

Addendum to the Baylor University 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 Graduate School Catalog

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Chairperson: F. Carson Mencken

Graduate Program Director: Kevin D. Dougherty

GRADUATE DEGREES IN SOCIOLOGY

The department offers two graduate degrees in sociology: the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) and the Master of Arts (M.A.).

Although students are admitted directly to the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) program, they will pursue a Master of Arts in sociology. The M.A. program is available only to students who are initially admitted to the Ph.D. program. Students entering the program with graduate level work or a graduate degree from an accredited institution will have that work evaluated by the admissions committee and have a maximum of twelve semester hours of graduate course work applied toward their graduate work at Baylor University.

The three areas of concentration in the doctoral program are community analytics, health and society, and sociology of religion. The first two years of the program have roughly the same requirements for all areas of emphasis. During the last three years students move into the more specialized areas.

Admission Requirements:

- B.A. (or equivalent)
- GPA and GRE General Test scores predictive of success in this graduate program
- Personal statement of interest
- Three letters of recommendation
- An interview with the graduate admission committee, usually during recruitment event in February-March
- Expressed areas of academic/research interests compatible with those of the faculty

At the end of the second year, students are expected to have completed research resulting in a journal article or its equivalent. This paper is regarded as a Master's thesis equivalent.

Master of Arts

The Master of Arts degree is thirty hours comprising the core training courses in theory and research methods to prepare students for the Ph.D. degree. Students are admitted to the Ph.D. program with the requirement of earning an M.A. degree during the first two years.

At the completion of the M.A. degree, students will be evaluated by the Graduate Faculty to recommend continued funding of their education. In addition, students who fail to complete the M.A. degree by the start of the fall semester in the third year will not be considered for further financial support. Students seeking a terminal M.A. degree will not be admitted.

Primary			12 sem. hrs.
SOC	5312	Social Science Data Analysis	3 sem. hrs.
SOC	5391	Advanced Sociological Theory	3 sem. hrs.
SOC	5342	Data Sources and Publishing in the Sociology of Religion	3 sem. hrs.
STA	5384	Multivariate Statistical Methods	3 sem. hrs.
Secondary Courses			9 sem. hrs.
SOC	6V97	Seminar in Teaching (Part 1)	3 sem. hrs.
SOC	5V99	Thesis	6 sem. hrs.
Elective Courses			9 sem. hrs.
		Sociology courses approved by department	

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Requirements

The Ph.D. is an eighty-four semester-hour program, with fifty-four semester hours beyond the master's degree. The Ph.D. hours include twelve hours of dissertation and six hours of supervised teaching. Students must successfully complete the requirements for the M.A. degree in the process of pursuing a Ph.D. Course work includes a standard set of courses (6 hours) in research methods and theory, as well as 36 hours of core courses in the appropriate area of emphasis. There is no foreign language requirement for this program. The Department of Sociology currently offers three areas of concentration: community analytics, health and society, and sociology of religion.

Community Analytics

The curriculum in community analytics brings together substantive seminars in community, demography, regional economic development, family, and population health, as well as hands-on practical training doing applied research for local, regional and state entities. Graduates from our program are highly trained in mail, telephone, and web-based survey methodology, need assessment, interviewing and focus group research skills, demographic modeling, GIS, and the ability to use major statistical techniques and programs to analyze and interpret the results of such research.

Students in the community analytics concentration work at the Baylor Center for Community Research and Development (CCRD). The CCRD is a multi-disciplinary/method laboratory in which sociologists perform most of the research, while experts from varying fields lend their support. Students learn to apply sociological methods to real-life settings and gain an understanding of an exceptional model for relations between community and academia.

Curriculum in the community analytics area of concentration includes:

Primary		9 sem. hrs.
SOC 6303	Telephone Surveys	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 6310	Mail Surveys	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 5320	Seminar on the Community	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 6345	Regional Processes	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 6317	Community Spatial Analysis	3 sem. hrs.
Secondary		12 sem. hrs.
SOC 6V97	Seminar in Teaching (Part 1)	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 6314	Advanced Quantitative Analysis	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 6390	Writing Practicum	6 sem. hrs.
Electives		12 sem. hrs.
Sociology courses approved by department		
Dissertation		12 sem. hrs.
SOC 6V99	Dissertation	12 sem. hrs.
Total (including 30 sem. hrs. of M.A.)		75 sem. hrs.

Sociology of Religion

The Department of Sociology at Baylor University is recognized for its distinction in training sociologists of religion. Home to numerous leading sociologists of religion and the ongoing Baylor Religion Survey, Baylor is a place where scholars thrive. The curriculum in the sociology of religion track brings together seminars of substantive interest, advanced methodological training and independent research. Students are prepared to enter the academic job market through a hands-on process of professional socialization.

Curriculum in the sociology of religion concentration includes:

Primary		9 sem. hrs.
SOC 5341	Introduction to the Sociology of Religion	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 5342	Data Sources and Publishing in the Sociology of Religion	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 5343	Theory in the Sociology of Religion	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 6332	The Sociology of Religious Organizations	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 6336	Religion, Race, and Gender	3 sem. hrs.
Secondary		
SOC 6V97	Seminar in Teaching (Part 2)	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 6390	Writing Practicum	6 sem. hrs.
SOC 6314	Advanced Quantitative Analysis	3 sem. hrs.
Electives		12 sem. hrs.
Sociology courses approved by department		
Dissertation		12 sem. hrs.
SOC 6V99	Dissertation	12 sem. hrs.
Total (including 30 sem. hrs. of M.A.)		75 sem. hrs.

Health and Society

The health and society concentration focuses on understanding of how social forces and structures are linked to human well-being. As a transdisciplinary area of study, health and society infuses sociological theories and principles with allied work in public health, epidemiology, and gerontology. Social mechanisms are emphasized to illuminate the roles of biology, genetics, and stress in evolving levels of mental and physical well-being across the life course. Students learn to use advanced quantitative methods to address key population health issues.

Curriculum in the health and society concentration includes:

Primary		9 sem. hrs.
SOC 5332	Sociology of Health	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 6351	Population Health	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 6357	Health Inequalities in America	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 5354	Seminar in Family Sociology	3 sem. hrs.
Secondary		12 sem. hrs.
SOC 6V97	Seminar on Teaching (Part 2)	3 sem. hrs.
SOC 6390	Writing Practicum	6 sem. hrs.
SOC 6314	Advanced Quantitative Analysis	3 sem. hrs.
Elective Courses		12 sem. hrs.
Sociology courses approved by the department		
Dissertation		12 sem. hrs.
SOC 6V99	Dissertation	12 sem. hrs.
Total (including 30 sem. hrs. of M.A.)		75 sem. hrs.