

# MASTER OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY

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

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

Defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's 60x30 Strategic Plan (<https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/agency-publication/miscellaneous/the60x30-strategic-plan/>) as, "Those skills valued by employers that can be applied in a variety of work settings, including interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skills areas. These skills can be either primary or complementary to a major and are acquired by students through education, including curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities."

- Explain in oral or written form main sociological theories and use them in analyzing social phenomena, interpreting social events, and solving social problems.
- Identify and use quantitative and qualitative research methods for research and present results in a research report.
- 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 semester credit hours)

Code	Title	SCHs
<b>Required Courses</b>		
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 five of following		15
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 semester credit hours)

Code	Title	SCHs
<b>Required Courses</b>		
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 seven of the following		21
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 M.A. degree in sociology. Subject to approval by the department.

### **Final Examination**

Written examination; may be repeated twice.