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## Topics in Sociology SOC 200

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**LIBRARY IMPACT STATEMENT (New Course Proposal)**  
**LIBRARIAN'S ASSESSMENT**

Subject selectors will complete this form as requested, assessing library materials and collections as detailed below. Send one copy of the assessment to the faculty member who requested it. Send one copy of the assessment to the Collection Management Officer.

Course: SOC 200: Topics in Sociology

Department, College: Sociology & Anthropology / Arts & Sciences

Faculty Member: Helen Mederer

Date returned to Faculty: 7 January 2020

Librarian Completing Assessment: Karen Walton Morse

Collection Management Officer: Joanna M. Burkhardt

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Assessment of:

- Suitability of existing library resources;
- New library resources required to support the program;
- Information skills education required by the students; and
- Funds needed for library materials and services.

Please include:

**1. What library holdings already exist in relevant subject categories. How much money is now allocated in the subject area?**

The Library actively purchases new publications in the areas of interest of faculty who teach Sociology courses. It also has substantial holdings in the areas of criminal justice, criminology, political science, psychology, sociology, and general social science, including access to hundreds of relevant journals.

Over the past five academic years, the following topics were offered under SOC 300:

- Criminalization and Medicalization;
- Deviance, Crime and Cultural Change;
- Ethics in Criminal Justice;
- Mass Incarceration: Causes, Conditions & Consequence;
- Medicalization, Criminalization & Deviance;
- New Immigrant Destinations: Race, Place and Jobs;
- Peer Influence on Deviance and Conformity;
- Reproduction in Society;

- Social Movements & Change; and
- Stigma & Social Movements.

Library holdings were sufficient to support those course offerings. The topic in the sample syllabus (Deviance and Social Control) will be similarly supported.

As in 2018-2019, the 2019-2020 allocation for monographs for Sociology & Anthropology (including Criminology & Criminal Justice) is approximately \$8000 (up from \$7800 in 2017-2018). We expect the allocation for 2020-2021 to be similar. The cost of journal subscriptions is not broken out by department.

**2. Does URI have the essential journals as noted in the Faculty Questionnaire?**

The Faculty Questionnaire indicates the need for major sociology journals “as in the library's current holdings.”

**3. What new resources are required to support the course (including media, electronic, or other non-print materials)?**

It is impossible to say whether new resources will be required to support the course over time because it is a shell. However, the Library has been collecting broadly in sociology and related fields (including criminology and criminal justice) and will continue to do so. The monograph budget is such that the Library should be able to address the need for more resources on specific topics if given sufficient notice.

**4. What information mastery sessions will be required for the students?**

The Faculty Questionnaire indicates that library research is generally not required for Topics at the 200 level.

Should an instructor want to bring their class to the Library for instruction on research techniques and/or database use, arrangements can be made through the Public Services Department. Currently Mary MacDonald (Assoc. Professor, Information Literacy Librarian) oversees the instruction program.

**5. What is the approximate cost to acquire the materials necessary? Which of these will be continuing costs?**

The Library should be able to support this course without any extraordinary expenditure on materials.