Department of Sociology and Social Work

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Graduate Degrees Offered

- M.A. in Sociology  
- Ph.D. in Sociology

The doctoral degree is granted through the Federation of North Texas Area Universities.

The Doctor of Philosophy degree in Sociology is offered through a cooperative program of the Federation of North Texas Area Universities that includes Texas Woman’s University, the University of North Texas, and Texas A&M – Commerce. The Ph.D. in Sociology is granted by Texas Woman’s University and the University of North Texas. Students apply for acceptance into the program through one of the participating universities.

Together the two universities offer graduate training in various aspects of sociology along with opportunities in the area of sociological practice. All doctoral students are required to study core social theory and social research and must concentrate further in two specialty areas.

The objective of the Federation sociology program is to produce intellectually well-rounded graduates capable of

1. analyzing human social groups and relationships between groups,
2. evaluating the influence of social factors on social situations, and
3. functioning effectively in either an academic milieu or in a sociological practice setting.

Graduate students enrolled at either TWU or UNT take courses at both universities, thus benefiting from the combined faculties and facilities of each school. Students graduating from the Federation program will be granted the Ph.D. from the university through which they entered the program.

Admissions

Admission Requirements

Master of Arts in Sociology

Students applying for admission to master study must meet the general admission requirements of the Graduate School at TWU (see admission section of this catalog). Admission to the sociology masters program requires a bachelor’s degree in sociology or its equivalent, a GPA of 3.0 or higher on the last 60 semester credit hours of undergraduate work and on all graduate work, and a personal statement (2-3 pages) of interest and two letters of recommendation. Students without a bachelor’s degree in sociology will be considered if the admission committee believes that the student shows academic promise.

Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology

Admission to the doctoral program in sociology requires a bachelor’s degree in sociology or its equivalent, GRE, a GPA of 3.5 or higher on the last 60 semester credit hours of undergraduate courses and on all graduate courses, three letters of recommendation, and a personal statement of interest (2-3 pages). Students without a bachelor’s degree in sociology will be considered if the admission committee believes that the student shows academic promise. International students must have a satisfactory score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

The applicant who has a GPA of at least 3.0 but meets other conditions above may be considered for conditional admission. Additional coursework may be required. The admission committee may request additional evidence of the applicant’s ability to do graduate work. Students admitted with a bachelor’s degree can earn their M.A. degree during the course of study. They will be required to write a Master’s thesis, which, together with their course work, will be evaluated by the sociology faculty at the end of their Master’s stage. Based on the evaluation, the faculty could recommend that a student continue to pursue the Ph.D. degree or be awarded a terminal M.A. degree. The thesis requirement is waived for students admitted with a Master’s degree.

Students applying for admission to doctoral study must meet the general admission requirements of either the Graduate School at TWU (see admission section of this catalog) or the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies at UNT. Students additionally must apply to the sociology program (see departmental handbook or guidelines for details). Applications of students who satisfy the Graduate School’s admission standards are forwarded for review to the department admissions committee. This committee is responsible for recommending acceptance into the Federation doctoral program.
Certificates

Certificates in Sociology and Social Work


Minors

Minors Offered to Students from Other Departments

Students may minor in sociology at both the master’s and the doctoral levels. Courses designed to complement the student’s major field will be selected in consultation between the student and his/her advisory committee. Normally a minor in sociology requires 6 semester credit hours at the master’s level and 12 semester credit hours at the doctoral level.

Professors

LO, CELIA, Professor of Sociology; Chair of the Department of Sociology and Social Work. B.S., Hong Kong Shue Yan University; M.A., University of Alabama; Ph.D., University of Alabama.

SADRI, MAHMOUD, Professor of Sociology. B.A., University of Teheran : Teheran, Iran; M.A., University of Teheran : Teheran, Iran; Ph.D., New School for Social Research : New York.

WILLIAMS, JAMES L., Professor of Sociology. B.A., University of Georgia; M.A., University of Georgia; M.A.Ed., Western Carolina University; Ph.D., University of Georgia.

YANG, PHILIP Q., Professor of Sociology. B.A., Zhongshan University : China; M.A., University of California System : Los Angeles; Ph.D., University of California System : Los Angeles.

Associate Professors

MARSHALL, LINDA L., Associate Professor of Social Work. B.A., Texas Tech University; M.S.S.W, University of Texas System : Arlington; Ph.D., Texas Woman’s University.

TILTON, ABIGAIL C., Associate Professor of Social Work; Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. B.S.W., University of North Texas; M.S.S.W., University of Texas System : Arlington; Ph.D., University of North Texas.

Assistant Professor

GULLION, JESSICA S., Assistant Professor of Sociology. B.A., Texas Tech University; M.A., Southwest Texas State University; Ph.D., Texas Woman’s University.

Courses

SOCI 5343. Seminar in Sociological Theory. Analysis of classical and contemporary sociological theories and schools of thought, their roots, and interrelationships. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5353. Methods of Teaching Sociology. Discusses issues and problems in college education and in teaching sociology. Gives students practice in organizing sociology courses, constructing syllabi, teaching units, test construction, and utilization of available resources in sociology. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5363. Survey Research. Overview of the research process with focus on survey research: problem selection, instrument design, measurement issues, data collection, and analysis. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5373. Theories in Social Psychology. Major schools of thought about the nature of the person as affected by society, including structural, symbolic interactionist, phenomenological, and critical schools. May be repeated for credit. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5553. Social Stratification. Social ranking systems of human society as one form of social differentiation; relationship of theoretical approaches to areas of research and of theoretical concepts to specific research techniques. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5643. Race and Ethnic Groups in the United States. Emphasis on selected groups (African Americans, Mexican Americans, and Asian Americans), their history, heritage, contributions to society, similarities, and differences. Application of theory and research to current intergroup relations. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5663. Family: Current Topics. Analysis of selected topics in the area of the family. Selected topics may include: comparative family studies, marital dissolution and single parent families, family crises, family and violence, alternative family forms. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.
SOCI 5733. Medical Sociology. Utilizes a cross-disciplinary systems approach to study the effects of social change on the individual, professional groups (changing roles), and medical institutions. Broad range of topics adjusted to meet needs of students enrolled. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5773. Qualitative Research Methods. Qualitative research philosophies including phenomenological, critical, and feminist perspectives. Research design, data collection, analysis, and writing. Strategies for studying women’s lives and developing culturally sensitive models. Responsible research and professional ethics including IRB process. Hands-on research. May be repeated for credit with permission of instructor. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5843. Feminist Theories. Thoroughly explores feminist critical inquiry, focusing on particular theoretical issues, historical writings, and/or disciplinary contexts within the diverse body of scholarship of feminist theory. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5903. Special Topics. Seminars on sociological theory, research methods, or selected substantive areas. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5911. Independent Study. Individual study of topics in sociological theory, research, or in substantive areas selected in accordance with student’s interests and needs. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Credit: One hour.

SOCI 5913. Independent Study. Individual study of topics in sociological theory, research, or in substantive areas selected in accordance with student’s interests and needs. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5953. Internship. Cooperative work-study arrangement between the University and business, industry, or selected institutions. No more than three credit hours counted toward degree. Pass-fail grade only. Thirteen practicum hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5983. Thesis. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 5993. Thesis. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 6103. Seminar on Sociological Theory. Includes a sequence of classical, contemporary, and current theory courses; plus a course on theory construction. Emphasis is placed on research in primary sources and class discussion of the assigned materials, presupposes some familiarity with sociological theories. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 6203. Seminar on Research Methods. Theory and application of quantitative and non-quantitative methods to sociological data. Suggested topics may include: use of available data; qualitative and field techniques; data analysis; techniques of sociological measurement. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. Prerequisites: A course in statistics and one in basic research design. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 6321. Pro Seminar in Sociology. Prepares students for scholarly and professional work. Orientates student to program and university requirements, mission, and scope. Facilitates professional socialization of the student. Required of all doctoral students. To be taken within the first year of graduate work. Pass/fail. One lecture hour a week. Credit: One hour.

SOCI 6363. Intermediate Social Statistics. Emphasis on application of appropriate statistical techniques for social data analysis, including ANOVA; techniques of linear regression and diagnostics; and measures of association. Training for carrying out a quantitative research project using sociological data. Prerequisite: Graduate level introduction to social statistics or equivalent. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 6373. Quantitative Methods and Design. Advanced study of quantitative research methods for research in sociology. Advanced topics in survey research methods and design, and experimental methods and design. Preparation of quantitative research proposal. Prerequisites: Masters level social research methods course, and doctoral standing. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 6383. Feminist Theories. Thoroughly explores feminist critical inquiry, focusing on particular theoretical issues, historical writings, and/or disciplinary contexts within the diverse body of scholarship of feminist theory. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 6503. Seminar on Social Organization and Disorganization. An analysis of selected topics in such areas as the development of social institutions, the bases of social differentiation and integration, and deviant behavior. Suggested topics may include: the sources of social change; societal integration and social control; comparative social structures; small group studies. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. Prerequisite: A minimum of twelve semester hours in sociology or permission of instructor. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.


SOCI 6733. Health and Illness. Advanced conceptual and substantive overview of the field of medical sociology, utilizing a critical approach to health and illness. Medical and sociological models of illness, medical institutions, and social epidemiology. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 6903. Special Topics. Seminars on sociological theory, research methods, or selected substantive areas. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 6911. Independent Study. Advanced individual study of topics in sociological theory, research, or in substantive areas selected in accordance with student’s interests and needs. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Credit: One hour.

SOCI 6913. Independent Study. Advanced individual study of topics in sociological theory, research, or in substantive areas selected in accordance with student’s interests and needs. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Credit: Three hours.

SOCI 6923. Individual Research. Credit: Three hours.