Sociology, Ph.D.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Learn more about the Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology.

About the Program

The graduate program in Sociology is devoted to the training of research scholars and educators in the discipline. Students have a variety of career goals, ranging from academic research and teaching to research and administration in private or public agencies. The doctoral program provides advanced training in sociological theory, statistics, and research methods. The program’s main areas of graduate teaching and research are Gender and Sexuality, Immigration and Globalization, Medical Sociology, Race and Ethnicity, and Urban Sociology.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 7 years

Campus Location: Main

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: Full-time study is preferred, but part-time enrollment can be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Interdisciplinary Study: The program encourages students to participate in seminars in other social sciences, including Anthropology, Criminal Justice, Geography and Urban Studies, History, Political Science, Psychology, Urban Education, and Women’s Studies. A dual degree program is also currently offered:

- Ph.D. in Sociology/M.A. in Urban Bioethics with the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University

Affiliation(s): The program is affiliated with the American Sociological Association (ASA).

Areas of Specialization: The main areas of graduate teaching and research are:

- Gender and Sexuality
- Immigration and Globalization
- Medical Sociology
- Race and Ethnicity
- Urban Sociology

Job Prospects: Graduates of the Ph.D. program are typically employed as either teaching-research scholars in an academic setting or as applied researchers and administrators in private and public agencies.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: Students with a bachelor’s degree may take graduate courses in Sociology without enrolling in a Temple University graduate program. A limit of 9 credits of graduate coursework taken prior to admission will be accepted toward a Sociology degree. Non-matriculated students should consult with the Graduate Chair before selecting their coursework if they plan to apply for the degree program.

Financing Opportunities: The Sociology Department and Temple University support full-time students during the academic year through Teaching Assistantships, part-time teaching, and University Fellowships. Initial funding is contingent on the recommendation of the Admissions Committee; continued funding is based on faculty assessment at the annual graduate student review. Funded students are typically offered a five-year funding package. Additional support for dissertation research is available through fellowships competitively awarded by the university and from outside sources.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:

Fall: December 15, 2021

** APPLICATIONS will next be accepted for FALL 2022 ADMISSION **

Applications are evaluated together after the deadline has passed.

APPLY ONLINE to this graduate program.

Letters of Reference:
Number Required: 3

From Whom: Letters of recommendation should be obtained from college/university faculty members familiar with academic competence, wherever possible.
Master's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: A master's degree is not required.

Bachelor's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: A baccalaureate degree in Sociology, Criminal Justice, Economics, History, Political Science, Psychology, or Urban Studies is required, although a degree in other disciplines can be considered.

Statement of Goals: Approximately 500 to 1,000 words include your interest in Temple's program; your research goals; your future career goals; and your academic and research achievements.

Standardized Test Scores:
GRE: Required.

Applicants who earned their baccalaureate degree from an institution where the language of instruction was other than English, with the exception of those who subsequently earned a master's degree at a U.S. institution, must report scores for a standardized test of English that meet these minimums:

- TOEFL iBT: 100
- IELTS Academic: 7.0
- PTE Academic: 68

Writing Sample: The writing sample should demonstrate your ability to conduct research and write a scholarly paper. The paper should be on a sociological topic. It must be fully referenced according to a professional and scholarly style.

Resume: Current personal resume or curriculum vitae required.

Transfer Credit: Graduate coursework in Sociology may be transferred from outside the university, provided that the credits were obtained no more than five years prior to the student's matriculation at Temple and the grades are "B" or better. The maximum number of credits a student may transfer is 12, if the credits earned did not result in the completion of an M.A. degree.

Advanced Standing: For students entering the Ph.D. program who have received an M.A. degree elsewhere, up to 19 credits may be applied to the doctoral program, provided the courses are relevant to the department's required courses. These credits must have been obtained no more than five years prior to the student's matriculation at Temple and the grades must be "B" or better. The Graduate Chair decides which courses students may transfer. As a general rule, students with transferred credits should expect that they will have to complete much of the required coursework in residence and are, further, expected to take two courses from Temple faculty in their area of focus before taking the Ph.D. Preliminary Exam in their field.

Program Requirements

General Program Requirements:
Number of Credits Required to Earn the Degree: 52

Required Courses:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 8111</td>
<td>Classical Social Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 9111</td>
<td>Contemporary Sociological Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 8011</td>
<td>Logic of Inquiry</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 8211</td>
<td>Inferential and Multivariate Statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 8221</td>
<td>Qualitative Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 9211</td>
<td>Graduate Data Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 9241</td>
<td>Qualitative Data Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 9994</td>
<td>Preliminary Examination Preparation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 9998</td>
<td>Pre-Dissertation Research</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 9999</td>
<td>Dissertation Research</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Credit Hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>52</td>
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</tbody>
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Of the eight elective courses, two must relate to the preliminary examination. Other electives may include:

- Independent Study courses (SOC 9382): With the consent of the Graduate Chair and the instructor, students may take two Independent Study courses, which are intensive programs of study within a specific area of Sociology. Students who wish to take these courses must submit the Graduate Chair at the beginning of the term a "Department Independent Study Request" form describing the readings and/or research they propose to undertake. The form must be signed by both the participating faculty member and the Graduate Chair. A final statement on the work completed must be filed with the Graduate Chair at the end of the term. Letter grades are given for these courses.

- Outside courses: With the approval of the Graduate Chair, students may take two courses outside the Sociology Department.

In lieu of SOC 9998, an additional credit may be taken in either SOC 9994 or SOC 9999.

### Culminating Events:

**Pre-Candidacy Evaluation:**

The Sociology Department evaluates doctoral students at the end of their second year using the grade point average (GPA) as a main criterion for advancement to doctoral-level coursework. A student with a GPA below 3.4 is ordinarily not allowed to continue in the doctoral program. However, the student can petition the Graduate Committee for re-consideration. After a petition is submitted, the Graduate Chair requires a written evaluation from each faculty member in the department with whom the student has taken a course. The student is permitted to continue in the Ph.D. program if at least five faculty members write in support of the petition. Those not allowed to continue can graduate with an M.A. upon completion of the requirements.

**Preliminary Examination:**

After completing the required coursework, doctoral students are expected to take a preliminary examination in the Spring term of their third year. The preliminary examination consists of two parts: the written area examination, and the proposal paper. Based on the written area exam grade and the evaluation of the proposal paper, the Graduate Chair assigns an overall "pass" or "fail" to each student for the preliminary examination. Students are notified of the results at the end of the term. Students need a "pass" on the written exam and an "acceptable" evaluation on the proposal paper to successfully complete the preliminary examination. Those who do well on one part but fail the other may retake the part they failed. Those who fail both the area exam and the proposal paper are allowed to retake both parts. Students who fail on their second attempt at either the written area exam or the proposal paper are not allowed to continue in the Ph.D. program but are eligible to receive a master's degree.

**Written Area Exam:** Prior to taking the preliminary examination, students must complete two or more graduate-level courses related to that examination area offered by the faculty within the department. When doctoral students complete the required coursework, they must then take the preliminary examination in one of the broad examination areas identified by the Sociology Department as consistent with its mission and self-defined areas of strength: Gender and Sexuality, Immigration and Globalization, Medical Sociology, Race and Ethnicity, and Urban Sociology. However, students may request to take the exam in another area under the following conditions:

1. the student has taken at least two graduate-level courses in the Sociology Department in the requested area, one of which may be an independent study course;
2. three faculty members are willing to sponsor the exam; and
3. the Graduate Chair approves.

No later than the second Monday in August prior to the Spring term when the preliminary examination will be taken, students must fill out the "Department Preliminary Examination Application" form and indicate the selected area for the exam. The Department Chair appoints three faculty members to form area-specific prelim committees charged with grading the exams.

The written area examination consists of four questions, and students must select and answer two of those questions. Students are given one week to complete the preliminary exam. Students receive the questions on an announced Monday in March or April, and the answers are due a week later. The Prelim Committee members assign a grade of "Pass" or "Fail" to each question along with their comments. A student needs at least two passes on both questions to pass the exam.

If the student fails the written area exam, s/he may retake the exam. At the beginning of the following Fall term, three faculty members in the prelim area are appointed by the Department Chair to form a Prelim Committee. The committee submits four questions to the Graduate Chair by October 15. The student receives the questions the Monday of the week before Thanksgiving week and the exam is due on the Monday of Thanksgiving week.

**Proposal Paper:** In the Spring term of the preliminary examination, students are also required to take a three-credit proposal seminar course (SOC 9994 Preliminary Examination Preparation). They must receive a passing grade on the written paper for the course in order to pass the preliminary examination. If SOC 9994 is not offered as a class by the department, the student still enrolls for 3 credits of SOC 9994. The "instructor" will be the student’s Ph.D. advisor who will conduct the "Proposal Seminar course" as an independent study. The "reader" will be a prospective dissertation committee member.

The proposal paper is the main assignment of the proposal seminar. Every student selects a faculty member with expertise in her/his research area to serve as a proposal reader. On the official last day of classes, students submit their proposal paper to the instructor and the reader. The paper should demonstrate mastery of the existing body of literature on the proposed topic and the ability to formulate important scholarly research problems, as well as the appropriate methods to investigate them. The evaluation of the proposal paper focuses on the student’s potential for writing a passable dissertation. Evidence of such potential includes the ability to synthesize the relevant literature; conceptualize a researchable problem; and propose a feasible research design. Each must submit a detailed, descriptive evaluation of the paper to the Graduate Chair, indicating whether it is “acceptable” or “unacceptable.” If the instructor and the reader disagree on the evaluation of the paper, a third department member with expertise in the area is
appointed by the Graduate Chair to provide a determining evaluation. The main goal of the paper evaluation is to assess the student’s ability to write a dissertation.

If the student fails the proposal paper, s/he may rewrite the paper. The Graduate Chair appoints a faculty mentor with expertise in the research topic to work with the student on rewriting the paper, with the mentor also serving as a grader. The Graduate Chair appoints another faculty member to serve as a second grader. If a tie occurs between the two graders, the Graduate Chair finds a third grader to break the tie. The rewritten paper is due the first Monday in December. The appointed faculty members evaluate the paper and report to the Graduate Chair in two weeks whether the paper is “acceptable” or “unacceptable.”

Doctoral Advisory Committee:
Following the preliminary examination, the student selects the Chair of her/his Doctoral Advisory Committee. The remaining two or more members of the committee are selected by the student in consultation with the Chair. The majority of the committee members must be from the Sociology Department. Other members may include faculty from other departments within Temple University or from other universities; doctoral-level expert advisors from outside university settings may also be considered as members.

To establish the Doctoral Advisory Committee, the student must submit a “Sociology Department Doctoral Advisory Committee” form to the department’s Graduate Coordinator. To include committee members who are not members of the Temple Graduate Faculty on a Doctoral Advisory Committee, the Chair must request approval by submitting the “Nomination for Service on Doctoral Committee” form, found in TUportal under the Tools tab within “University Forms,” and the proposed committee member’s current curriculum vitae to the Graduate School. If a change is made in the composition of the Doctoral Advisory Committee, the Chair must be approved by the Chair of the committee; if the change involves the Chair of the committee, the Graduate Chair should be informed beforehand and the original Chair of the committee must be notified. The change must also be noted on the original “Sociology Department Doctoral Advisory Committee” form and signed by both the Chair of the committee and the Graduate Chair.

The Doctoral Advisory Committee meets at least once a year to review the candidate's progress and offer advice to the candidate.

Dissertation Proposal:
The dissertation proposal is a brief statement of the dissertation research. It should contain a review of the literature; a statement of the research problem; and a comprehensive description of the research strategy to be employed.

A digital copy of the proposal is made available to faculty at least two weeks prior to the oral defense of the proposal. All department faculty and graduate students are invited to attend the presentation of the dissertation proposal. Normally, proposal defenses are held during the academic year. All members of the committee must be present at the proposal defense.

The dissertation proposal is accepted only when members of the dissertation committee vote unanimously to accept it. An approved dissertation proposal along with the “Dissertation Proposal Transmittal for Elevation to Candidacy” form, found in TUportal under the Tools tab within “University Forms,” must be filed with the Graduate School. After defending the dissertation proposal, a student is formally advanced to Ph.D. candidacy.

If a change is made in the composition of the Doctoral Advisory Committee after the approval of the proposal, the change must be approved by the Chair of the committee and the Dean of the College. The change must be noted on the “Request for Change in Dissertation Committee” form, found in TUportal under the Tools tab within “University Forms,” and filed with the Graduate School prior to posting the final dissertation defense.

Dissertation Defense/Ph.D. Final Examination:
The dissertation is defended orally. Any discrepancy between the final version of the dissertation and the dissertation proposal should be explained and defended. A digital copy of the dissertation is made available to faculty at least two weeks before the dissertation defense. An abstract of the dissertation, not exceeding ten pages, must be given to all faculty members ten days before the defense.

The Dissertation Examining Committee is formed to evaluate the quality of the dissertation and conduct the oral defense. The committee includes the Doctoral Advisory Committee and at least one outside examiner. If the outside examiner is not a member of the Temple Graduate Faculty, the Chair of the Doctoral Advisory Committee must request approval by submitting the “Nomination for Service on Doctoral Committee” form, found in TUportal under the Tools tab within “University Forms,” and the outside examiner’s current curriculum vitae to the Graduate School at least four weeks in advance of the scheduled defense. Approval must be received prior to posting the oral defense. The Chair of the Dissertation Examining Committee must be a member of the Graduate Faculty, but may not be the Chair of the candidate’s Doctoral Advisory Committee. This person, responsible for coordinating and conducting the defense, must be identified when the defense is posted with the Graduate School on the “Announcement of Dissertation Defense” form, found in TUportal under the Tools tab within “University Forms.”

All dissertation oral defense examinations are publicly announced by the Sociology Department in writing at least ten days in advance of the examination. The written announcement must be sent to all members of the Dissertation Examining Committee, all graduate faculty in the candidate’s department, and the Graduate School. It must also be posted in the College. All dissertation examinations are open to the entire academic community.

Normally, the dissertation defense is held during the regular academic year. A dissertation defense passed after the Graduate School deadline in the Spring does not qualify the student for a May degree. A summer defense may be scheduled only if all members of the committee agree. The entire dissertation committee must attend the defense. If one or more committee members fail to attend the defense, the Departmental Chair cannot sign the form certifying the defense. All faculty members and students are invited to participate in the dissertation defense.
The dissertation committee must vote unanimously that the student has passed the Ph.D. Final Examination. Each member of the dissertation committee indicates her/his assessment of the examination and signs her/his name to the "Final Examination Report for Doctoral Candidates" form, found in TUPortal under the Tools tab within "University Forms." If the Chair of the Sociology Department agrees that the dissertation meets departmental standards, s/he signifies her/his approval by signing for the department as well on the "Final Examination Report for Doctoral Candidates" form. The completed form is submitted to the Dean's Office of the College of Liberal Arts.

Information regarding the required format of the dissertation is available in the Graduate School's *Dissertation and Thesis Handbook*, found at https://grad.temple.edu/resources/dissertation-thesis-handbook. A processing fee must be paid to the Temple University Bursar as shown on the "Dissertation/Thesis Processing Fee" form, found in TUPortal under the Tools tab within "University Forms." Fees may also be required when filing the dissertation electronically, within 30 days of the dissertation defense, at https://www.etdadmin.com/cgi-bin/school?siteId=171. The student should heed the instructions found on the "Final Checklist of Dissertation Materials," identified as Appendix M1 in the Graduate School's *Dissertation and Thesis Handbook*. Note that the signature page bearing original ink signatures constitutes the only item required to be submitted in hard copy to the Graduate School.

Students must apply to graduate, through the Sociology Department, by the deadline date announced in the graduate catalog each year. The deadline is usually three or four months before graduation. Applications may be obtained from the department's Graduate Coordinator or online. Upon completion of the doctoral program, the student is required to submit a bound copy of her/his dissertation to the Sociology Department, as well as a regular hard copy to the Chair of the Dissertation Examining Committee.

**Contacts**

**Program Web Address:**

https://www.temple.edu/academics/degree-programs/sociology-phd-la-soc-phd

**Department Information:**

Dept. of Sociology  
710 Gladfelter Hall  
1115 W. Polett Walk  
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6089  
socadmis@temple.edu  
215-204-7750

**Submission Address for Application Materials:**

https://apply.temple.edu/CLA/Pages/Welcome.aspx

**Department Contacts:**

**Admissions:**  
Pamela Smallwood  
poppy@temple.edu  
215-204-7750

**Graduate Chairperson:**  
Josh Klugman, Ph.D.  
klugman@temple.edu

**Chairperson:**  
Kimberly Goyette, Ph.D.  
kgoyette@temple.edu  
215-204-0134

**Courses**

**SOC 5211. Statistical Methods in Sociology.** 3 Credit Hours.

This course has four objectives, to provide you with understandings of (1) basic methods of descriptive statistics, like means, medians, quartile spreads, standard deviations, and skewness, (2) random variation and how different samples selected from the same population may provide different results, (3) the basic idea of statistical inference, i.e., how we make judgments about what is the population that provided the sample result that we have observed, and (4) how to evaluate possible associations between two variables.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
SOC 5311. Socialization. 3 Credit Hours.
Socialization is the process by which individuals become members of society. We look at this process as ongoing, starting in infancy and continuing through adulthood. This implies constant re-socialization and discussion of the ways early childhood learning influences adult lives. This research-intensive course is organized around the important socialization agents of family, friends, school, work, and the differences in socialization and therefore life histories by race, gender, and social class. Students undertake individual research on the socialization of children as they begin grade school. This involves developing a research question, developing questionnaires, interviewing a child and his/her caregivers, and analyzing the findings. The course includes instruction on each phase of the research.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 5321. Sexuality and Gender. 3 Credit Hours.
This course examines the ways men and women develop sexual identities as a result of their membership in society. It looks at how this has changed over the course of Western history and at the differences in sexual identity from culture to culture. We focus on the differences in sexual identities of men and women, and the advantages this brings to men. We also examine the overwhelming heterosexual imperative in our society. Students research these and other topics such as differences in sexual expression by race, and the influence of the media on how we understand the meaning and expression of sex. The research requirement for the course involves an analysis of sexual scripts, the production and reproduction of these scripts, and the impact of the messages on different types of viewers. Instruction is provided on film analysis.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 5331. Urban Sociology. 3 Credit Hours.
This class is a survey of aspects of the field of urban sociology. Urban sociology is an enterprise that looks at cities -- the intersection of people and space with political and economic structures superimposed on both. Space has been the primary concept that defines much of urban sociology because of the vital role of space and location in defining urban life and opportunities. Topics will include suburbanization, downtown development, racial and ethnic segregation, poverty, immigration, gender, globalization, culture and virtual communities.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 5341. Political Sociology. 3 Credit Hours.
This course analyzes the social basis of political institutions and political action, stressing the importance of both in the life of communities and individuals. Our emphasis is on the influence of social classes, professional and occupational groups, political parties, social movement organizations, and other notable interest groups have on the political system. We discuss the formation and organization of political activity and its varied outcomes.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 5351. Sociology of the Environment. 3 Credit Hours.
To begin, we focus on the interaction among four components: population size, social organization, environmental conditions, and available technology. We consider issues such as the relationships among the technology of farming, the volume of agricultural production, and the availability of labor for economic development. We learn about "input-output" models focusing on the intensity of resource use and problems of waste management. We take this basic model and apply it to the problem of climate change or "global warming." How and why is the climate changing, and what are the social factors that contribute to it? Then, we concentrate on issues of social organization. What kinds of political arrangements do we see for the management of waste? How does the transfer of natural resources from resource-rich but economically underdeveloped countries to the United States and other industrial societies affect the social, economic, and political arrangements of both groups of countries? Finally, we address whether the society can be organized in such a way as to reduce the pressure on the environment and remaining natural resources.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
SOC 5361. Social Movements & Social Conflict. 3 Credit Hours.
This course examines social movements with an emphasis on the Post World War II era, leading up to and including our contemporary "Information Age." It briefly introduces the history of social movements and revolutions and then explores in greater depth how sociologists frame, analyze, study, and explain the emergence, maintenance, outcomes, and social control of social movements. Finally, the course concentrates in the contemporary period and examines how Globalization, mass media, and Information and Communication Technologies (IT) have laid the basis for new forms of connectivity, new kinds of sharing, cooperation, and creative forms of social networking and activism. Will the "placeless" world of cyberspace and new media eliminate or dramatically constrain the possibility of revolution? How will the enhanced proliferation and dissemination of information and means of communication change ways people associate and assemble? Will it diminish mass mobilizations of political power and popular/radical consciousness or will a "network society" enable people to act in ways that collective action was not possible before?

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 5371. Health and Disease in American Society. 3 Credit Hours.
The social context of the construction of health and disease in the United States, focusing on reproduction and death, the epidemic of AIDS, and issues emerging from the aging of the American population.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 5411. Class in Modern Society. 3 Credit Hours.
Social class is a fundamental dimension of inequality in modern society. This course examines the sources and consequences of social class, with particular focus on the intersection of class with other forms of inequality in the context of the United States.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 5510. Selected Topics in Sociology. 3 Credit Hours.
The topics will vary and cover areas not covered by the current roster of classes. Please consult with the instructor for details.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

SOC 5520. Selected Topics of Sociology. 3 Credit Hours.
The topics will vary and cover areas not covered by the current roster of classes. Please consult with the instructor for details.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

SOC 5530. Selected Topics in Sociology. 3 Credit Hours.
The topics will vary and cover areas not covered by the current roster of classes. Please consult with the instructor for details.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

SOC 8011. Logic of Inquiry. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is an introduction to the logic and methods of social research. We will examine the issues that arise in doing and evaluating both quantitative and qualitative research by reading the sociological literature. We will spend some time on the simple tools, e.g. tables and graphs, needed to summarize research results. However the focus will be on larger issues, namely, how researchers draw conclusions from empirical data, and how we can assess the validity of the conclusions they reach.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
SOC 8111. Classical Social Theory. 3 Credit Hours.
This course reviews the main lines of sociological and other "social" thought of the modern times (roughly from the 1660s to our time), paying attention to four basic directions in theorizing: (1) The liberal and "classical economic" theories of John Locke and Adam Smith and the rise of neo-classical (neo-liberal) thinking [rational choice theory and its variations]. (2) The liberal-idealist theory of German philosophy (since Kant) and the "interpretative" and "subjectivist" paradigm of Wax Weber [and various neo- and nearly-Weberians. (3) The "social-structural" ("dialectical" in the old language) theory of Karl Marx and its many offshoots [neo-Marxisms, half-Marxisms (such as "Critical Theory," etc.), post-Marxisms]. (4) The "collectivist" (sociologist) theory of Emile Durkheim and its contemporary versions ["structuralist" (Blau), "culturalist" and "functionalist" (Parsons), "systems" (Luhmann), or "neo-functionalist" (Faia, Alexander)].

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8211. Inferential and Multivariate Statistics. 4 Credit Hours.
This course starts with a review of bivariate statistics and moves quickly into multivariate statistics focusing on multiple regression. The emphasis of this course is on conceptual understanding, interpretation, and application. All major computations are performed using the SPSS computing program. Students are also expected to learn the basic skills for working with large social science data sets, such as the GSS. This course serves as a prerequisite for SOC 9211, which involves the application of the statistical procedures taught in this class to the study of real social issues through secondary data analysis.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8221. Qualitative Methods. 3 Credit Hours.
This course introduces the assumptions, theories and practices of qualitative research methods. The course is designed to provide opportunities for developing specific qualitative research skills while gaining familiarity with theories, issues, and problems in qualitative research.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8231. Demography & Immigration. 3 Credit Hours.
This course surveys the social demographic research on immigration, broadly conceived, and the numerous social, economic, and political processes with which it intersects. The course has two main goals: (1) to introduce students to the sources of data most commonly used by social demographers to study immigration and to social demographic methods; and (2) to critically review the leading social demographic research literature on the dynamics of immigration and social change. The data and research covered during the semester will focus primarily on the United States, but a non-negligible share of the course will be devoted to cross-national comparisons, the global migration system, and transnationalism and development.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8241. The Ethics of Social Research. 3 Credit Hours.
This course examines many of the ethical dimensions of conducting social research. Social researchers are accountable to: a) their own consciences and their own ethics; b) the actual people they are studying; c) international and federal laws; d) institutional policies and practices; e) their disciplines and sub-fields; f) their peers and colleagues, and g) any other communities to which they belong or in which they participate. This course examines a series of readings organized around key themes in research ethics. In addition, students are asked to investigate particular cases of alleged research misconduct and to take a position on the controversy. By the end of this class, students should: 1) Know the key laws and statues governing social research; 2) Be familiar with the ethical resources available to social researchers; 3) Be able to evaluate the ethics of particular research cases; and 4) Be able to weigh ethical dilemmas in their own research practice and make responsible decisions about those dilemmas.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
SOC 8311. Sociology of Education. 3 Credit Hours.
The main focus is on the ways educational systems both maintain and challenge social inequality. Students discuss the ways education differentially allocates resources based on race, class, and gender. The class explores this issue in both "classical readings" in the Sociology of Education, and also in recent books by those working in the field. Books chosen for the course are intended to begin discussion on contemporary debates. The class pays special attention to whether the policies discussed by them ameliorate or exacerbate existing inequalities by race, class, and/or gender. This course has three main objectives: (1) prepare students for the preliminary examination in the Sociology of Education through discussions of main theories, ideas, and classical works in the field; (2) promote critical debate about contemporary issues in education by reading and discussing "hot topics" in education like debates over curricula, "marketing" universities, racial inequality in school achievement, and school choice; and (3) advance students' own research projects through frequent discussions and evaluations of students' work by the instructor and their peers.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8321. Political Sociology. 3 Credit Hours.
This is a graduate seminar designed to examine the social conditions of politics and the relationship between state and society. Issues of concern include theories of power and political regimes, historical and comparative political studies, the development and role of the modern state, forms of political organization and participation, democracy, the welfare state and the politics of globalization. A main objective of this course is to develop an understanding of how social actors shape the political system and how political systems, in turn, shape social structures. In addition, the course has a research component designed to provide students with the opportunity to examine in depth a topic their choice with an empirical outlook.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8331. Race and Ethnicity. 3 Credit Hours.
This course focuses on the nature of racism, discrimination, prejudice, racial conflict, and racial oppression in American society. Special emphasis will be given to the relationship between race, gender, nationality, immigration status and social class.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8341. Sociology of Kinship. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will survey a range of topics from the field of sociology of kinship: historical changes in kinship as well as global changes in the family over the twentieth century; inequalities in families related to social class, social capital and family life; inequalities related to race and ethnicity; comparative adolescence and transitions to adulthood; sexuality and love in transnational contexts; perspectives on psychic and intimate relations in families; gender and power relations within the family; the state, public policy and the politics of kinship relations and more. We will also examine how the family came to be a centrally contested sphere in contemporary American political debates. Finally, you will have hands-on experience formulating a research proposal that investigates a research question related to this literature as well as assessing and responding to the proposals of your classmates. The purpose of the seminar is to review some of the major debates in this rapidly evolving field and to gain experience in formulating viable research questions about contemporary kinship issues.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8351. Complex Organizations. 3 Credit Hours.
This seminar reviews the development of organizational theory, with a special emphasis on recent work in economic sociology and the sociology of corporations. Specific topics include the role of markets and networks, the control and consent of the workforce, business structure, inter-organizational analysis and organizational culture.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8361. Urban Sociology. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is about the space and urban sociology. The goal of this course is twofold: 1) to review, assess and analyze important theoretical perspectives on space in urban sociology, and 2) to determine the utility of applying these perspectives to contemporary urban issues. Urban problems will be examined largely from the perspective of how space and location are linked to these problems and they will not be investigated in their own right. The underlying theme of this course relates to theoretical propositions around space. This course will also focus on research from the vantage point of how theory can and should be used as a foundation for conceptualizing research problems.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
SOC 8371. Sociology of Culture. 3 Credit Hours.
The goal of this class is to survey the breadth of work that has been conducted under the sociology of culture, to identify the many ways that culture has been shown to be powerful, to examine competing theories about how culture works, to identify the types of research methods that can be used in cultural analysis, and to pinpoint the ways that each of us can embrace a cultural perspective in our own research.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8381. Social Inequality. 3 Credit Hours.
This course reviews theories and research regarding the dimensions of inequality and the processes which create, increase, and decrease inequality. It also examines the issues of the relationships between the dimensions of inequality and the processes of cumulative advantage and disadvantage. Individuals, groups, areas, and other social contexts are typically organized hierarchically, and the course explores the ways in which these different social levels shape and are shaped by social inequality over the life course. Examples of these processes include social multiplier effects, "winner take all" theories, the "Matthew Effect" in science, and the "Peter Principle."

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8391. Medical Sociology. 3 Credit Hours.
This course examines the historical changes in the ideas of health and disease and in society's response to illness. An important component of the course will be to examine the influences of social/political environment on morbidity and mortality in the United States and how population sub-groups experience illness in the medical system.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8401. Sexuality and Gender. 3 Credit Hours.
This is a research intensive course in which we will examine the historical and sociological structures underlying relationships of sexuality and gender. The perspective of the course is that sexuality is a social creation with meaning to be found in culture. Sexuality is learned through socialization and resocialization. This learning takes place within a gendered social system and so sexuality itself is gendered in our culture. We will examine a number of theoretical perspectives and read the major sociological work in the field. The course will be divided into a reading seminar during the first half of each class and research presentations by students in the second half. During the course of the semester each student will each work on a topic of her choosing and will present her progress to class periodically.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8411. Gender and Body. 3 Credit Hours.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8421. Urban Health. 3 Credit Hours.
Globally, the majority of humans now live in cities. Yet questions about what makes for healthy cities—and how we can measure and assess the complex relationship between health and place—continue to pose theoretical and methodological challenges for planners, social scientists, and biomedical researchers. Recent scholarship in the sociology of health and illness has focused on how the social determinants of health—sometimes called the non-medical determinants of health—powerfully shape health and mortality outcomes. Poverty, social isolation, political ideologies and economic policies, neighborhood contexts and effects of social networks have all been shown to be influential in determining the health and well-being both of entire groups and the individuals in them, acting as a serious constraint on (or enabler of) basic life chances. This course focuses on the empirical evidence for these health disparities and the theories about how and why they manifest as they do in urban settings. This seminar is designed to appeal to students interested in urban health, population health, the sociology of health and illness, and place and health.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
SOC 8431. Globalization and Development. 3 Credit Hours.
This graduate course is designed to critically examine the competing perspectives, historical processes, and key issues and debates in the study of globalization and development. Our emphasis is on the relationships between local and global social, economic, political, and cultural processes. In particular, we will focus on the late 20th century and early 21st century “globalization,” known as the “neo-liberal globalization,” and how the forces of globalization interact with the development trajectories of nation-states, societies, and communities.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8510. Special Departmental Seminar. 3 Credit Hours.
The topics will vary and cover areas not covered by the current roster of classes. Please consult with the instructor for details.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

SOC 8620. Departmental Seminar. 3 Credit Hours.
The topics will vary and cover areas not covered by the current roster of classes. Please consult with the instructor for details.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

SOC 8711. Symposium in Sociology. 1 Credit Hour.
This course introduces sociology graduate students to departmental faculty and their work. Faculty members describe their research, theory development, and/or policy work. This course is required of all entering graduate students.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8721. Symposium in Sociology. 1 Credit Hour.
This course introduces sociology graduate students to departmental faculty and their work. Faculty members describe their research, theory development, and/or policy work. This course is required of all entering graduate students.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8731. Teaching of Sociology. 1 Credit Hour.
The processes and problems related to classroom teaching at the undergraduate level. This course is required of all new teaching assistants.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8741. Teaching of Sociology. 2 Credit Hours.
The processes and problems related to classroom teaching at the undergraduate level. This is a practicum workshop required of all students teaching their first course as a teaching assistant. The course includes practice teaching.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 8751. Introduction to Computing. 1 Credit Hour.
This course introduces students to micro-computer word processing, data base, spreadsheet, and graphing programs. Accessing and using a mainframe computer to generate descriptive statistics.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
SOC 9111. Contemporary Sociological Theory. 3 Credit Hours.
This course surveys a broad range of theoretical perspectives from the 20th and 21st centuries. The course compares these theories in terms of how they contribute to on-going sociological research around a number of social problems.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 9121. Advanced Sociological Theory. 3 Credit Hours.
This is an advanced course that examines the current status of social theory, familiarizes students with the parameters and process of sociological theorizing, and appraises critically the most significant recent theoretical exemplars and proposals. Knowledge of the classics and a review of contemporary social theories are required for this course; students are expected to do an intensive review of the classical and modern writings before entering the more demanding topics and materials.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 9131. Theories of Identity. 3 Credit Hours.
A seminar that offers the students the opportunity for specialized study of one of the most debated issues in sociology nowadays: social and cultural identities. The course will deal with the last developments in identity theory, emphasizing the work of Louis Althusser, Michel Foucault, Ernesto Laclau, Chantal Mouffe, Slavoj Zizek, Stuart Hall, Craig Calhoun, R.S. Perinbanayagam, James Holstein, Jaber Gubrium, Judith Butler, Lawrence Grossberg, Charles Taylor and Paul Ricouer, among others.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 9141. Theories of Globalization. 3 Credit Hours.
This course provides a broad introduction to the major theories, approaches, issues and debates in the studies of globalization. Globalization has redefined not only the way we understand society at the very basic level but also our own sense of place and identity in a world where we are connected to and influenced by events and people in far off places. Substantively, this course will focus on the relationships between local and global social, economic, political, and cultural processes across time and space. Our scope will be global and historical-comparative, and our approach will be sociological and interdisciplinary.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 9211. Graduate Data Analysis. 3 Credit Hours.
In this course, you will do original sociological research using secondary data analysis. In this course, in addition to looking for meaningful relationships between variables in the data, we apply quantitative research methods to examine explanations for why relationships between variables may exist. To do this, we explore whether and how a relationship between two variables changes when we add a third (or fourth or fifth…) variable. The research process consists of several steps: (1) construct a research question, (2) formulate one or more theories related to your research question based on a literature review, (3) turn those theories into testable hypotheses, and (4) test those hypotheses using secondary data. Your research will be presented in a final paper organized according to the standards of the discipline and then summarized in an oral presentation.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
SOC 8211|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

SOC 9221. Theory and Practice of Statistical Sampling. 3 Credit Hours.
This course presents the basic ideas for commonly used statistical sampling strategies. We discuss methods of sampling when the assumptions for simple random sampling are not met. We cover methods of stratification, selecting with probabilities proportional to size, clustering and weighting. In each case we study how to calculate statistical estimates with variances and confidence intervals. The course also focuses on issue of statistical design, and how to create a design which will have the best chance of providing answers relevant to the important research questions of the study.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
SOC 9231. Methodology of Social Surveys. 3 Credit Hours.
The objective is to instill an understanding of the survey process. To do this, students must learn to write questions and appreciate the ways that different question-writing strategies affect the types of answers respondents give. We engage in three activities: (1) the actual writing of questions, (2) the discussion of the effects of different question-writing strategies, and (3) the discussion of methods of evaluating errors on surveys. There are two basic “theorems” of survey research. The first is that playing the “respondent's” role creates a burden for the people we interview, and that if we overtax the respondent, the weight of this burden causes the quality of their answers to deteriorate. The second is that respondents and interviewers create relationships, and neither typically wants to spoil the relationship. If the interviewer continues to ask questions, the respondent usually continues to answer the questions, even though these answers have little or no meaning. The good survey researcher develops strategies to detect when this occurs and to adjust her analyses accordingly. One of the major goals of this course is to help in the development of these strategies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 9241. Qualitative Data Analysis. 3 Credit Hours.
The central goal of this course is to have students complete a qualitative research project. It focuses on how to collect data, how to organize data for analysis, and how to use the data to answer a research question and/or develop concepts that might inform future research. Toward this end, the course begins with readings about the qualitative research process. The readings detail the agenda(s), logic, and epistemological foundation of qualitative research.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 9291. Departmental Seminar in Research Methods. 3 Credit Hours.
The topics in research methods will vary and cover areas not covered by the current roster of classes. Please consult with the instructor for details.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 9311. Immigration and Inequality. 3 Credit Hours.
The causes, consequences, and repercussions of immigration constitute one of the most important topics of the 21st century. This course surveys key current theoretical debates in the study of international migration with an emphasis on related literature dealing with gender, kinship, and ethnicity. Considered are theoretical approaches to international migration; controversies regarding assimilation; the framing of migration through gender and kinship relations, social networks, and social capital; family ideologies and achievement; and the social context of immigration, ethnic niches and enclaves, transnationalism, empirical trends in post-WWII United States immigration and settlement, second-generation immigrant patterns, and immigration policies and politics. The long-term goal is to encourage students to undertake research in the field of migration research. This field is unique in its interdisciplinary and methodologically pluralist nature: stretching from the demography and economics of migration, through political science, sociological and geographical approaches, to the ethnography and oral history of migrants.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 9321. Theories of Race and Racism. 3 Credit Hours.
This course focuses on theories and analyses that seek to explain the social salience of race. The selected readings explore various concepts that surround the study of race, such as racism, white supremacy, oppression and subordination, nationalism, sexism and inequality. Many scholars believe that modernity, capitalism, and race are coterminous. We will explore in this seminar those connections. Some of the questions that we will explore are: How did the racial dimension of world society come to be, and how did it gain such weight in the organization of social/economic/political processes? How are the racial dimensions of society constituted and changed? How are they related to other central aspects of society, such as class, gender, ethnicity, age, nationality, citizenship, etc.? What is the relation between race, racism and whiteness? Is it a colorblind society possible? What is a "race narrative" and how it affects people's identities and social structures?

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 9382. Independent Study Progm. 1 to 6 Credit Hour.
With the consent of the graduate chairperson and the instructor concerned, students may select an intensive program of study and/or research within a specific area of sociology.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.
SOC 9385. Internship in Social Research. 1 to 6 Credit Hour.
The internship in social research provides a learning experience that unites the core concepts of sociology with professional organizational settings and the community as a whole, while also guiding students as they transition into their own professional lives.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SOC 9386. Internship in Social Research - Part II. 1 to 6 Credit Hour.
The internship in social research provides a learning experience that unites the core concepts of sociology with professional organizational settings and the community as a whole, while also guiding students as they transition into their own professional lives.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
SOC 9385|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

SOC 9994. Preliminary Examination Preparation. 1 to 6 Credit Hour.
This is an advanced reading course for students preparing for the preliminary examination.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

SOC 9998. Pre-Dissertation Research. 1 to 6 Credit Hour.
This course is for advanced graduate students who are developing a dissertation.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

SOC 9999. Dissertation Research. 1 to 6 Credit Hour.
This course is for advanced graduate students, post-candidacy, working on their dissertations.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Student Attribute Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Student Attributes: Dissertation Writing Student.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.