

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND CRIMINOLOGY

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Sociology is the scientific study of social life, applying the analytic rigor of the scientific method to the social world so that we might understand and improve the human condition. Criminology is a sub-discipline of Sociology as core sociological concepts inform explanations of crime and society's response to it. Students who major in sociology or criminology learn to deal creatively with the most pressing problems of the day, such as the increase in our federal prison population, rising class inequality, or environmental degradation. Sociology and Criminology majors thus develop into critical thinkers with a global perspective, a deep appreciation for diversity and strong problem-solving abilities. Completion of the curriculum in sociology or criminology provides a broad background for students pursuing a variety of careers. Students develop the skills most desired by today's employers including the ability to communicate effectively, frame and solve problems realistically and in teamwork situations, plan and evaluate projects and programs, prepare clear and concise reports, and speak effectively in varied group situations. Students who graduate are thus poised to enter a wide range of occupational areas, including corporations, government agencies, social service institutions, and other nonprofit organizations. Furthermore, an undergraduate major in Sociology or Criminology is also an excellent foundation for graduate study in anticipation of a career in college teaching, law, business, or medicine.

Degrees

- Criminology, Bachelor of Arts (627) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology/criminology-ba/>)
- Sociology, Bachelor of Arts (775) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology/sociology-ba/>)

Minors

- Criminology, Minor (342) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology/criminology-minor/>)
- Sociology, Minor (461) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology/sociology-minor/>)

Certificates

- Citizenship & Social Justice, Certificate (1759) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology/citizenship-social-justice-certificate/>)

Faculty

Professor

Holli R. Drummond PhD (Sociology), University of Georgia, 2004
Molly B. Kerby PhD (Educational Leadership & Organizational Development), University of Louisville, 2007
John M. Musalia PhD (Sociology), Indiana University-Bloomington, 2000

Anne B. Onyekwuluje PhD (Sociology), University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 1995
Matthew V. Pruitt PhD (Sociology), North Carolina State University, 1995
Douglas C. Smith PhD (Sociology), PA State University Main Campus, 1996

Associate Professor

James W. Kanan PhD (Sociology), PA State University Main Campus, 1996
Amy C. Krull PhD (Sociology & Anthropology), Purdue University Main Campus, 2000
Donielle M. Lovell PhD (Rural Sociology), University of Missouri-Columbia, 2009
Carrie Trojan PhD (Criminal Justice), City University of New York, 2009

Assistant Professor

Marcus A. Brooks PhD (Sociology), University of Cincinnati Main Campus, 2022
Kyle D. Maksuta PhD (Sociology), SUNY at Albany, 2021

Instructor I

Crystal L. Bohlander MPA (Public Administration), Western Kentucky University, 2003