M.A. in Sociology

Admission Requirements

1. Admission is based on the entire record of the applicant and availability of departmental resources.
2. Students must submit a completed admissions form to the UTEP graduate school, including references and statement of purpose, as well as transcripts.
3. A bachelor's degree from an accredited U.S. university or proof of equivalent education at a foreign institution. Generally, students should have a 3.0 (B) grade point average, or equivalent, particularly in Sociology courses and over the last 60 hours of undergraduate work.
4. The department also grants a limited number of teaching and research assistantships to selected graduate students. Other forms of financial assistance are also available. For further information, please contact the graduate advisor.
5. Applicants from countries where English is not the first language are required to demonstrate English proficiency. Please consult the graduate school (http://catalog.utep.edu/admissions/graduate/graduate-student/) website for required scores.

Degree Requirements

The following are the requirements of the 33-hour MA in Sociology degree program:

1. Each candidate must take:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5311</td>
<td>Prof Development in Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5312</td>
<td>Sem-Advanced Measure/Inference</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5320</td>
<td>Seminar in Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5328</td>
<td>Social Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plus three semester hours of sociology methods</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plus twelve semester hours of sociology or anthropology approved for graduate credit</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5398</td>
<td>Thesis I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or SOCI 5396</td>
<td>Non-Thesis Project I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5399</td>
<td>Thesis II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or SOCI 5397</td>
<td>Non-Thesis Project II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Students are required to enroll in one methods elective, based on their interests. This includes SOCI 5322 Seminar in Qualitative Methods and other special topics methods electives such as, but not limited to, advanced statistics or Geographic Information Systems.

3. No later than the completion of 24 credits in the program, the student shall declare to the Graduate Advisor in writing her or his intention to choose the thesis plan or the applied non-thesis plan. Students may change between plans, but should be aware that this may result in taking additional credit hours to complete the degree. More information on the specific expectations of the thesis plan and the applied non-thesis plan is available from the Graduate Advisor.

4. Students enrolled in the thesis plan must enroll at least one semester in SOCI 5398 Thesis I and SOCI 5399 Thesis II and successfully propose and defend the thesis before a committee while enrolled in SOCI 5399. Each thesis course can only count once toward the total number of hours needed for the degree. Thesis committees consist of at least two departmental representatives and one member from outside the department.

5. Students enrolled in the applied non-thesis plan must enroll at least one semester in SOCI 5396 Non-Thesis Project I and SOCI 5397 Non-Thesis Project II 11 and successfully propose and defend the thesis before a committee while enrolled in SOCI 5397 Non-Thesis Project II. Each non-thesis project course can only count once toward the total number of hours needed for the degree. Project committees consist of at least two departmental representatives and one member from outside the department.

6. Candidates may pursue a minor in Anthropology. Candidates taking this option must obtain the consent of the graduate advisor and his/her thesis director, and may take up to 9 hours of anthropology courses from the list of advanced undergraduate courses approved for graduate credit. The plan of anthropology courses must be approved by the graduate advisor and thesis advisor, once assigned. Additional requirements are listed in item 6 below.

7. Undergraduate courses and independent studies approved for graduate credit will count toward the degree only by permission of the graduate advisor and thesis advisor, once assigned. To use an undergraduate course for graduate credit, the following additional work is required: additional reading of original scholarly books and articles above and beyond textbooks; additional written work such as research on specific topics or hypotheses, literature reviews, or identifying research problems in specific areas; and at least five additional meetings with the professor to discuss the added requirements and their completion. The extra requirement must be specified by the instructor in a syllabus.
8. Each candidate will submit a PDF that must be approved by the candidate's committee and submitted to the graduate school following their requirements.

9. Candidates will be allowed only one grade lower than a "B" in coursework taken for graduate credit. No grade lower than a "B" will be accepted in a required course. Candidates must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA.

**Degree Plan**

Required Credits: 33

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MA in Sociology</strong> 1</td>
<td>Required Courses (All courses require a grade of B or better):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5311</td>
<td>Prof Development in Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5312</td>
<td>Sem-Advanced Measure/Inference</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5320</td>
<td>Seminar in Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5328</td>
<td>Social Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Three hours of sociology methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are required to enroll in one methods elective, based on their interests. This includes SOCI 5322 (Seminar in Qualitative Methods) and other special topics methods electives such as, but not limited to, advanced statistics or Geographic Information Systems.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electives (All courses require a grade of C or better):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select twelve additional hours from graduate SOCI or ANTH: 2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5190</td>
<td>Individual Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5290</td>
<td>Individual Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5303</td>
<td>Grad Internship in Sociology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5340</td>
<td>Seminar - Demography</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5341</td>
<td>Special Graduate Topics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5348</td>
<td>Seminar-Criminology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5355</td>
<td>US-Mexico Borderlands in Chang</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5360</td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5362</td>
<td>Border Research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5363</td>
<td>Environmental Justice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5364</td>
<td>Sociology of Health</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5365</td>
<td>Seminar-Sociology of Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5381</td>
<td>Cartography &amp; Visualization</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5390</td>
<td>Individual Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5396</td>
<td>Non-Thesis Project I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5397</td>
<td>Non-Thesis Project II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applied, Thesis, or Course Option:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Select applied non-thesis option of SOCI 5396 &amp; 5397 or thesis option of SOCI 5398 &amp; 5399 3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5396 &amp; SOCI 5397</td>
<td>Non-Thesis Project I &amp; Non-Thesis Project II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5398 &amp; SOCI 5399</td>
<td>Thesis I &amp; Thesis II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Option (Courses require a grade of B or better): 4 Two additional SOCI/ANTH courses at the 5300 level, with the exception of SOCI 5390, SOCI 5398, SOCI 5399, SOCI 5396, and SOCI 5397 can be taken to fulfill this requirement.

**Total Hours**

33

1 Only one grade lower that a "B" in coursework taken for graduate credit will be allowed.

2 Undergraduate courses with additional work approved for graduate credit are also available for use as electives.

3 SOCI 5396, SOCI 5397, SOCI 5398, and SOCI 5399 are graded as S/U until completion. All courses require a grade of C or better.

4 Under the Course option students will complete an exit exam. The exam will include three areas of study: sociological theory, methods of research, and an area of specialization that is identified by the student through the concentration of coursework. If the student fails to pass any section of the comprehensive exam, they will be allowed to re-take the area(s) not completed or passed at another
date and time scheduled by their committee. The failed portion(s) may be re-taken up to two times.