# http://www.ric.edu/webcommunications/images/SealWithText_Small_Black.pnggraduate COMMITTEE curriculum PROPOSAL FORM

## Cover page Scroll over blue text to see further [instructions](#instructions)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A.1. [Course or program](#Proposal) | **Sociology 535: Advanced Fieldwork in Sociology** |  |
| [Replacing](#Ifapplicable)  |  |  |
| A.2. [Proposal type](#type) | **Course: creation** **Program:** [**revision**](#revision) |  |
| A.3. [Originator](#Originator) | **Mikaila Arthur** | [Home department](#home_dept) | **Sociology** |
| A.4. [Rationale](#Rationale)/Context | **The purpose of this proposal is to add a new course to the M.A. in Justice Studies program. Over the past several years, the Sociology Department has offered a number of SOC 450: Topics classes taking the form of off-campus fieldwork, including service-learning trips to Ecuador and, in Spring 2020, to Belize. This offering has become routine enough that it seems worthwhile to formalize the course under a specific course number. Creating this new course will allow offerings to become more routine, allowing graduate students to also consider including the course in their plans of study. This formalizing of the offering will also provide space for further development of fieldwork opportunities including those closer to home. The course will be able to serve as a restricted elective in the Justice Studies MA program. Students must attain 8-12 credits in restricted electives, so if taken for less than 3 credits students may need additional credits to meet the credit requirements. Given variable credit hours in program courses, students will be able to use SOC 535 towards their programs in such cases without exceeding the credit requirement.**  |
| A.5. [Student impact](#student_impact) | **Students will have additional opportunities to engage in experiential learning. Cap of 15** |
| A.6. Impact on other programs | **None** |
| A.7. [Resource impact](#Resource) | *[Faculty PT & FT](#faculty" \o "Need to hire new full-time or part-time faculty? This is where you indicate if this proposal will be affecting FLH in your department/program.)*:  | **This course may be particularly suited to offerings in January and Summer Sessions and thus may result in compensation to faculty who teach it; during the semester, it would be offered in rotation with other 500-level courses.** |
|  | [*Library*:](#library) | **None** |
|  | [*Technology*](#technology) | **None** |
|  | [*Facilities*](#facilities): | **None—coursework typically takes place off campus** |
|  | Promotion/ Marketing needs  | **No new needs** |
| A.8. [Semester effective](#Semester_effective) | **Fall 2020** | A.9. Rationale if sooner than next fall |  |

B. [NEW OR REVISED COURSES](#delete_if):

|  | Old ([for revisions only](#Revisions) – list only information that is being revised) | New |
| --- | --- | --- |
| B.1. [Course prefix and number](#cours_title)  |  | **Soc 535** |
| B.2. Cross listing number if any |  |  |
| B.3. [Course title](#title)  |  | **Advanced Fieldwork in Sociology** |
| B.4. [Course description](#description)  |  | **Hands-on experience using sociology in the field as part of an experiential learning process, such as through service learning or applied research, under the supervision of an instructor.** |
| B.5. [Prerequisite(s)](#prereqs) |  | **Graduate status and consent of Department Chair. Some fieldwork sites may have additional requirements.** |
| B.6. [Offered](#Offered) |  | **As needed.** |
| B.7. [Contact hours](#contacthours)  |  | **4-16** |
| B.8. [Credit hours](#credits) |  | **1-4** |
| B.9. [Justify differences if any](#differences) | **This is in keeping with the policy in fieldwork classes.** |
| B.10. [Grading system](#grading)  |  | **Letter grade**  |
| B.11. [Instructional methods](#instr_methods) |  | **Fieldwork**  |
| B.12.[Categories](#required) |  | **This is in keeping with the policy in fieldwork classes.** |
| B.13. [How will student performance be evaluated?](#performance) |  | **Attendance | Class participation | Presentations | Papers |** **Class Work | Interviews |****Performance Protocols | Projects |** **| Reports of outside supervisor** |
| B.14. [Redundancy with, existing courses](#competing) |  |  |
| B. 15. Other changes, if any | N/A |

| B.16**.** [**Course learning outcomes**](#outcomes)**: List each outcome in a separate row** | [**Professional organization standard(s)**](#standards)**, if relevant**  | [**How will the outcome be measured?**](#measured) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Gain experience using sociology beyond the classroom as part of research and/or service learning |  | See B.13 |
| Communicate sociological ideas in written and/or oral form |  | See B.13 |
| Exercise the sociological imagination |  | See B.13 |

| B.17. [**Topical outline**](#outline)**: Do NOT insert a full syllabus, only the topical outline** |
| --- |
| Individual course offerings will vary due to the varying content of fieldwork experiences, but courses will share in common1. An orientation to sociological fieldwork and to the site itself
2. A minimum of 60 hours of fieldwork per credit hour
3. Reading assignments designed to contextualize the field experience in terms of sociological theory and research, and—if relevant—social policy
4. Instructor supervision of fieldwork as appropriate
5. Informal writing (such as journaling) or visual sociology assignments
6. A culminating assignment such as a paper, presentation, or fieldwork-relevant project

**Examples**: * A course in Ecuador in which some students worked at an orphanage to develop on-site agronomy projects, including a hydroponic garden, and other students assisted classroom teachers in building bilingual learning opportunities for the young people living in the orphanage. Students developed ethnographic research skills by keeping a detailed daily journal of their experiences and wrote a final paper on global citizenship.
* A course in Kenya and Uganda in which students meet with local organizations working on issues relating to the given theme of the trip, which will likely change each year. As an example, students will work with organizations focusing on health issues in communities affected by violent conflict. Students will explore the nexus between justice-seeking, stigma, and healthcare and psycho-social care delivery, while developing ethnographic research skills through a combination of observation, participant observation, and interviewing and write papers on their findings.
* A course conducted here in Providence in which students collect data to map food deserts and food accessibility in lower-income urban neighborhoods in conjunction with community organizations. Students practice data collection and analysis skills in using quantitative, qualitative, and geographical information and develop professional presentations laying out this data in ways that are useful for community partners.
 |

### C. [Program Proposals](#program_proposals)

|  | [Old (for revisions only)](#old_program) | New/revised |
| --- | --- | --- |
| C.1. [Enrollments](#enrollments) |  | **Justice Studies MA: 7-12** |
| C.2. [Admission requirements](#admissions) |  |  |
| C.3. [Retention requirements](#retention) |  |  |
| C.4. [Course requirements](#course_reqs) for each program option | Courses

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 501 | Professional Writing for Justice Services | 4 | F |
| SOC 504 | Advanced Quantitative Analysis | 4 | Sp |
| SOC 509 | Advanced Criminological Theory | 4 | F |

ONE COURSE from

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 532 | Advanced Qualitative Methods | 4 | Sp |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 533 | Evaluation Research | 4 | F (odd years) |

Or another research methods course in a related discipline selected with department chair’s consent.EIGHT ELECTIVE CREDITS from

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 450 | Topics in Sociology | 4 | As needed |
| SOC 536 | Current Legal Issues | 4 | Sp (even years) |
| SOC 551 | Topics in Criminology | 4 | As needed |
| SOC 552 | Topics in Stratification | 4 | Asneeded |
| SOC 553 | Topics in the Sociology of Law | 4 | As needed |
| SOC 554 | Topics in Social Problems | 4 | As needed |

Relevant 400-500 level courses from other departments will be considered with approval from advisor.Choose A or B:A. Thesis Plan

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 592 | Masters Thesis | 3 | As needed |

Subtotal: 30SOC 592 is to be taken twice for a total of 6 credits.B. Project Plan

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 593 | Final Project | 3 | As needed |
|  | FOUR ELECTIVE CREDITS selected from the list above. | 4 |  |

Subtotal: 31 | Courses

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 501 | Professional Writing for Justice Services | 4 | F |
| SOC 504 | Advanced Quantitative Analysis | 4 | Sp |
| SOC 509 | Advanced Criminological Theory | 4 | F |

ONE COURSE from

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 532 | Advanced Qualitative Methods | 4 | Sp |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 533 | Evaluation Research | 4 | F (odd years) |

Or another research methods course in a related discipline selected with department chair’s consent.EIGHT ELECTIVE CREDITS from

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 450 | Topics in Sociology | 4 | As needed |
| SOC 535 | Fieldwork in Sociology | 1-4 | As needed |
| SOC 536 | Current Legal Issues | 4 | Sp (even years) |
| SOC 551 | Topics in Criminology | 4 | As needed |
| SOC 552 | Topics in Stratification | 4 | Asneeded |
| SOC 553 | Topics in the Sociology of Law | 4 | As needed |
| SOC 554 | Topics in Social Problems | 4 | As needed |

Relevant 400-500 level courses from other departments will be considered with approval from advisor.Choose A or B:A. Thesis Plan

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 592 | Masters Thesis | 3 | As needed |

Subtotal: 30SOC 592 is to be taken twice for a total of 6 credits.B. Project Plan

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 593 | Final Project | 3 | As needed |
|  | FOUR ELECTIVE CREDITS selected from the list above. | 4 |  |

Subtotal: 31 |
| C.5. [Credit count](#credit_count) for each program option |  |  |
| C.6. Requirement for thesis, project, or comprehensive exam  |  |  |
| C.7. Other changes if any |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING THE CATALOG COPY**: The proposal must include all relevant pages from the college catalog, and must show how the catalog will be revised. (1) Go to the “Forms and Information” page on the Graduate Committee website. Scroll down until you see the Word files for the current catalog. (2) Download ALL catalog sections relevant for this proposal, including course descriptions and/or other affected programs. (3) Place ALL relevant catalog copy into a single file. Put page breaks between sections and delete any catalog pages not relevant for this proposal. (4) Using the track changes function, revise the catalog pages to demonstrate what the information should look like in next year’s catalog. (5) Check the revised catalog pages against the proposal form, especially making sure that program totals are correct if adding/deleting course credits.  |

## D. Signatures

* Changes that directly impact more than one department/program MUST have the signatures of all relevant department chairs, program directors, and relevant dean (e.g. when creating/revising a program using courses from other departments/programs).
* Proposals that do not have appropriate approval signatures will not be considered.
* Type in name of person signing and their position/affiliation.
* Send electronic files of this proposal and accompanying catalog copy to graduatecommittee@ric.edu and a printed or electronic signature copy of this form to the current Chair of Graduate Committee. Check Graduate Committee website for due dates.

##### D.1. Approvals: required from programs/departments/deans who originate the proposal. may include multiple departments, e.g., for joint/interdisciplinary prposals.

| Name | Position/affiliation | [Signature](#_Signature" \o "Insert electronic signature, if available, in this column) | Date |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mikaila Arthur | Chair of Sociology |  |  |
| Earl Simson | Dean of Arts & Sciences |  |  |
| Tanni Chaudhuri | Director, MA in Justice Studies |  |  |

##### D.2. [Acknowledgements](#acknowledge): REQUIRED from OTHER PROGRAMS/DEPARTMENTS IMPACTED BY THE PROPOSAL. SIGNATURE DOES NOT INDICATE APPROVAL, ONLY AWARENESS THAT THE PROPOSAL IS BEING SUBMITTED. List all other programs and departments affected by this proposal. Signatures from these departments are required in the signature section. CONCERNS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE GRADUATE COMMITTEE MEETING FOR DISCUSSION.

| Name | Position/affiliation | [Signature](#Signature_2) | Date |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Tab to add rows |