B.A. in Sociology

Students graduating with a B.A. in Sociology should be able to:

- Analyze issues from a sociological perspective:
  - Develop questions about relationships between individuals and groups within cultural, social, economic and political systems.
  - Demonstrate basic knowledge of key substantive areas within the field of sociology such as culture, law and deviance, feminist studies, gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity, global and international studies, stratification, language and interaction, life course and socialization, political sociology and social movements, basic demographic processes, and processes of social change.

- Employ the skills required to use sociological knowledge, including and when appropriate, the ability to:
  - Describe contemporary patterns of human behavior as a function of various types of social forces (e.g., including broad social forces of stability and change and local, interactional dynamics).
  - Explain the basic mechanisms that contribute to social, cultural, and economic stability, and the methods and organizations used to effect change in them.
  - Appraise sociological theories and public debates using empirical evidence.
  - Evaluate the methods, claims, findings reported in social science research conducted by others.
  - Locate literature and other scholarly resources.
  - Analyze information, including qualitative and quantitative data.
  - Use social scientific theories and concepts to analyze real world events.

- Design and apply appropriate research methods to investigate sociological questions:
  - Formulate well-reasoned sociological research questions.
  - Gather empirical evidence using methods appropriate for the question being investigated.
  - Analyze empirical evidence and summarize findings.
  - Evaluate what the empirical evidence implies for research questions.
  - Communicate empirical results.