The proposed Law, Justice, and Social Change minor seeks to offer students a coherent curriculum that emphasizes the ways in which legal and other social institutions reproduce and exacerbate social inequalities, and the capacity of social groups to challenge such institutions in ways that produce fundamental social change. A wide range of courses will explore how we understand the concept of justice and apply it and will develop knowledge in criminology, law, social movements, human rights. The minor would culminate in students taking a small capstone-like course such as Law and Social Change or Community Organizing and Social Change.

The minor in Law, Justice, and Social Change will offer students:

- An understanding of theoretical perspectives on justice and on the connection between law and society.
- Frameworks for thinking about legal compliance, deviance, and resistance.
- Perspectives for thinking about the relationship between “law on the books” and “law in action.”
- Tools for thinking about the relationship between law and social change.
- What it means to “use” law in contexts outside the courtroom, including in families, neighborhoods, workplaces, social movements, mass media, prisons, and health care settings.
- Understandings of the law in international contexts and in regard to human rights issues.
- The foundation of theory, methods, and substantive knowledge necessary to develop informed perspectives on criminality, crime policy, and the social consequences of legal punishment.

**Prerequisite Course**

Before declaring the minor in Law, Justice, and Social Change, students must complete on introduction to sociology course. The following courses fulfill the prerequisite: SOC 100: Introduction to Sociology; SOC 102: Introduction to Sociology: Special Topics; SOC 195: Honors Introduction to Sociology; or SOC 300 Principles and Problems of Sociology. The credits from the prerequisite course cannot be included in the 15 credits required to complete the minor plan. Students must take the introductory course and earn a grade of at least a C- before declaring.

**Required Courses**

To complete a minor in Law, Justice and Social Change, a student must take at least 15 credit hours from any combination of relevant courses earning at least a C- or better in each course:

- SOC 225: Project Community in a Criminal Justice Setting
- SOC 270: Gender and the Law
- SOC 354: Law and Society
- SOC 368: Criminology
- SOC 461: Social Movements
- SOC 465: Sociological Analysis of Deviance
- SOC 476: Sociology of Bioethics
- SOC 489: Community Organizing and Social Change
- appropriate topics in SOC 295, 395 (Independent Study), 495

**Credit/Plan Exclusions**

A maximum of 6 credits in the minor plan may come from Experiential Learning or Independent Study style courses. These include but are not limited to (SOC 225(389) and SOC 395).

The department will allow up to one course with significant sociological content related to Law, Justice, and Social Change from other LSA departments or transfer institutions to be included in the minor plan. Students interested in petitioning to include a non-SOC course in their minor plan should email their request to socadvisor@umich.edu and include a complete course syllabus.

Students majoring in Sociology with a subplan in Law, Justice and Social Change are not permitted to also elect a minor in Law Justice and Social Change. Students minoring in Crime and Justice (Residential College), or Community Action and Social Change (School of Social Work) will not be permitted to also declare the Law Justice and Social Change minor.
**ADVISING**
A department advisor is available to students for one-on-one appointments to discuss the choice of sociology as a major, assist in course selection, and advise on co-curricular opportunities and career preparation. Students can schedule a major advising appointment by calling the department at (734) 764-6324 or using the online appointment scheduler at www.lsa.umich.edu/soc. Students can also email socadvisor@umich.edu with questions.

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**Track Your Progress**

**Prerequisite Course**
Check one of the following:
- SOC 100
- SOC 102
- SOC 195
- SOC 300

**Elective Credits**
At least 15 credits from any combination of the relevant course list below:
- SOC 225 (or 389) – Criminal Justice Section
- SOC 270 – Gender and the Law
- SOC 350 – Human Rights and the U.N.
- SOC 354 – Law and Society
- SOC 368 – Criminology
- SOC 461 – Social Movements
- SOC 465 – Sociological Analysis of Deviance
- SOC 476 – Sociology of Bioethics
- SOC 489 – Community Organizing
- Appropriate Topics in 295, 395, or 495

Total credits ________ / 15 required