BSocSciHons Industrial Sociology and Labour Studies (01243022)

Minimum duration of study	1 year
Total credits	125
NQF level	08
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Admission requirements

- A relevant bachelor's degree with Sociology Industrial Sociology or a directly related social science major is needed for admission.
- An average of at least 70% is required in the major/field of specialisation.
- In certain cases, additional modules will be required.
- Students with an average of between 68% and 70% in the major/field of specialisation could be considered for admission on academic merit until the programme is full. Apply to the Head of Department.

Additional requirements

- In certain cases additional modules will be required.
- Students with an average of between 68% and 70% in the major/field of specialisation could be considered for admission under special conditions. Apply to the programme manager.

Other programme-specific information

- Choose one elective module.
- Not all modules are offered in any given year. Please consult the programme manager in this regard.

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 125

<u>Elective module</u>

Select ONE module.

Core modules

Sociology of organisations 730 (SOC 730)

Module credits	25.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Sociology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

This module explores the changing nature of organisational forms that dominated certain historical periods in economic history. Concepts such as bureaucracy, Fordism and post-Fordism within the context of changing organisational forms are examined, The module will also examine organisational cultures particularly within the context of debates around employment equity.

Research methodology 751 (SOC 751)

Module credits	20.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Sociology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

The module focuses on debates about, as well as the practice of, research. The idea of science, the role of theoretical conceptualisations, and the epistemological assumptions underpinning research are introduced with reference to competing paradigms, including positivism, interpretivism and realism. With regard to research practice, general principles of planning such as identifying a topic, delineating a problem area, selecting sites, sampling participants and addressing ethical questions are considered. Thereafter the use of methods through which data can be collected and/or constructed are introduced and ways in which evidence can be interpreted and analysed are discussed.

Research paper 753 (SOC 753)

Module credits	30.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English

Department	Sociology
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

In this module students are expected to produce a research paper under weekly supervision. In the first instance, the paper ought to demonstrate a student's ability to conduct empirical research. However, with the necessary permission a student may also base the paper on the analysis of secondary data or draw on archival and/or documentary sources. The research paper needs to demonstrate students' understanding of and competence in all aspects of the research process, including making an argument, writing a report, analysing data, integrating research findings with the literature, and research ethics. Students who are registered for the BSocSciHons (Gender Studies) or BSocSciHons (Industrial Sociology and Labour Studies) need to ensure that the topic of their research paper aligns to the degree focus.

Social theory 756 (SOC 756)

Module credits	25.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Sociology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

This module introduces students to key conceptual vocabularies, as well as selected theoretical paradigms and scholarly works in order to facilitate an understanding of some of the current debates, innovations and controversies in the field. A balance is struck between classic and contemporary social theory, and an emphasis is placed on questions of textuality, canonicity and interdisciplinarity in shaping conversations about social theory and its significance for research, thought and politics.

Elective modules

Sociology of work and employment relations 754 (LAB 754)

Module credits	25.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Sociology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

This module explores the relationship between work and employment relations with particular reference to South Africa and the global south. It includes a focus on the relationships between employers and employees, labour, organisations and the state. It also demonstrates how these relationships are embedded in the type of work and the changing workplace.

Globalisation and development 757 (SOC 757)

Module credits	25.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Sociology
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

This module examines theoretical explanations of globalisation. In doing so its primary goal is to explore ways in which capital in the era of the end of history is compelling us to rethink sociology as a science of the present. The module begins with theoretical discussions in order to lay the ground for talk about development as a process of incorporating (in this case) Africa into the global world system. The module further studies changes brought about by globalisation to the nation-state system, work and gender relations. It also examines nationalism and ethnicity as specific features of capitalism in the era of the end of history.

Gender, family and households 758 (SOC 758)

Module credits	25.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Sociology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

This course takes a macro-level perspective and introduces students to scholarly accounts of the changing historical trajectory of gender relations, marriage as an institution, family forms, and household composition and livelihoods and the implications thereof for understanding gender as a social relation. As such, it adopts a historical and comparative perspective, with a specific focus on Southern Africa. In addition, the module explores the role and impact of supra-state organisations, the state and the market in mediating and regulating gender identities and relations, as well as family and household forms, against the backdrop of the nation-state form and in the context of capitalism and neo-liberalism particularly.

Sociology of South Africa 761 (SOC 761)

Module credits	25.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Sociology
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

This module takes a sociological approach to understanding and interrogating South African society. It begins by looking at some of the debates and discussions about Sociology in South Africa. It then reviews and debates key issues in order to understand the political economy of Apartheid. Finally it looks at some key debates associated with post-apartheid South Africa.