



SOCIOLOGY SPECIAL STUDIES INFORMATION SOCE 199

What is a Special Studies course?

Special studies give students the opportunity to explore in more detail what they have learned in the classroom. Students engage in research on a topic of their choice, under the guidance of a faculty member of their choice. The project should be carefully planned with the faculty advisor. Only a grade of P or NP is assigned for special studies courses.

Are there eligibility requirements?

Students need a cumulative GPA of not less than 2.5 and completion of not less than 90.0 units (junior status).

How do I proceed?

Plan ahead.

Completing the 'APPLICATION FOR UCSD SPECIAL STUDIES COURSE ENROLLMENT' form and submitting it to the registrar's office during the quarter's add/drop period is required to be registered for an independent study course. If possible, begin the paperwork at the end of the quarter prior to the quarter you plan to do your independent study, but at the very latest the first few days of the quarter.

Decide on a topic and choose a faculty advisor.

There is a flyer, available in the sociology main office (SSB 401), which will help you choose a faculty advisor whose area of interest and research covers the topic that you want to pursue. Professors are not always available in a particular quarter so you may want to have more than one professor in mind that you would like to work with.

Complete the form.

The form is available at the registrar's office, your college, or the department of sociology main office. The application is divided into three sections.

Section I. TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT:

Complete the first section before you meet with the faculty member that you want to work with on your project.

Section II. TO BE COMPLETED BY INSTRUCTOR AND STUDENT:

Contact the professor you wish to work with during their office hours to discuss your project. Faculty office hours are available in the sociology main office. Since this is an upper-division course, prerequisite knowledge needed for the intended work should be carefully discussed with the instructor and clearly stated on the form. Your proposal should include your aim or objective, the method by which you plan to carry it out, and a reading list. Use a second sheet of paper, if needed, for your proposal. Both student and instructor sign this section of the form.

Section III. TO BE COMPLETED AND VERIFIED BY DEPARTMENT:

Leave the form with the undergraduate coordinator in the Department of Sociology. She will verify your eligibility and obtain the required departmental signatures and stamps. It will be ready for pick up in two or three days.

Section IV. EXCEPTIONS ONLY:

In the event that an exception is required, then the student must take the form to their college for additional approvals before taking it to the registrar's office.

Proceed to the registrar's office.

Once the form has been completed, verified, stamped and signed, it is the student's responsibility to take it to the registrar's office during the add/drop period of the quarter to be officially enrolled in SOCE 199.

NOTE: Only one P/NP course may be used to fulfill sociology major requirements.