The graduate program in Sociology enables students to study sociological principles, methods of inquiry, and analysis of sociological findings in areas of current interest. Training at the master’s level in sociology is applicable to employment in such areas as urban planning, public and private administration, marketing, research, health and welfare services, youth services, law enforcement, corrections services, community organizations, and education. The MA in Sociology can also serve as preparation for entry into PhD programs and further professional training.

A limited number of assistantships are available to graduate students. Additional information is available upon written or e-mail request to the chair or graduate program director of the Department of Sociology.

The MA in Sociology may also be expanded to include select graduate certificate programs covering particular areas of interest. Students participating in a combined MA/certificate program should consult with their academic advisor to determine what coursework might count toward both programs. A separate application process for the certificate is required. Students who are interested in any of the following combination programs should contact the Graduate Student Services Office for additional information.

- Sociology + Global Health Certificate
- Sociology + Public Health Certificate
- Sociology + Social Research Certificate
- Sociology + Women’s and Gender Studies Certificate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Requirements</th>
<th>Quarter Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree Requirements</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total hours required</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Learning Outcomes**

Students will be able to:

- Describe theories and concepts of the field and recognize their role in empirical research.
- Apply understanding of terminology, research strategies, and qualitative and quantitative data production and analysis techniques to read critically research in the discipline.
- Plan a research project, develop it through research activities, and produce a finished report in writing or another appropriate medium such as film or photo-documentation.
- Identify ethical issues associated with human subjects/participant protection.
- Understand the urban setting as a key context for modern social processes at the local, national, and global level.

**Degree Requirements**

**Course Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Quarter Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 404</td>
<td>CLASSICAL AND MODERN THEORY</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 405</td>
<td>SOCIOCOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 411</td>
<td>SOCIAL RESEARCH</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 412</td>
<td>DATA ANALYSIS</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

or SOC 413 QUALITATIVE METHODS

Select one of the following:

- SOC 414 LITERATURE REVIEW WRITING PROJECT
- SOC 415 WRITING A RESEARCH PAPER
- SOC 500 THESIS RESEARCH

Select seven Sociology electives 28

Students entering without an undergraduate course in introductory statistics with a grade of A- or better are required to take SOC 402. SOC 402 carries graduate credit and can be counted among the 12 courses for the degree.

Students receiving more than two incompletes will not be allowed to register for courses until the incompletes are resolved.

**The Writing Project**

**Master of Arts in Sociology with Thesis**

The design for the thesis project may be developed in SOC 411 and SOC 412 or SOC 413. A student selects a faculty mentor and together they set up a committee with two additional faculty members. A thesis proposal hearing is required at the start of the project and an oral presentation at its completion. Those students desiring to complete the Thesis Option are required to take SOC 500.

**Master of Arts in Sociology with Research Project**

Students design and carry out a research project and prepare a final research report. The student selects a faculty mentor and a second reader. This project can be based on research begun in SOC 412, SOC 413, or a substantive course. Those students desiring to complete the Research Project are required to take SOC 415.

**Master of Arts in Sociology with Literature Review or Analytical Essay**

The student prepares a literature review or analytical essay indicating mastery of a body of literature. It is often started in conjunction with one of the specialized courses. The student selects a faculty mentor and a second reader. It is recommended that those students desiring to complete the Literature Review take SOC 414.

**Master of Arts in Sociology with Organizational Case Study**

The student will prepare a comprehensive case study that analyzes an organization that they will select. Students will use scholarly literature and other reading materials to inform the organizational theory upon which their analysis will be based. The student selects a faculty mentor and a second faculty member who has some familiarity with the sector in which the organization is located. Those students desiring to complete the Organizational Case Study are required to take SOC 495.