SOCIOLOGY (MA)

The Master of Arts (M.A.) in Sociology provides advanced training in social analytics and data-driven decision-making, specifically designed for careers in the public, non-profit, and corporate sectors. The program bridges sociological theory with advanced research methods to equip students with the training and skills to tackle complex social challenges. Students can customize their degree through specializations in Gender and Sexuality, Racism and Social Inequality, Human Rights, Policy, or Research Methods. This program culminates in a professional capstone portfolio that showcases the student's mastery of social research and practical application, or for students with Concurrent Enrollment in the Sociology Ph.D. program, a M.A. thesis.

Location

- Storrs Campus

Modality

- In Person

Requirements

Course Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
A. Required Core Graduate Courses		
SOCI 5001	Proseminar	1.5
SOCI 5002	Proseminar	1.5
SOCI 5201	The Logic of Social Research	3
SOCI 5251	Core Theorists	3
Methods Requirement		
Select one of the following:		3
SOCI 5203	Quantitative Research I	
SOCI 5231	Qualitative Research I	
B. Required Elective Courses		
Choose at least 2 courses (6 credits) in consultation with the major advisor covering a range of substantive topics from the following list:		6
SOCI 5275	Topics in Culture	
SOCI 5315	Topics in Deviance and Crime	
SOCI 5411	Sociology of Work	
SOCI 5425	Topics in Stratification and Inequality	
SOCI 5501	Racism	
SOCI 5505	Topics in Racism and Ethnic Group Relations	
SOCI 5515	Sociology of Immigration	
SOCI 5601	Gender and Society	
SOCI 5613	Theories of Intersectionality	
SOCI 5614	Sexual Citizenship	
SOCI 5751	Population in a Changing World	
SOCI 5805	Topics in Political Sociology	
SOCI 5821	Social Movements	
SOCI 5833	Gender, Politics and the State	
SOCI 5895	Investigation of Special Topics	
SOCI 5899	Independent Study for Graduate Students	
C. Additional Electives		
Choose 12 additional credits from the graduate sociology courses above, or courses from the Additional Electives table below. Students may choose different elective courses after consultation with the major advisor.		12
Total Credits		**30**

Additional Electives

Course	Title	Credits
Public Policy Courses		
PP 5318	Financial Management for Public Organizations	3
PP 5319	Program Development and Evaluation	3
PP 5323	Leading and Governing Nonprofit Organizations	3
PP 5324	Grant Writing and Government Contracting	3
PP 5326	Public Investment Management	3
PP 5328	Business Functions of Nonprofit Organizations	3
PP 5329	Nonprofit Advocacy, Government Relations, and Law	3
PP 5335	Nonprofit Marketing and Stakeholder Communications	3
PP 5336	Fund Development and Nonprofit Sustainability	3
PP 5349	Public Procurement and Contracting	3
PP 5357	Policymaking and Legislation	3
PP 5363	Local Government Management and Leadership	3
PP 5364	Public Finance and Budgeting	3
PP 5365	Human Resource Management	3
Data Science and Data Analysis Courses		
Data Science and Data Analysis Courses can be applied toward the Additional Electives requirement with advisor approval.		
AH 6005	Multilevel Mediation-Moderation Modeling for Health Sciences	3
ARE 5353	Data Ethics and Equity in the Era of Misinformation	2
CSE 5709	Machine Learning for Data Science	3
CSE 5710	Data Mining for Data Science	3
CSE 5717	Big Data Analytics	3
EPSY 5641	Causal Inference and Measurement for Data Science	2
EPSY 6611	Hierarchical Linear Modeling	3
EPSY 6615	Structural Equation Modeling	3
EPSY 6637	Item Response Theory	3
EPSY 6651	Introduction to Methods for Causal Inference Using Educational Data	3
GRAD 5100	Fundamental Skills for Data Science	3
GRAD 5900	Special Topics in Graduate Education	1-3
OPIM 5605	Data Visualization and Communication	2
PSYC 5554	Advanced Nonlinear Dynamics for the Behavioral Sciences	3
STAT 5405	Applied Statistics for Data Science	3
STAT 5410	Statistical Computing for Data Science	3
STAT 5415	Statistical Methods for Data Science	3

STAT 5825	Applied Time Series	3
Sociology Courses		
The following 6000-level SOCI courses can be applied toward the Additional Electives requirement with advisor approval.		
SOCI 6005	Advanced Topics in Sociology	3
SOCI 6203	Quantitative Research II	3
SOCI 6231	Qualitative Research II	3
SOCI 6265	Advanced Topics in Sociological Theory	3

D. Advisory and Capstone Requirement

Major Advisor

Students are responsible for selecting a Major Advisor from the Sociology graduate faculty. This faculty member will guide the students' course selection, approve their Plan of Study, and evaluate their final capstone requirements.

Final Capstone Requirement

A portfolio evaluated by your Major Advisor consisting of a minimum of three papers that together illustrate knowledge of sociological theory, research methods, and at least one substantive area.

M.A. Thesis

Students with Concurrent Enrollment in the Sociology Ph.D. program will earn a M.A. degree upon completing a master's thesis, which includes submitting a written thesis and passing a formal thesis defense. Students must register for 9 thesis credits.

Learning Objectives

1. Demonstrate appropriate breadth and depth of disciplinary knowledge and comprehension of the major sociological topics, theories, and issues.
2. Use disciplinary methods and techniques to apply knowledge, critically analyze, and achieve advanced productive and creative accomplishments.
3. Communicate proficiently and effectively to a specialist and non-specialist audience, verbally and in writing a structured, coherent academic presentation, representation, or argument that cogently summarizes their research or creative pursuit, relevant literature, and its significance at the level appropriate to discipline.
4. Conduct themselves in accordance with the highest ethical and responsible standards, values, and, where these are defined, the best practices of the discipline.

Up to 12 credits of required graduate coursework taken while the student is an undergraduate may be used toward both the B.A. and M.A. Plans of Study. Undergraduate students enrolled in Sociology must apply for the accelerated track at the end of their junior year and then apply to the M.A. program during their senior year.