

Sociology, MA - Thesis
36 hours

Required Courses (18 Hours)

Course Number	Course Name	Hours	Notes
SOCI 5306	Sociological Theory	3	Offered in fall only
SOCI 5307	Advanced Statistics	3	Typically offered in fall only. Must complete 5307 before enrolling in 5308
SOCI 5308	Seminar in Quantitative Research Methods	3	Typically offered in spring only
SOCI 5309	Qualitative Methods	3	Offered in spring or fall (varies)
SOCI 5399A	Thesis A	3	Students cannot enroll in thesis A until they have a thesis chair
SOCI 5399B	Thesis B	3	

SOCI Electives (12 Hours)

Course Number	Course Name	Hours	Department
		3	SOCI

MINOR (9-15 Hours): For a list of minors, see <http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/minors/>

OR

COGNATE (6 Hours): A cognate course is a 3 hour course in any department outside of sociology. Some courses might require approval by the graduate advisor in that particular department.

Course Number	Course Name	Hours	Department
		3	
		3	
		3	
		3	
		3	

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS)

How can I find a list of available courses? And how do I register? The schedules of classes is posted under “University Registrar” (see https://ssb.txstate.edu/prod/bwckschd.p_disp_dyn_sched). TO REGISTER: Register via CATSWEB. Find courses in the schedule of classes. Search for Sociology courses (or, for courses outside the major, use that search term), and graduate courses. Graduate courses are 5000 level and above. Undergraduate courses will not count towards your degree.

What if I get a registration error or restriction? Some of your graduate courses require departmental approval. You must contact the appropriate graduate advisor with your student ID, name of course, and the CRN (5 digit course code) of the course you want to take. Get department approval on your courses well before registration opens. Department approvals do not guarantee you a space in the class; it simply allows you to register for the class. Do NOT delay registration because some courses (particularly required courses) fill up very fast. Register as soon as registration opens. Departmental approvals are given in the order they are received.

What courses should I take first? Try to take as many core (required) courses as possible in your first two semesters. However, avoid taking three core courses in one semester.

How many classes should I take? Full-time course loads are 9-10 hours at the graduate level. Do not take a full course load if you are working full-time. Full-time workers should take 3 or 6 hours (1 or 2 classes).

Are there any online course options? We have very few online graduate courses in our department. We have an MS in Dementia and Aging Studies, which is all online. Sociology MS and MA students may take some of the MSDA online courses IF they become available (typically a few weeks after the first day of registration) but they usually are filled with MSDA majors.

Can I take classes over the summer? Our department currently does not offer many sociology graduate courses during the summer. The summer is a great time to take courses in your minor or for your cognate (if available), develop a class paper into a conference paper, and/or read for your thesis (MA).

I’m interested in taking courses that are not listed on the degree template, will financial aid cover these? Financial aid **will not** provide funds for classes that are not a part of the degree plan. Contact us if you are unsure and before contacting financial aid.

What is the difference between a minor and a cognate? Students in the MA-thesis may choose a minor or cognate. Minor hours are set by the particular department and range from 9-12 hours. A cognate is a minimum of 6 hours and courses may be taken in any department as long as there is a theme that connects them. We recommend to all of our students to consider a cognate in statistics because proficiency in statistical software and statistical analyses opens up many job possibilities and also looks impressive if one wants to apply to doctoral programs.

Where can I learn more about the program and my degree? Read the handbook and check for updates. New students should read the handout that provides information for new students.

What if I was admitted conditionally? If you were admitted **conditionally** and must take leveling courses, then you must contact us about creating those SOCI 5300 courses for you.