

MASTER OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY (CRIMINOLOGY)

Web Site: <https://twu.edu/sociology/graduate-programs/ma-in-sociology-criminology-concentration/>

The mission of TWU's sociology graduate programs is to provide sociological training primarily for non-traditional, female, minority, and underserved students, though students from all backgrounds are welcome.

The objective of the 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 a sociological practice setting.

Marketable Skills

Marketable skills prepare students for success in a variety of professional settings. Developed through academic coursework, co-curricular engagement, and extracurricular involvement, these skills include communication, critical thinking, teamwork, ethical reasoning, adaptability, and digital literacy. Whether directly related to a student's major or serving as complementary strengths, marketable skills enhance career readiness and reflect TWU's commitment to producing graduates who are prepared to thrive in today's dynamic workforce.

1. Explain in oral or written form main sociological theories and use them in analyzing social phenomena, interpreting social events, and solving social problems.
2. Identify and use quantitative and qualitative research methods for research and present results in a research report.
3. Choose appropriate statistical techniques to answer basic research questions, perform basic statistical analysis using computer software, and interpret results.

Admissions

All students must meet the University requirements as outlined in the Admission to the TWU Graduate School (<https://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/graduate-school/admission-graduate-school/>) section of the catalog.

The academic program may have additional admission criteria that must also be completed as outlined on the program's website.

Degree Requirements

Total Semester Credit Hours Required

Thesis Option: 30 semester credit hours (SCH), including 6 SCH for thesis

Non-thesis Option: 30 semester credit hours

Thesis Option (30 SCH)

Code	Title	SCHs
Required Courses		
SOCI 5113	Statistical Methods in Sociology (or equivalent)	3
SOCI 5313	Research Methods and Design	3

SOCI 5473	Foundations of Classical Sociological Theories	3
or SOCI 5483	Foundations of Contemporary Sociological Theories	

Electives

Select three of the following		9
SOCI 6723	Sociology of Terrorism	
SOCI 6813	Criminology Theories	
SOCI 6823	Globalization, Crime, and Justice	
SOCI 6833	Comparative Criminology	
SOCI 6843	Deviant Behavior	
SOCI 6853	Contemporary Criminology	
SOCI 6873	Race, Crime, and Justice	

Select two of the following		6
SOCI 5643	Race and Ethnic Groups in the United States	
SOCI 5843	Feminist Theories	
SOCI 6203	Seminar on Research Methods	
SOCI 6363	Intermediate Social Statistics	
SOCI 6513	Global and Comparative Sociology	
SOCI 6523	Social Psychology Theory	
SOCI 6553	Social Stratification	
SOCI 6723	Sociology of Terrorism	
SOCI 6733	Health and Illness	
SOCI 6813	Criminology Theories	
SOCI 6823	Globalization, Crime, and Justice	
SOCI 6833	Comparative Criminology	
SOCI 6843	Deviant Behavior	
SOCI 6853	Contemporary Criminology	
SOCI 6873	Race, Crime, and Justice	

Other electives may be chosen, subject to approval by graduate advisor or advisory committee.

Thesis

SOCI 5983	Thesis	3
SOCI 5993	Thesis	3

Total SCHs 30

Non-thesis option (30 SCH)

Code	Title	SCHs
Required Courses		
SOCI 5113	Statistical Methods in Sociology (or equivalent)	3
SOCI 5313	Research Methods and Design	3
SOCI 5473	Foundations of Classical Sociological Theories	3
or SOCI 5483	Foundations of Contemporary Sociological Theories	

Electives

Select three of the following		9
SOCI 6723	Sociology of Terrorism	
SOCI 6813	Criminology Theories	
SOCI 6823	Globalization, Crime, and Justice	
SOCI 6833	Comparative Criminology	
SOCI 6843	Deviant Behavior	
SOCI 6853	Contemporary Criminology	
SOCI 6873	Race, Crime, and Justice	

Select four of the following	12
SOCI 5643	Race and Ethnic Groups in the United States
SOCI 5843	Feminist Theories
SOCI 6203	Seminar on Research Methods
SOCI 6363	Intermediate Social Statistics
SOCI 6513	Global and Comparative Sociology
SOCI 6523	Social Psychology Theory
SOCI 6553	Social Stratification
SOCI 6723	Sociology of Terrorism
SOCI 6733	Health and Illness
SOCI 6813	Criminology Theories
SOCI 6823	Globalization, Crime, and Justice
SOCI 6833	Comparative Criminology
SOCI 6843	Deviant Behavior
SOCI 6853	Contemporary Criminology
SOCI 6873	Race, Crime, and Justice
Other electives may be selected, subject to approval by graduate advisor or advisory committee.	
Total SCHs	30

Required

9 semester credit hours, 3 SCH each in sociological theory, social science research methods, and social statistics.

Major/Emphasis

15 or 21 semester credit hours, depending on thesis option or non-thesis option.

Minor

Optional, 6 semester credit hours may be taken from another discipline to count toward the MA degree in sociology. Subject to approval by the department.

Final Examination

Written examination; may be repeated twice.