantive foundation for students interested in learning how social cleavages impact society and their lives. Syllabi for the required course work are included in Appendix C.

### *CRIMINOLOGY*

This minor, approved in the 1980's, has three requirements: Introduction to Sociology (101), Criminology (410), and Types of Sociological Inquiry (487). Beyond the requirements students must complete 2 additional electives of their choice for a total of 25 credit hours. This is our second most successful program (enrollment in SP '08 = 67). Discussion among faculty has identified two potential reasons why the minor is under-performing relative to the Sociology minor. First, like Social Stratification and Inequality, the minor is not well differentiated from the Sociology minor program. The difference is the requirement to take Criminology (410) rather than Introduction to Sociological Theory (488). Second, there was agreement that the program title "Criminology" should be changed to correspond with the title of our major program "Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies" because of the number of courses covering various institutions within the criminal justice system. Based on these observations we propose to shift the focus of this program away from what is offered in the Sociology minor towards a more substantive concentration that will be titled "Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies." We retain Criminology (410) as a required course and add to it two courses which help to create a well rounded minor program: Introduction to the Criminal Justice System (209) and Sociology of Youth and Crime (511). Together these courses provide a solid foundation in theories of delinquency and crime and cover the major institutions that comprise the criminal justice system (i.e., police, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice). Syllabi for the required course work are included in Appendix D.

### *HEALTH AND SOCIETY*

We propose a new minor program titled "Health and Society" to capitalize on our growing faculty strength in medical sociology, the sociology of aging, and our participation in the Initiative in Population Research (IPR), as well as the increasing standing of the population, aging, and medical sections of the American Sociological Association. In recognition of that the



faculty as a whole expressed strong support for this program. In particular, several faculty members now teach undergraduate courses in the sociology of health and they are particularly interested in and committed to this minor program. This includes four recently hired faculty (Casterline, Frank, Schmeer, and Colin) as well as several who have been with us for a longer period of time (Williams, Browning, Schwirian, Qian). Like the revisions previously discussed we propose that students complete three substantive courses drawn from our course offerings to form a core: Sociology of Death and Dying (290), Illness and Social Behavior (450), and either Sociology of Health (629) or Medical Sociology (630). These courses focus on the realities of an aging population including a focus on the demographics and meaning of death, social factors in disease and illness, the social distribution of physical and mental health, and social aspects of the health care industry and health care delivery. Students completing this minor program will be heavily exposed to sociological theory concerning the operation of the health care industry and social trends in health phenomena. Syllabi for the required courses are included in Appendix E.

### **Time to graduation**

We chose not to alter the current credit hour requirements for our proposed minor programs so that time to graduation is not impacted.

### **Comparison to benchmark institutions**

We examined the minor programs of Big Ten and non-Big Ten benchmarks (Texas, UCLA, Arizona, and Washington) and found variability in required coursework for minor programs suggesting that there is not one model that is universally adopted. The University of Wisconsin (Madison) does not have a minor program in Sociology. UCLA also does not have a minor program, opting instead for a "Sociology immersion" sequence of two courses that focus on conducting and writing ethnographic research. The rationale for our minor programs does not entail physical "immersion" in the UCLA sense but it does entail "substantive" immersion. The mean number of credit hours required by the aforementioned institutions (that have a minor program) is 27.59 (in quarter hours) which is slightly higher although similar to our requirements.

### **Undergraduate student input**

Our advisors have been actively soliciting input from our current undergraduate minors and they are as a group, strongly supportive of the proposed changes to the minor programs (see Appendix F).

### **Implementation**

Upon approval the revised minor programs will take effect on or subsequent to the first day of the AU 2009 academic quarter. Students electing minor programs prior to that date will fall under the purview of our current program requirements.

## **Appendix A – Inequality and Society, and Health and Society Electives**

SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology
SOC 202	Social Problems
SOC 210	Sociological Aspects of Deviance
SOC 294	Group Studies: Topic varies
SOC 302	Technology and Global Society
SOC 306	Sociology of Poverty
SOC 309	Introduction to Law and Society
SOC 310	Sociology of Gangs
SOC 315	Sociology of Terrorism
SOC 320	Sociology of Education
SOC 330	Varieties of Modern Marriage
SOC 340	Sex & Love in Modern Society
SOC 345/H345	Contemporary American Society
SOC H367.01	Politics and American Society
SOC 367.02	Cities and Urban Life
SOC H367.03	Work & Family in the US
SOC 370	Social Factors in Personality
SOC 380	American Racial & Ethnic Relations
SOC 382	Sociology of Asian American Life
SOC 391	The Community
SOC 407	Social Change
SOC 410	Criminology
SOC 430	Sociology of the Family
SOC 434	The Child and Society
SOC 435	Sociology of Women
SOC 450	Illness and Social Behavior
SOC 460	Environmental Sociology
SOC 463	Social Stratification: Race, Class, & Gender
SOC 464	Work, Employment and Society
SOC 466	Sociology of Occupations and Labor Markets
SOC 467	Sociology of Religion
SOC 487	Types of Sociological Inquiry
SOC 488	Intro. to Sociological Theory
SOC 489	Internship Program in Sociology and Criminology
SOC 509	Sociology of Law
SOC 511	Sociology of Youth and Crime
SOC 549	Quantitative Research Methods in Sociology
SOC 597.01	Contemporary World Societies: Social Institutions and Social Change
SOC 597.02	World Population Problems
SOC 601	Comparative Family Organization
SOC 605	Sociology of Sexuality
SOC 606	Social Movements and Collective Behavior
SOC 608	Gender, Race, and Class in Mass Communications
SOC 609	Neighborhoods and Crime
SOC 610	Sociology of Deviant Behavior

SOC 623 Advanced Sociology of Education  
SOC 629 Sociology of Health: Mental and Physical Dimensions  
SOC 630 Medical Sociology  
SOC 635 Men in Society  
SOC 640 Sociology of Everyday Life  
SOC 648 Intro to Quantitative Research  
SOC 649 Principals of Multiple Regression  
SOC 651 Approaches to Sociological Inquiry  
SOC 652 Sociological Survey Research Methods I  
SOC 653 Sociological Survey Research Methods II  
SOC 655 Sociology of Sport  
SOC 662 Small Groups  
SOC 666 Political Sociology  
SOC 670 Topics in Sociology: Topic varies  
SOC 671 Population Studies I: Theory, Substance, and Techniques  
SOC 672 Population Studies II: Theory, Substance, and Techniques  
SOC 680 Sociology of Changing Life Styles  
SOC 694.XX Group Studies: Topic Varies

## **Appendix B - Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies Elective List**

SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology
SOC 202	Social Problems
SOC 209	Introduction to Criminal Justice
SOC 210	Sociological Aspects of Deviance
SOC 294	Group Studies: Topic Varies
SOC 302	Technology and Global Society
SOC 306	Sociology of Poverty
SOC 309	Introduction to Law and Society
SOC 310	Sociology of Gangs
SOC 315	Sociology of Terrorism
SOC 345/H345	Contemporary American Society
SOC 367.02	Cities and Urban Life
SOC 370	Social Factors in Personality
SOC 380	American Racial & Ethnic Relations
SOC 391	The Community
SOC 430	Sociology of the Family
SOC 434	The Child and Society
SOC 460	Environmental Sociology
SOC 463	Social Stratification: Race, Class, and Gender
SOC 487	Types of Sociological Inquiry
SOC 488	Intro. to Sociological Theory
SOC 489	Internship Program in Sociology and Criminology
SOC 505	Capital Punishment in the United States
SOC 507	The Criminal Justice System
SOC 509	Sociology of Law
SOC 510	Women, Crime, and the Legal System
SOC 511	Sociology of Youth and Crime
SOC 549	Quantitative Research Methods in Sociology
SOC 605	Sociology of Sexuality
SOC 609	Neighborhoods and Crime
SOC 610	Sociology of Deviant Behavior
SOC 611	Penology
SOC 615	Control and Prevention of Crime and Delinquency
SOC 618	Sociology of Police and Policing
SOC 635	Men in Society
SOC 655	Sociology of Sport
SOC 673	Topics in Criminology: Topic Varies
SOC 694.04	Groups Studies in Criminology and Criminal Justice: Topic Varies

## APPENDIX F - Undergraduate Student Input

The advising staff has solicited input from Undergraduate students (that come to see them) and from the undergraduate student members of the Undergraduate Studies Committee. We have yet to hear that the change is unfavorable for students. The following is representative of undergraduate's opinions:

"Regarding the removal of SOC 487 from both the CCJS and SSI Minors: I understand why 487 is removed and I think that the decision makes sense."

**Junior Honors Sociology major**

"The idea is sound. I don't see why they would need research methods if they are MINORING in these programs. Same with 101 actually. If you pick up a minor you have a good idea about what you want to do and what the minor is about. The list of classes you offer is a good choice. It covers all the material you would NEED to know having a minor in either of those subjects. It gives a good background and presents some good overlap that will allow the student to be fully immersed into the minor without having to worry about fulfilling the requirements of the major. All in All....I say 2 thumbs up!"

**Senior Sociology major**

"Overall changes: The curriculum changes seem to make a great deal of sense and be much more beneficial students with Soc or Crim minors."

**Junior Honors Sociology major**

"This is a more appealing minor option for me than the current curriculum. I am not interested in taking another research methods course - my major requires one."

**International Studies Major**

"This makes more sense and is a more attractive minor. I would want to take more courses about different topics in Criminology, instead of a methods course."

**Psychology Major**

Transmittal History Sociology Minor Revisions and new Sociology Health and Society minor

CCI Social, Behavioral, Biological, Mathematical and Physical Sciences Subcommittee  
Approved Minutes  
May 12, 2009

1. Sociology Minor Revision

- **Clarification on contingencies**
  - The motion (4/7/09) was that 101 not be included as an elective or requirement in the minor, and to remove the statement that it will not increase the credit hours for the minor.
  - It was found that 101's can be used in minors, though they are discouraged. Research could not bring forward documentation of that supposed rule.
  - Sociology's inclusion of 101 was based on recruiting minors from that class. It did not add extraneous hours to the minor.
  - Is 101 appropriate for a minor, which is supposed to be a more rigorous treatment of a 4- or 5-course cluster? Keeping it in there could make it misleading to students who have to take an additional 5 credit hours.
  - **Motion to 1) remove the two contingencies approved on 4/7/09, i.e., Sociology was instructed to remove the statement in the proposal about not increasing credit hours and 2) remove 101 as a required and/or elective within the Sociology minor proposals and 3) approve the Sociology minor as submitted**
- Fredal, Mummy - **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

CCI Social, Behavioral, Biological, Mathematical and Physical Sciences Subcommittee  
Approved Minutes,  
April 07, 2009

1. Sociology minor revision

- This was sent back previously, revolving around the issue of Soc 101 as an elective
- Their response is that 20 of the 25 hrs will be non-100 level coursework
- Basic substance: no complaints here regarding that
- Does the response satisfy the committee?
  - Some sense of false advertising here: if you take 101 you still need to have 5 courses beyond that
  - In soc strat & ineq: that is 25 hrs without 101
- By faculty rule, depts. cannot use 101 as an elective in the minor

**MOTION TO APPROVE WITH CONTINGENCY: 101 not be included as an elective or a requirement in any minor- could be a prereq to the minor but cannot count it (could recommend it), and as it goes forth the proposal must remove the statement that it will not increase the credit hours for the minor- Harder, Fredal-**  
**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

CCI Social, Behavioral, Biological, Mathematical and Physical Sciences Subcommittee  
Approved Minutes,  
February 09, 2009

1. Sociology minor

- Adding a minor (in health), changing 2 minor names and taking some general sociology courses and tailor the courses more to the topics
- Does not add more credit hours; 101 is not a prereq for many of these; students will still
- 511, 629 and 630 have 487 & 488 as prereqs- **will check if prereqs changed**
  - **ADDED AFTER THE MEETING: Todd Bitters:** The prerequisite for Sociology 511, 629, and 630 is now listed as: **5 credit hours in Sociology at the 200 - 400 level or graduate standing**
- Rationale includes having more faculty to teach these new courses; crim minor is more attractive with this tailoring and already has a huge major following
- 101 listed as elective- can a 101 fulfill a minor? No. **Take 101 off the elective list (or provide rationale for why they should keep it on there)**
- More focused curriculum, good alternative for students including premed
- Minor can be attained with Soc 101 plus 20 cr hour of these courses, or 25 credits (minus 101)- must standardize the minor- some can do it in 20, some 25. **Do they really want a 20 cr hr minor with 101?**

**SENT BACK WITH RECOMMENDATIONS ABOVE-** general sense is we were happy with the changes; unanimously approved

Social and Behavioral Sciences Curriculum Committee

Approved Minutes

January 13, 2009

Sociology Minor Program revision

- Part 3 of the sociology curriculum revisions, following the major program, prerequisites for undergrad and upper level courses in particular- the main focus is to find ways to make the minor programs more interesting and stimulate demand; currently 3 minors: sociology minor, criminology & social strat/inequality; the soc minor enrolls the most students (sp08- 105), which enrolls more than Crim, seen as odd given that the Crim major enrolls more than Soc major; Psych students are the most often Soc minor recipients, others are from Poli Sci, Comm & Social Work; enrollment in social strat/inequality minor is 1 student right now (probably more when degree audits occur) (perhaps because the current requirements are nearly identical with the Soc major, which has an established name brand with it)- this current structure was developed and proposed years ago, perhaps because the interdisciplinary minors were proliferated at the time; the current minors were set up with the mini-major philosophy (not based on enrollments at the time)

- Changes: Leaving sociology minor as is; change other 2 minors more substantively based and add the Health and Society minor program; there are no credit hr requirement changes (25 hr); potential reason for lack of enrollment- students may not know what social strat and inequality is so decision was to change title to inequality and society, and change title of Crim minor to match Crim major title: Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies; 3 core courses for the 3-non-Soc tracks; removal of research methods course for these minors because most of the programs where the minors are coming from already have a methods course
- Benchmark institutional data shows not much homogeneity across institutions as Wisconsin has interdisciplinary concentrations rather than minors, UCLA has no minors but immersion programs/course clusters; 25 hr requirement falls a bit below other minor-granting institutions and much variation within Big 10 programs (20 hr is the minimum) but making hours larger is counter-productive to increasing enrollment; undergraduate advisors began to talk with students and they seemed to like the idea, preferring not take an additional research methods course
- Low enrollment in Crim rationale- seems unequal to the previous statement stating 67 enrollees in Spring 2008. Sociology minor has about 105 enrollees in the same quarter; that is what that statement is getting at; perhaps *underperforming is a better language*
- Is it wise to submit in 1 package and send them out, in case 1 flies through and another wouldn't? Administratively 1 meeting is ideal. If there is delay with 1 or another minor it could hold it up; but seeing them all together as 1 package is more holistic.
- The revision differentiates the minor programs more substantially
- *Under current Crim requirements, it should say 2 electives*
- *The methods course (488, 549) pulled is not listed in possible electives; but each elective sheet was asked to be differentiated based on substance; will be added to each Appendix A and B*
- Intro to Sociology not a requirement for social strat and crim, but it is included in the appendices as electives
- Prereqs for upper level courses are some mid-level courses; not a deceptive attempt to increase the number of credit hours students must take
- Students taking a research methods in another department cannot count that in the sociology suite of minors credit
- Public health minor (allied med or occupational therapy)? Some contact with those departments especially in relation to the health minor

***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED***