Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Edward Kick, Chair
Peck Hall 316

The Sociology and Anthropology Department offers the Master of Arts with a major in Sociology and a minor in sociology at the graduate level.

Requirements for the Master of Arts

Admission Requirements

Full admission for a degree-seeking candidate: Receipt of all materials by April 1 for Fall admission, September 15 for Spring admission. A complete application includes application, letter of interest and goals, an example of written work, three letters of recommendation, all transcripts, at least a 2.75 GPA, acceptable GRE scores, and the successful completion of at least 18 hours of undergraduate sociology which includes the prerequisites of research methods (SOC 3040), statistics (SOC 3050), and sociological theory (SOC 3060), or their equivalents. A grade of C or better must be earned in the prerequisite courses.

Conditional admission for a degree-seeking candidate: Conditional admission is possible, but not guaranteed, under the following circumstances: (a) GRE score is less than acceptable (exception is dependent upon the strength of the other admission criteria); (b) Prerequisites are missing or the grade is less than a C. All prerequisites must be completed within the next year following this conditional admission and prior to enrollment in the twelfth hour of graduate study. If these conditions are not met, the candidate will be dropped from the program and must seek readmission in a subsequent semester; (c) GPA is less than 2.75 (exception is dependent upon the strength of the other admission criteria).

Degree Requirements

Candidate must

1. complete a minimum of 36 semester hours in graduate-level courses, 24 of which must be graduate-level sociology courses with no more than 9 of the 36 hours dual-listed as undergraduate/graduate hours (4000/5000).
2. complete all required courses, including SOC 6560, 6620, 6720, and 6660 or 6010 with a minimum grade of B-.
3. complete 6 hours of thesis research (SOC 6640) and submit and successfully defend a thesis.
4. file a Candidacy Form with the Graduate Office prior to the completion of 24 credit hours.
5. successfully complete a written comprehensive examination.

**Graduate Assistantship Application**

Applications are due by April 1. Applicant must meet the following conditions: (a) be admitted to the M.A. program in sociology and (b) have an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.00 OR a graduate GPA of at least 3.00 over a minimum of 9 hours of completed graduate courses.

**Courses in Sociology [SOC]**

5010 **Social Inequality.** Three credits. The origins, variations, and consequences of class, status, and power in society. Includes individual and group economic interests, social prestige, ideology, market, and institutional inequality.

5050 **Sociology of Families.** Three credits. An analysis: contemporary American family patterns; racial, ethnic, and class variations.

5100 **Sociology of Work.** Three credits. Comparative analysis of work structure and processes in organizational contexts, including study of management and employee organizations and legal environments regulating workplace relations.

5140 **Violence in the Family.** Three credits. (Same as CDFS 5140.) Causes, dynamics, and consequences of violence in the family. Includes the discussion of violence toward children, spouses, dating partners, siblings, and elders. Emphasizes the social conditions which lead to these types of violence.

5150 **Topics in Sociology.** Three credits. An in-depth topic significant in current sociological literature.

5160 **Sociology of Gangs.** Three credits. Prerequisite: SOC 1010. History of gangs in the U.S., the factors which account for their formation and perpetuation, and current empirical data on gang composition, demographics, and culture. Policy strategies for prevention, law enforcement, and nonlegal interventions assessed.

5170 **The Social Context of Southern Music.** Three credits. A socio-historic analysis of Southern music providing a framework for examining the relationship between culture and popular culture, the production of popular culture, and popular culture as a vehicle for examining social issues of the southern region.

5240 **Race and Ethnic Relations.** Three credits. Theories and dynamics of intergroup relations in a multiethnic society.

5300 **Criminology.** Three credits. Theories of the causes of criminal behavior and coverage of its development and incidence; punishment and methods of control and rehabilitation.

5320 **Public Opinion and Propaganda.** Three credits. (Same as PS 5320.) Public opinion and its role in the political and social processes.

5360 **Medical Sociology.** Three credits. Sociological analysis of health care delivery including problems, policies, and issues faced by recipients and providers of care. Focuses on the U.S., role theory, and demographics.

5500 **Social Psychology.** Three credits. Individual behavior in social contexts and symbolic interaction among groups. Includes social influences on perception, conformity, attitudes, communication, group structure, leadership, and role behavior.

5510 **Social Movements and Social Change.** Three credits. Sociological theories of revolutions, rebellions, civil wars, and protest movements of the past and present and the relationship to significant social changes.

5520 **Population and Society.** Three credits. Prerequisites: SOC 1010 and 2010 or permission of instructor. Examines world and U.S. population trends and the impact of social forces on such demographic variables as births, deaths, migration, age, sex, education, marital status, and how these impact social conditions.

5540 **Juvenile Delinquency.** Three credits. Social factors related to delinquency including family, peer group, school, and community. Includes the juvenile justice system and its agents.


5560 **Organizational Structures and Processes.** Three credits. Analysis of structure and processes of change, organizational environments, modes of power, ideologies, forms of control and resistance, including alternatives to bureaucracy.

5660 **Urban and Community Studies.** Three credits. Prerequisites: SOC 1010 and 2010 or permission of instructor. Focuses on concept of community as a core idea in the historical development of sociology, concentrating on theories and historical trends of urbanization and current urban problems and policies.

5790 **Sport and Society.** Three credits. (Same as REC 5790.) Behavioral approach to the sport and leisure phenomena from the related perspectives of sociology and anthropology.

5800 **Special Projects.** One to three credits. Field experiences or reading courses through which special interests or needs of the student may be pursued under individual supervision. No more than three hours may be used in the major. Arrangements must be made with instructor prior to registration.

6000 **Comparative Social Change.** Three credits. (Same as PS 6000.) A historical comparative examination of the structure, institutions, and development of the modern world system; a review of major theoretical and empirical research on the world system.

6010 **Social Policy Analysis.** Three credits. A historical comparative examination of social policy formulation, structure, and consequences. Focus on policy formation in modern and developing nations. Critical analysis of social policy development.

6460 **Classical Sociological Theory.** Three credits. Prerequisite: SOC 3060 or equivalent. Emphasis on history, analysis, and theory construction of early to mid-twentieth-century social thinkers.

6510 **Independent Study.** Three credits. Recommended for students past the mid-point in their master’s programs. Designed to provide an opportunity to fill perceived gaps in the program of study and as precursor for the thesis.

6540 **Topics in Crime and Deviance.** Three credits. Critical analysis of selected topics in the fields of crime and deviance. Students
pursue individual projects that require integration of their theoretical understanding with contemporary applications.

6560 **Thinking Sociologically.** Three credits. Prerequisite: SOC 3060. Encourages students to think sociologically, integrating theoretical knowledge with a critical examination of everyday experiences and social problems/issues. Addresses both classical and contemporary theories: structural, interpretive, micro and macro applications.

6570 **Seminar in Advanced Social Psychology.** Three credits. The dynamics of human interaction: attitudes, processes, group structures, settings, and properties.

6620 **Applied Quantitative Research Design.** Three credits. Prerequisites: SOC 3040 and 3050 or equivalent. Focuses on the design and application of quantitative data collection and analysis procedures to practical problems and issues. Students pursue supervised independent design and analysis using SPSS or SAS.

6630 **Seminar in the Family.** Three credits. Principles of family organization; family as a sociocultural institution in various societies; theories of family structure, change, and deviance.

6640 **Thesis Research.** One to six credits. Prerequisite: Student must have filed Candidacy Form and selected thesis committee before enrolling. Selection of a research problem, review of pertinent literature, collection and analysis of data, and composition of thesis. Once enrolled, student should register for at least one credit hour of master’s research each semester until completion. S/U grading.

6650 **Contemporary Social Issues.** Three credits. An in-depth investigation of a particular sociological issue or subdiscipline. A maximum of six hours may be credited to one’s major.

6660 **Program Management and Evaluation.** Three credits. Prerequisite: SOC 3040 or permission of instructor. Methods and issues of applied, client-centered project research. Topics include evaluation methods, proposal construction, project management, report writing and presentation techniques, aggregate data, negotiation techniques, ethical and legal considerations, and social change agency.

6690 **Death and Survivorship.** Three credits. The social complexities of dying, death, and survivorship with particular emphasis given to the aging population.

6700 **Introduction to Community and Regional Development: An Interdisciplinary Seminar.** Three credits. Analysis of the problems and proposed solutions of community development from an interdisciplinary point of view.

6710 **Japanese Society and Business.** Three credits. (Same as ECON 6540.) Japanese economy, business practices, and social and physical environment in comparison with those in other countries, particularly the United States.

6720 **Applied Qualitative Research Design.** Three credits. Prerequisites: SOC 3040 and 3050 or equivalent. Focuses on the design and application of qualitative data collection and analysis procedures to practical problems and issues. Students pursue supervised independent and group projects.

6900 **Practicum: Applied Analysis.** Three credits. Prerequisite: SOC 6620 and permission of instructor. Supervised independent study in which student is placed in an organization on a contractual basis. Course directed toward student pursuing career in applied sociology.

Courses in Anthropology [ANTH]

5120 **Practicing Anthropology.** Three credits. Culture change theory and the practical dimension of anthropology in research and planned change implementation.

5740 **Law and Politics in Traditional Societies.** Three credits. Law and methods of social control in primitive societies. Emphasis on the importance of a cross-cultural perspective for understanding Western political behavior.

5750 **Anthropology of Religion.** Three credits. Cross-cultural exploration of religion, including beliefs in the supernatural, the use of ritual in secular and sacred context, and the roles of ceremonial practitioners. Focuses on how people interpret and control their worldviews through religion and ritual.

5751 **Ritual.** Three credits. Ritual in sacred and secular contexts. Examination of function and logic of ritual in social systems.

5890 **Seminar in Anthropological Theory.** Three credits. Prerequisites: 18 hours of anthropology, including ANTH 2010, 3210, 3310, 3410. A critical examination of the major anthropological theories within their historical, cultural, and political context.
5910 **Special Projects.** One to six credits. Experience in research through which special interests or needs of the student may be pursued under individual supervision. Arrangements should be made with an instructor prior to registration.

5940 **Ethnographic Field School.** Three to six credits. Field experience in a cross-cultural setting. Training in ethnographic research techniques.

5950 **Archaeological Field School.** Three to six credits. Basic techniques of archeology and paleoecology through participation in actual excavation and laboratory work.

### Courses in Aging Studies [SOC]

5020 **Sociology of Aging.** Three credits. Demographic, social, and cultural aspects of aging. Emphasis on the types of problems encountered by older persons in American society.

5030 **Topics in Gerontology.** Three credits. An opportunity to integrate gerontological theory and research techniques in working with the practical problems of older persons.

5040 **Health Care Delivery Issues.** Three credits. An assessment of critical issues with special emphasis on policies, procedures, and intervention strategies in long-term care settings.

5090 **Health Care Management.** Three credits. Details of the technical aspects of health care management with an emphasis on long-term care settings.

5800 **Special Projects.** One to three credits. Experiences in research through which special interests or needs of the student may be pursued under individual supervision. Arrangements should be made with an instructor prior to registration.

6550 **Seminar on Aging.** Three credits. In-depth investigation of selected topics in social gerontology.

6670 **Mental Health and Aging.** Three credits. The basic concepts associated with mental health and the aging process. The epidemiology, assessment process, and approaches to treatment stressed. A positive approach to the mental well-being of the older adult provided.

6680 **Counseling Elders.** Three credits. Prerequisite: SOC 6670 recommended but not required. Counseling techniques and outcomes common to late life therapy. Special application to specific problems and social environments of the elderly.

Courses from communication disorders, human sciences, psychology, and recreation are to be used in conjunction with these sociology courses to complete the requirements for a multidisciplinary minor in Aging Studies. Students should consult their advisors for specific courses from the various departments.