

Qualified students who plan to seek a graduate degree are especially urged to discuss the possibility of honors candidacy with members of the Department.

Program in Community Affairs

The growth of American urban centers and the proliferation of social problems in the society places a major responsibility on colleges and universities to provide the knowledge which will enable students to understand these problems and to work towards their solution. Simmons' location offers excellent opportunities for the first-hand study of contemporary urban social life. Utilization of the community as a laboratory enables students to relate the knowledge gained in the classroom to contemporary social problems in the urban environment. At the same time, field work experiences consisting of close observation and actual involvement in the life of the community provide social relevance in the learning process, motivate students to become more socially responsible citizens, and offer opportunities for career exploration.

The Program in Community Affairs has the following three major objectives:

1. to establish an analytical and empirical frame of reference through the discipline of sociology which will enable students to study systematically social phenomena and thus understand better the social problems of an urban community. The metropolitan Boston area, which comprises the "community," will serve as a laboratory;
2. to enable students to understand the community as a complex social system by integrating their knowledge of sociology with other disciplines and professional areas within the existing organizational structure of the college; and
3. to motivate students towards constructive involvement through their own efforts in the solution of urban problems. Such motivation will be attempted not only through the courses offered within the Program and in collaboration with the various departments but also through the Simmons Volunteer Service and other student groups on the campus.

The Program includes:

- Soc. 020.* Introduction to Sociology and the Community
- Soc. 037.* Urban Communities
- Soc. 039.* Sociology of Intergroup Relations
- Soc. 035.* Sociology of the Professions

Students will take *Soc. 020* and *037* in that sequence, and either *Soc. 039* or *035*, to be considered as having completed the Program. However, they may

take *Soc. 020* and any of the other three courses as electives. Integration of the Program with course offerings in other departments will be made on an individual basis through collaboration with the various departments. Courses in this Program may be elected to fulfill distribution and depth requirements.

The Program in Community Affairs is not a substitute for a departmental major but may be elected with the consent of the major adviser as either part of a concentration, an entirely separate program, or as individual courses on an elective basis.

Field Work. Student field work assignments will be arranged with the explicit purpose of serving the academic objectives of the Program. The range of these field work experiences in the community will include urban redevelopment, crime and delinquency, welfare, housing, recreation, aging, health, and education. Placements will be made in social and government agencies, schools, hospitals, churches, community centers, and various other organizations.

Interdepartmental Concentration

Concentration in American Studies: Committee on

American Studies, Chairman, Mr. Sterne.

The American Studies program provides the opportunity to study the history, the social, economic and political institutions, and the literature and fine arts of the United States in terms of their interrelationships. Like the concentrations in English and History, the American Studies program has a broadly cultural character, but also provides the basis for graduate work, as well as for high school and college teaching, and for other pursuits requiring chiefly an ability to think analytically and express ideas clearly.

Since most of the courses students take in this program are not explicitly interdisciplinary (see, however, the listings under "American Studies" in this catalogue), each student should consult carefully with members of the American Studies staff in order to develop a synthesizing project (a thesis, in the case of Honors students) by the end of the Junior year, and to complete it during the Senior year. Such a project normally entails work in two fields, such as Literature and History, or History and Art.

All students in the program, beginning with the class of 1972, are required to take *American Studies 190*—an interdepartmental course—and to pass an oral examination on a specific topic in the field of American Studies, before graduating.

Course requirements: a minimum of 12 semester hours in either Division A: History, or Division B: Literature, depending on the student's