

SOCIOLOGY, M.A.

Credits: 30
CIP Code: 451101

Program Overview

Building on the tradition of W. E. B. DuBois, the **Master of Arts Degree in Sociology** offers students research experiences for furthering their education through doctoral programs and for preparation to pursue research.

Admissions Requirements

In addition to the General Admissions Requirements as published in this Catalog, applicants are admitted to the **Master of Arts Degree in Sociology** whose previous academic preparation shows promise of the ability to successfully complete graduate level education in sociology. Applicants should have a broad-based background in the social and behavioral sciences or related areas. GRE required.

Program Objectives

1. Present theories, concepts, substantive problems, and methodologies related to sociological practice.
2. Introduce sociological factors that impact societal growth and change among different cultures and their institutional and individual manifestations.
3. Prepare students to advocate diversity of viewpoints, interpretations, and perceptions of reality on society in general.
4. Prepare students to engage in research-based inquiry and create new knowledge about social reality.
5. Prepare students for advanced studies, research experiences, and careers in the social and behavioral sciences or related areas.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students pursuing the **Master of Arts Degree in Sociology** will:

1. Apply theoretical principles and practices of sociological concepts to solve social and behavioral issues or problems.
2. Apply sociological perspectives on human conditions to conduct research-based scientific inquiry.
3. Examine current events and explain the significance of these events as an individual, a member of social groups, and a member of specific societies.
4. Communicate sociological perspectives and ideals in oral and written format through the use of current technology to diverse audiences.

Degree Requirements

In addition to the General Degree Requirements as published in this Catalog, students pursuing the **Master of Arts Degree in Sociology** must complete the following requirements:

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
CSCJ 501	Classical Theo. in Soc. & Crim	3
CSCJ 502	Contemporary Theo.in Soc&Crim	3
CSCJ 503	Research Methods	3
CSCJ 504	Research Methods	3
CSCJ 505	Statistics I	3

CSCJ 603	Advanced Statistics	3
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Elective Courses

Select three of the following: 9

CSCJ 520		
CSCJ 521		
CSCJ 526	Selected Topics in Soc.&Crim.	
CSCJ 531		
CSCJ 553		
CSCJ 555	Medical Sociology	
CSCJ 559	Deviant Behavior	
CSCJ 562	Social Stratification	
CSCJ 579	Cultural and Ethnic Relations	
CSCJ 590	Selected Topics Seminar II	
CSCJ 5XX	Other Approved Elective at 500 or higher course level	

Thesis Research or Practicum

Students must complete a thesis based on a topic approved by the department chair and faculty or a practicum with an approved agency/organization including a minimum of 480 contact hours.

CSCJ 805	Thesis Research ¹	3
	or CSCJ 519 Practicum	

Total Hours 30

¹ CSCJ 519 Practicum must be with an approved social services or criminal justice agency, or with an approved education and/or research organization. A minimum of 480 contact hours and a paper on the practicum experience is required. See the graduate program coordinator for details

Qualifying Examinations

Students must complete written and/or oral examinations. Students are permitted a **maximum of three (3)** attempts to pass the examinations.

Final Examination

An oral examination covering the student's Thesis Research or Practicum experience.

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Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
First Semester		
CSCJ 501	Classical Theo. in Soc. & Crim	3
CSCJ 503	Research Methods	3
CSCJ 505	Statistics I	3
Hours		9
Second Semester		
CSCJ 502	Contemporary Theo.in Soc&Crim	3
CSCJ 504	Research Methods	3
CSCJ 603	Advanced Statistics	3
Hours		9
Second Year		
First Semester		
CSCJ 5XX	Elective in Sociology ¹	3
CSCJ 5XX	Elective in Sociology ¹	3

CSCJ 5XX	Elective in Sociology ¹	3
Hours		9
Second Semester		
CSCJ 805 or CSCJ 519	Thesis Research or Practicum	3
Hours		3
Total Hours		30

¹ Must be at 500 or higher course level

Practicum

The practicum provides opportunities for students to gain practical experience in social service or criminal justice agencies and utilize knowledge from the classroom. In this sense, the practicum bridges theory with practice. The department strives to meet the needs of students by placing them in their choice positions at the federal, state, or county levels as well as with certain private agencies and organizations.

Graduate Assistantships

A limited number of graduate assistantships through the department are available on a competitive basis for students in Academic Good Standing and provide opportunities in research and professional assignments. Individual faculty members may have graduate assistantships through funded research grants. For details please contact the graduate program coordinator.