Graduate Studies in Sociology

Graduate Studies

The Department of Sociology offers graduate work leading to a doctor of philosophy (PhD) and is intended for students seeking a professional career in research and teaching in both academic and nonacademic settings. The department does not offer a terminal master's degree, although students enrolled in the PhD program will also receive a master's degree as part of their training.

Students receive training in qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, sociological theory, and major substantive fields within sociology such as gender, sexuality, environment, race and ethnicity, culture, social networks, labor, immigration, and political economy. The department places a strong emphasis on research, and many students will find opportunities to participate in projects conducted by faculty members.

Master of Arts and Master of Science in Sociology

Code	Title	Credits
SOC 601	Research: [Topic]	1-16
SOC 603	Dissertation	1-16
SOC 605	Reading and Conference: [Topic] [1]	1-16
SOC 606	Supervised Field Study: [Topic]	1-16
SOC 608	Workshop: [Topic] (Master's Project)	1-16

[1] In some cases, Reading and Conference: [Topic] (SOC 605) must be taken for a grade. Consult with the graduate coordinator.

Master of Arts Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Graduate-level sociology courses		55
Master's paper [1]		
Total Credits		55

[1] The paper must present original empirical research and be stylistically formatted for an existing peer-reviewed journal approved by the student's advisor.

Master of Science Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Graduate-level sociology courses		55
Master's paper [1]		
Total Credits		55

[1] The paper must present original empirical research and be stylistically formatted for an existing peer-reviewed journal approved by the student's advisor.

Master's-Level Requirements

Students typically complete 55 credits of master's-level requirements in the first six terms of full-time work. Students are awarded a master's degree if they have completed their required courses, achieved a mid-B or better average in their graded courses, and passed the master's paper requirement. Students who enter with a master's degree in sociology may request substitution of as many as five courses from their previous institutions to meet programmatic requirements.

Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology

Code	Title	Credits
SOC 601	Research: [Topic]	1-16
SOC 603	Dissertation	1-16
SOC 605	Reading and Conference: [Topic] [1]	1-16
SOC 606	Supervised Field Study: [Topic]	1-16
SOC 608	Workshop: [Topic] (Master's Project)	1-16

[1] In some cases, Reading and Conference: [Topic] (SOC 605) must be taken for a grade. Consult with the graduate coordinator.

Doctor of Philosophy Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Graduate-level sociology courses		75
Dissertation		18
SOC 603	Dissertation	
Total Credits		93

Master's-Level Requirements

Students typically complete 55 credits of master's-level requirements in the first six terms of full-time work. Students are awarded a master's degree if they have completed their required courses, achieved a mid-B or better average in their graded courses, and passed the master's paper requirement. Students who enter with a master's degree in sociology may request substitution of as many as five courses from their previous institutions to meet programmatic requirements.

Doctoral-Level Requirements

After earning the master's degree, students take an additional 20 credits of doctoral-level course work and prepare for a comprehensive examination in a sociological subfield chosen jointly by the student and the advisor.

Upon passing the comprehensive examination, the student is advanced to PhD candidacy and begins work on the doctoral dissertation. The final product is a book-length manuscript presenting empirical research that demonstrates originality and the scholar's ability to conduct independent investigation.

Courses

SOC 196. Field Studies: [Topic]. 1-2 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 198. Workshop: [Topic]. 1-2 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 199. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 204. Introduction to Sociology. 4 Credits.
The sociological perspective with emphasis on fundamental concepts, theories, and methods of research.

SOC 207. Social Inequality. 4 Credits.
Overview of social inequality, cross-culturally and within the United States. Examines relationship of social inequality based on social class, race, and gender to social change, social institutions, and self-identity.

SOC 301. American Society. 4 Credits.
Selected aspects of American culture and institutions and the ways in which they are changing.
Prereq: SOC 204 recommended.

SOC 304. Community, Environment, and Society. 4 Credits.
Interrelationship of social and environmental factors in human communities, processes of community change, impact of environmental change on human communities.

SOC 310. Social Theory. 4 Credits.
Analysis of the major writers and ideas that have shaped contemporary sociology. Focus on recurrent concepts and issues that continue to challenge sociological inquiry.

SOC 311. Research Methods. 4 Credits.
The development of social research; the nature of scientific inquiry and basic methods and techniques; examination of representative sociological studies from the standpoint of methodology.
Prereq: SOC 204 or SOC 207.

SOC 312. Statistical Analysis in Sociology. 4 Credits.
Construction and interpretation of tables and graphs, descriptive statistics, measures of association and contingency relationships, basic ideas of probability, and elementary statistical inference applied to nonexperimental research.

SOC 313. Social Issues and Movements. 4 Credits.
Contemporary social issues viewed in relation to the social structure of American society. Social movements and ideologies related to these issues.

SOC 317. Sociology of the Mass Media. 4 Credits.
Analysis of media events: advertisements, news broadcasts, documentaries, popular music, and television. Perspectives include content analysis, semiotics, functionalist and structuralist paradigms, and power system analysis.

SOC 328. Self and Society. 4 Credits.
How the thought, feeling, and behavior of individuals influence and are influenced by the actual, imagined, or implied presence of others.

SOC 330. Sociology of the Family. 4 Credits.
Introduction to and historical perspective of the family as a social institution and small-group association.
Prereq: SOC 204 or SOC 207.

SOC 345. Race and Ethnicity. 4 Credits.
Examines the major racial and ethnic groups in the United States with special attention to social interactions and inequalities.

SOC 346. Work and Occupations. 4 Credits.
Characteristics of work and occupational careers in modern societies; relationships of those to family, the economy, bureaucracy, technology, and alienation.

SOC 355. Sociology of Gender. 4 Credits.
Position of women in contemporary society; women and work, politics, families, the economy; intersection of gender, race, and class; women's movements.

SOC 370. Urban Sociology. 4 Credits.
Examines the growth of cities; urban inequalities, politics, and social movements; built environment, ecology, and sustainability of cities and identity; global cities and immigration.

SOC 380. Introduction: Deviance, Control, and Crime. 4 Credits.
Origins of rules and laws, patterns of reactions to their violation, emphasis on causal theories of deviance and of crime, data sources for study of crime.

SOC 399. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 401. Research: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 403. Thesis. 1-12 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 404. Internship: [Topic]. 1-12 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 405. Reading and Conference: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 406. Supervised Field Study: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 407. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable. Offerings vary from year to year depending on student needs and faculty interests.
Prereq: SOC 204 or SOC 207.

SOC 408. Workshop: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 409. Practicum: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 410. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 412. Sociological Research Methods. 4 Credits.
Descriptive and inferential statistics, including multiple regression.

SOC 413. Sociological Research Methods. 4 Credits.
Advanced statistical techniques focusing on generalized linear models.
Prereq: SOC 412.

SOC 416. Issues in Environmental Sociology [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Analysis of selected topics in environmental sociology. Topics include environmental movement, impacts of technological change, environmental policy and the state, environmental values, attitudes, and behaviors. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 420. Political Economy. 4 Credits.
Survey of the fundamentals of political economy. Readings from Marxian and mainstream traditions introduce contemporary debates on socioeconomic crisis.

SOC 425. Issues in Sociology of Family: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Analysis of selected topics in the sociology of the family. Topics include the sociology of parenthood, feminist perspectives on the family, and the family in cross-cultural perspective. Repeatable twice for a maximum of 12 credits when topic changes.
Prereq: SOC 330.

SOC 442. Issues in Urban Sociology: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Determinants and consequences of urbanization under different conditions; the city as a social and ecological system. Repeatable twice when topic changes for a maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 445. Sociology of Race and Ethnicity: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Advanced analysis of selected topics in sociology of race/ethnicity. Topics vary. Examples include Asian Americans, Latinos, mixed race, racial oppression, residential segregation, and the post-civil rights era. Repeatable twice for a maximum of 12 credits.
Prereq: SOC 310, SOC 311.

SOC 446. Issues in Sociology of Work: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Selected topics in sociology of work: occupational structures and careers, industrial democracy; technological change and work reform, politics of work. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 447. Issues in Sociology of Organizations: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Analysis of selected topics in the sociology of organizations. Topics include industrial sociology, organizational change; organizational democracy; corporate deviance; bureaucracy, power, and society. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 450. Sociology of Developing Areas. 4 Credits.
Social and economic structures and processes promoting or inhibiting change in the developing nations of Africa, Asia, Latin America. Topics include urbanization, industrialization, cultural change, world poverty, and dependence.

SOC 451. Social Stratification. 4 Credits.
The interrelations among class, race, and sex. Historical origins and development of class and class systems including slavery.
Prereq: SOC 310, 311, 312.

SOC 452. Issues of Migration: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Sociological analysis of migration, including dynamics of race and ethnicity, social structure, and social policy. Examines assimilation, marginalization, multiculturalism, postcolonialism, and social cohesion. Repeatable twice when the topic changes for a maximum of 12 credits. Offered alternate years.
Prereq: SOC 310.

SOC 455. Issues in Sociology of Gender: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Advanced analysis of gender and social relations of power in contemporary society. Variable topics include Women and Health; Violence against Women. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 456. Feminist Theory. 4 Credits.
Examines major sociological theories that elucidate the position of women and gender as part of the configuration of social relations of power in contemporary societies.

SOC 457. Sex and Society. 4 Credits.
Examines alternative sociological perspectives on sexual behavior, the social construction and regulation of sexuality, contemporary social and political issues pertaining to sexuality.
Prereq: SOC 310.

SOC 464. Systems of War and Peace. 4 Credits.
Violence and nonviolence as functions of social structures and as instruments of social change. Systems of international threat, their supporting institutions, and the ideology of nationalism.

SOC 465. Political Sociology. 4 Credits.
Analysis of political theory and behavior, social bases of power and policy determination, institutional interrelationships, intellectuals and ideologies, political trends and change, political participation and membership.

SOC 467. Economic Sociology. 4 Credits.
Applies the sociological perspective to basic economic phenomena such as markets, exchange, prices, money and rationality.
Prereq: SOC 310.

SOC 475. Marxist Sociological Theory. 4 Credits.
Basic concepts, theory, and social analysis in the works of Marx and Engels. Topics include dialectical and historical materialism, class, historical development, political economy, and imperialism.

SOC 484. Issues in Deviance, Control, and Crime: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Topics vary. Examples are modern policing, juvenile delinquency, correction, emerging forms of social control. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 491. Sociology of Education. 4 Credits.
The relationship between education and other social institutions, the school and the community, the school as a social system, social change and education.

SOC 503. Thesis. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 507. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable. Offerings vary from year to year depending on student needs and faculty interests.

SOC 508. Workshop: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 510. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 512. Sociological Research Methods. 4 Credits.
Descriptive and inferential statistics, including multiple regression.

SOC 513. Sociological Research Methods. 4 Credits.
Advanced statistical techniques focusing on generalized linear models.
Prereq: SOC 4/512.

SOC 516. Issues in Environmental Sociology [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Analysis of selected topics in environmental sociology. Topics include environmental movement, impacts of technological change, environmental policy and the state, environmental values, attitudes, and behaviors. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 520. Political Economy. 4 Credits.
Survey of the fundamentals of political economy. Readings from Marxian and mainstream traditions introduce contemporary debates on socioeconomic crisis.

SOC 542. Issues in Urban Sociology: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Determinants and consequences of urbanization under different conditions; the city as a social and ecological system. Repeatable twice when topic changes for a maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 545. Sociology of Race and Ethnicity: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Advanced analysis of selected topics in sociology of race/ethnicity. Topics vary. Examples include Asian Americans, Latinos, mixed race, racial oppression, residential segregation, and the post-civil rights era. Repeatable twice for a maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 546. Issues in Sociology of Work: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Selected topics in sociology of work: occupational structures and careers, industrial democracy; technological change and work reform, politics of work. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 547. Issues in Sociology of Organizations: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Analysis of selected topics in the sociology of organizations. Topics include industrial sociology, organizational change; organizational democracy; corporate deviance; bureaucracy, power, and society. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 551. Social Stratification. 4 Credits.
The interrelations among class, race, and sex. Historical origins and development of class and class systems including slavery.

SOC 552. Issues of Migration: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Sociological analysis of migration, including dynamics of race and ethnicity, social structure, and social policy. Examines assimilation, marginalization, multiculturalism, postcolonialism, and social cohesion. Repeatable twice when the topic changes for a maximum of 12 credits. Offered alternate years.

SOC 555. Issues in Sociology of Gender: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Advanced analysis of gender and social relations of power in contemporary society. Variable topics include Women and Health; Violence against Women. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 556. Feminist Theory. 4 Credits.
Examines major sociological theories that elucidate the position of women and gender as part of the configuration of social relations of power in contemporary societies.
Prereq: SOC 4/555.

SOC 557. Sex and Society. 4 Credits.
Examines alternative sociological perspectives on sexual behavior, the social construction and regulation of sexuality, contemporary social and political issues pertaining to sexuality.

SOC 565. Political Sociology. 4 Credits.
Analysis of political theory and behavior, social bases of power and policy determination, institutional interrelationships, intellectuals and ideologies, political trends and change, political participation and membership.

SOC 567. Economic Sociology. 4 Credits.
Applies the sociological perspective to basic economic phenomena such as markets, exchange, prices, money and rationality.

SOC 575. Marxist Sociological Theory. 4 Credits.
Basic concepts, theory, and social analysis in the works of Marx and Engels. Topics include dialectical and historical materialism, class, historical development, political economy, and imperialism.

SOC 584. Issues in Deviance, Control, and Crime: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Topics vary. Examples are modern policing, juvenile delinquency, correction, emerging forms of social control. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 12 credits.

SOC 601. Research: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 602. Supervised College Teaching. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 603. Dissertation. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 604. Internship: [Topic]. 1-6 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 605. Reading and Conference: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 606. Supervised Field Study: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 607. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Proseminar required for all incoming Sociology graduate students. Professional socialization and preparation for the discipline. Repeatable.

SOC 608. Workshop: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable. A current topic is Master's Project.

SOC 609. Practicum: [Topic]. 1-3 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 610. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

SOC 612. Overview of Sociological Methods. 5 Credits.
Examines the research process--framing research questions, qualitative and quantitative design, relationships between methods and theory, deductive and inductive investigation logic, research ethics, sampling procedures, explanatory power.

SOC 613. Advanced Sociological Methods: [Topic]. 5 Credits.
Major methodological topics such as comparative, demographic, experimental, field, historical, and survey methods. Other possible topics include time-series analysis. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 15 credits.
Prereq: SOC 612 or equivalent.

SOC 615. Advanced Sociological Theory: [Topic]. 5 Credits.
Major sociological theories such as modern functionalism, contemporary Marxism, phenomenology, postmodernism, feminist and organizational theory. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 15 credits.

SOC 616. Environment and Resource Issues: [Topic]. 5 Credits.
Explores issues of environmental sociology and resource policy, including ecological crisis; environmental justice as it pertains to race, gender, class, and international inequality. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 15 credits.

SOC 617. Sociological Theory I. 5 Credits.
Sociological theories of the 19th century (especially Marx, Weber, and Durkheim) and 20th century (e.g., modern functionalism, feminist, neo-Marxism, neo-Weberian, poststructuralist theories).

SOC 618. Sociological Theory II. 5 Credits.
Major themes and historical foundation of contemporary sociological theory.
Prereq: SOC 617.

SOC 621. Teaching in the Social Sciences. 4 Credits.
Prepares graduate students to teach their own classes. Covers pedagogy and develops practical skills. Offered alternate years.

SOC 644. Race and Ethnicity Issues: [Topic]. 5 Credits.
Explores current reseach and theoretical debates, such as Chicano-Chicana and Latino-Latina studies, in the sociology of race and ethnicity. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 15 credits.

SOC 646. Work and Organization Issues: [Topic]. 5 Credits.
Examples of issues explored include power in organizations; changing patterns of employment and work; industrial democracy; and race, class and gender. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 15 credits.

SOC 656. Issues in Sociology of Gender: [Topic]. 5 Credits.
Examines sociological theories of gender, focusing on a particular substantive area such as health, work, family, or sexuality. Explores gender in relation to race, ethnicity, and class. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 15 credits.

SOC 664. Political and Economic Sociology Issues: [Topic]. 5 Credits.
Examines the relationship between economic institutions and political processes. Sample topics include theories of modern capitalism, corporations and the state, development and underdevelopment, war and peace. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 15 credits.