

M.A. in Sociology at University of Missouri-St. Louis

The department offers a flexible program of studies leading to the Master of Arts degree in sociology. Course work combines intensive examination of the core areas of sociology with acquisition of the analytical skills of sociological investigation. A variety of career options are available to the master's-level graduate, including: program evaluation and research; field or casework related to community issues; administrative roles in social agencies and planning organizations; or doctoral studies in sociology or related fields.

The curriculum is designed to serve the needs of full-time students as well as working students who are able to engage only in part-time studies. This design allows pre-career and mid-career students to prepare for employment in education, service agencies, community organizations, government agencies, or businesses. The curriculum also invites students to take advantage of the university's urban setting through integration of selected work experiences with practicum courses and academic seminars under faculty guidance. The curriculum emphasizes theoretical, analytic, and substantive approaches to urban-related problem solving.

Admission Requirements

Individuals with at least the equivalent of the department's B.A. or B.S. degree in sociology may be admitted to the Graduate School as candidates for the M.A. degree. Students with bachelor's degrees in fields other than sociology may be admitted to pursue graduate sociology studies under the condition that they make up core deficiencies prior to graduate work.

In addition to meeting the general admission requirements of the Graduate School, a student should ordinarily have:

- A baccalaureate degree with a minimum grade point average of 3.0.
- At least 15 hours in the social sciences, of which 12 should be in upper-level courses.
- Three letters of recommendation from persons qualified to judge the candidate's potential for success in the program.
- A statement describing the applicant's interest in graduate study in sociology.

Students who do not meet these requirements may be provisionally admitted upon approval of the department and the dean of the Graduate School. Admission and financial aid decisions are made on the basis of past academic record, program performance, and career commitment. Students wishing to continue regular employment outside the university may enroll on a part-time basis.

Students should apply to the Graduate School for admission to the MA in sociology (see <http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/graduate/programs/masters.html> or https://tomsawyer.umsl.edu/webapps/Graduate_Admission/application_form.cfm)

Application materials must be submitted to

Graduate School University of Missouri-St. Louis
Admissions 217 Millennium Student Center
One University Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63121-4400
(314) 516-5458
Fax (3134) 516-6996

Requests for further information about the program should be sent to:

Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Sociology
University of Missouri-St. Louis
One University Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63121-4400

Degree Requirements

Master of Arts in Sociology

Each student shall prepare an adviser-approved course of study during the first semester of enrollment. Candidates for the M.A. degree shall complete a minimum of 30 hours of approved study, at least 21 of which must be taken in courses offered by the department.

Core Curriculum (9 hours)

5400, Proseminar in Sociology

5402, Advanced Quantitative Techniques

5404, Advanced Methodology

The sociology department participates in a joint quantitative techniques and methodology series of courses with the other social sciences which can be substituted for the above.

Electives/Study Concentration (15 hours) The department offers opportunities for intensive work in one of the several research areas of department faculty members, which allows the flexibility for comprehensive and coherent exposure to the methods and insights of the discipline. Matriculating students are encouraged to plan, with their advisers, a coherent program of studies consistent with their career interests.

Exit Requirements (6 hours) (5480 or 5490) A student's program must include one of the following exit projects: a 6-hour internship or a 6-hour preparatory sequence and an approved paper or thesis. Each candidate is given a final oral review conducted by a faculty committee and focused on the course work completed and the student's chosen exit project or thesis.