ASK BETTER QUESTIONS; WORK TOWARD MORE SATISFYING ANSWERS
THemes AND GOALS

In RATIO, we promote:
• the use of practical, inferential, and mathematical reasoning
• the development of critical thinking skills
• the importance of processing and critiquing information
SOCIOLOGY 106C: SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND SOCIAL POLICY
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Through this course, we will study the major social problems present in American society today and the policies intended to address them. Using major sociological perspectives, we will examine the bases for social inequality in our society, with a specific focus on class, gender, race, ethnicity, and health. We will also discuss the role of social institutions, such as the family, education, and the economy in contributing to these social problems and solutions. Finally, we will discuss how individuals can work together to promote social change.

The class will also examine the social problems present in our local Pittsburgh community in order to gain a greater understanding and connection to the place in which we live.
UCOR 101C: Thinking and Writing Across the Curriculum
Welcome to Thinking and Writing Across the Curriculum. We will explore new ways of reading and writing within a constructive, creative, and collaborative classroom environment. We will sharpen our critical thinking, focus on the writing process, and create thoughtful written work. Not only will this class prepare you for the writing you will be required to do over the next four years, it will also prepare you to manage your time, read critically, produce professional-quality work, and move your mindset from high school to college.
Mathematics 125C: Fundamentals of Statistics
Regardless of our professions and interests, we are all consumers of statistics. After all, whether on television, in newspapers, in journal articles, or in the course of daily activities, statistics are an integral part of our everyday lives. For that reason, this course is designed to provide students with information regarding the computation and interpretation of statistical measures.

But more importantly, we will discuss how these measures may be used to evaluate and solve real-world problems, highlighting how statisticians can effect change and make a difference in the lives of others.
This year, we will continue to focus on a social reality we all live with: the need for security and protection. Those who carry out those tasks for us, such as police and soldiers, have throughout human history been understood as having a unique role in human life. Across our courses, we will explore how we confront the realities of living with those who place their own lives on the line for the well being and continuation of society. And we will also speak of those in governmental authority who manage this need for security and protection.
FOCUS FOR 2020

Through guest-speakers, presentations, and projects, we will work to better understand the needs and concerns of those who carry out the indispensable task of serving and protecting the masses. Furthermore, students in the RATIO Learning Community will work together with the Office for Military and Veteran Students to help raise awareness for Veterans’ issues while using their reasoning and critical thinking skills to tackle some of the problems facing our Veterans.