

MASTER OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY

Program Description

The Master of Arts in Sociology is a completely online program designed to provide students with advanced and updated instruction in quantitative and qualitative techniques of sociological research, statistics, and theory, and sociological electives. Students will develop the advanced professional skills necessary to analyze social issues in applied settings and advance their careers. These skills include research grant writing, program evaluation, impact assessment, and community-based research.

Admissions

Students seeking admission to the graduate program in Sociology must submit the following documents to the Office of Graduate Admissions:

1. Graduate Application (<https://www.shsu.edu/admissions/apply-texas.html>)
2. Application fee (<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-studies/application-fee.html>)
3. Official transcripts from the baccalaureate degree granting institution (minimum 3.0 overall GPA)
4. Official GRE scores. Under certain circumstances, we will consider waiving the GRE requirement. A written request justifying the waiver (e.g., existing Masters degree, etc.) must accompany the application
5. Minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0
6. Letter of intent*
7. **Two** letters of recommendation
8. Essay detailing interest in the program.

Students will be admitted for the Fall and Spring semesters (no summer admissions). The application deadline for Spring enrollment is December 1st; the application deadline for Fall enrollment is August 1st.

Note: Admission to the MA Program in Sociology is competitive and the number of available positions is limited.

* The Letter of Intent is your opportunity to discuss your fit with the program offered at Sam Houston State University. While you have a significant amount of freedom to discuss anything you would like in your letter of intent, you may want to address your short-term and long-term academic/professional goals, why you would like to attend our program, and why your interests fit with our program. The letter should not exceed 750 words.

Send all documents to the Office of Graduate Admissions (<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-admissions>) :

Sam Houston State University
Office of Graduate Admissions
Box 2478
Huntsville, TX 77341-2478

Graduate Admission Support
(936) 294-1971

graduate@shsu.edu (graduateonline@shsu.edu)

Degree Requirements

The Master of Arts in Sociology requires a minimum of 36 hours of graduate credit, 30 of which must be in Sociology and must be in courses numbered 5000. M.A. candidates in Sociology are expected to develop the advanced professional skills necessary to analyze social issues in applied settings. These skills include research grant writing, program evaluation, impact assessment, and community-based research.

Students can select between a Thesis Option and a Non-Thesis Option.

Requirements

Thesis Option (36 semester hours)

- Must complete 15 hours of Core Requirements including SOCI 6098 and SOCI 6099
- Must complete 3 hours of the Applied Core Requirements
- Minimum of 18 credit hours of Sociology Electives

Non-Thesis Option (36 semester hours)

- Must complete 9 hours of Core Requirements
- Must complete 3 hours of Applied Core Requirements
- Minimum of 24 hours of Sociology Electives
- Must pass the comprehensive exam

Required Courses

Students pursuing a Master's Degree in Sociology must take the following core courses:

Course Requirements

SOCI 5310	Seminar In Sociological Theory	3
SOCI 5312	Smnr Sociological Research	3
SOCI 5314	Social Statistics	3
SOCI 6098	Thesis Practicum ¹	3
SOCI 6099	Thesis ¹	3
Total Hours		15

¹ Courses SOCI 6098 and SOCI 6099 are only required for students who choose the thesis option MA Degree Plan.

Students must also take at least one among the remaining applied core courses:

Courses

SOCI 5313	Qualitative Methods	3
SOCI 5376	Applied Research Methods	3
SOCI 5378	Tchnq-Rsrch Propls Wrt/Soc Sci	3
SOCI 5380	Social Impct Assmt & Prog Eval	3
Total Hours		12

Degree Plans

Degree Plan 1 - MA in Sociology - Thesis Option

Master of Arts in Sociology (Thesis Option)

Specified Courses

SOCI 5310	Seminar In Sociological Theory	3
SOCI 5312	Smnr Sociological Research	3
SOCI 5314	Social Statistics	3
SOCI 6098	Thesis Practicum (Professional Paper)	3
SOCI 6099	Thesis	3

Applied Core Electives

Select one of the following: 3

SOCI 5313	Qualitative Methods
SOCI 5376	Applied Research Methods
SOCI 5378	Tchnq-Rsrch Propls Wrt/Soc Sci
SOCI 5380	Social Impct Assmt & Prog Eval

SOCI Electives

Select six of the following: 18

SOCI 5319	Sociology of Entrepreneurship
SOCI 5320	Sociology Of Community
SOCI 5321	Cultural Sociolgy
SOCI 5322	Seminar In Medical Sociology
SOCI 5324	Seminar In Social Change & Dev
SOCI 5325	Seminar in Food and Society
SOCI 5331	Sociology Of The Family
SOCI 5333	Sociology Of Religion
SOCI 5337	Gender And Society
SOCI 5338	Sociology of Disasters
SOCI 5351	Seminar-Environmentl Sociology
SOCI 5353	Seminar In Race And Ethnic Stu
SOCI 5355	Seminar In Social Inequality

SOCI 5386	The Sociology of Aging	
Total Hours		36

Degree Plan 2 - MA in Sociology - Non-Thesis Option

Master of Arts in Sociology (Non-thesis Option)

Specified Courses		
SOCI 5312	Smnr Sociological Research	3
SOCI 5310	Seminar In Sociological Theory	3
SOCI 5314	Social Statistics	3
Applied Core Electives		
Select one of the following:		3
SOCI 5313	Qualitative Methods	
SOCI 5376	Applied Research Methods	
SOCI 5378	Tchnq-Rsrch Propls Wrt/Soc Sci	
SOCI 5380	Social Impact Assmt & Prog Eval	
SOCI Electives		
Select eight of the following:		24
SOCI 5319	Sociolgy of Entrepreneurship	
SOCI 5320	Sociology Of Community	
SOCI 5321	Cultural Sociolgy	
SOCI 5322	Seminar In Medical Sociology	
SOCI 5324	Seminar In Social Change & Dev	
SOCI 5325	Seminar in Food and Society	
SOCI 5331	Sociology Of The Family	
SOCI 5333	Sociology Of Religion	
SOCI 5337	Gender And Society	
SOCI 5338	Sociology of Disasters	
SOCI 5351	Seminar-Environmentl Sociology	
SOCI 5353	Seminar In Race And Ethnic Stu	
SOCI 5355	Seminar In Social Inequality	
SOCI 5386	The Sociology of Aging	

Total Hours		36
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