

# M.A. in Sociology

[Overview](#)

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## Description

Sociology is the systematic study of human social life. The M.A. program includes seminars and training in research and professional development, and prepares students for future careers as professionals in the social sciences. Graduates have gone on to enter Ph.D. programs in sociology, to teach in community colleges and universities, and to work as researchers in both the private and public sectors.

## Minimum Total Credit Hours: 33

### Course Requirements

The M.A. in sociology can be completed with either a thesis or nonthesis option.

The thesis option requires 27 semester hours of graduate course work and a minimum of 6 hours of thesis credit (33 hours total). The 27 course hours must include Statistics (Soc 501), Research Methods (Soc 502), Studies in Social Theory (Soc 601), Teaching Sociology (Soc 635), Professional Development I and II (Soc 621 and Soc 622), and Collaborative Research Seminar (Soc 623).

The nonthesis option requires 36 hours of graduate courses. A minimum of 29 hours must be in sociology and must include Statistics (Soc 501), Research Methods (Soc 502), Studies in Social Theory (Soc 601), Teaching Sociology (Soc 635), and Professional Development I and II (Soc 621 and Soc 622). In addition, nonthesis students are required to complete an oral presentation in a department-approved professional setting. For both options, a minimum of 3 credits must be earned in a discipline other than sociology.

