SOCIOLOGY, M.A.

Saint Louis University's Master of Arts in Sociology provides students with the analytic and administrative skills to advance in leadership positions in the public, private, and government sectors. The program is distinctive in its blend of academic and practical skills.

Combining outstanding scholarship and practical experience, faculty members are engaged in cutting-edge research and bring this expertise to the classroom to enrich the educational experience of students. Courses are taught by interdisciplinary faculty from sociology and public policy who integrate the theory, practical experience and empirical skills needed in 21st-century organizations.

Curriculum Overview

SLU's M.A. in sociology degree requires a total of 30 credits of graduate study with a minimum of 24 credits of coursework. The M.A. can be completed either through a thesis or non-thesis track. The thesis track includes up to six thesis credits while the non-thesis track includes six additional credits of coursework.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

Through teaching, research and service, sociology students at SLU examine different ways people relate to one another through the organization of society and how it influences lives. SLU's M.A. degree in sociology trains students to identify and document insights into these social processes and structures in their careers. Students explore large- and small-scale organizations, families, beliefs and social classes with opportunities for hands-on experience in the St. Louis area.

Careers

Sociology graduates can pursue careers as a market research analyst, nonprofit administrator, policy analyst or managerial and policy positions such as program evaluator, researcher, program director or policymaker. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics listed the 2014 median annual salary for market research analysts as $61,290, and employment of market research analysts is projected to increase by 19 percent by 2024.

Admission Requirements

Successful applicants possess 3.0 or higher GPA, sufficient GRE scores and sufficient TOEFL scores (for international applicants).

Application Requirements

- Application form and fee
- Transcript(s)
- Three letters of recommendation
- GRE scores
- Résumé
- Professional goal statement

Requirements for International Students

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students along with the following:

- Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (http://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency)
- Proof of financial support must include:
  - A letter of financial support from the person(s) or sponsoring agency funding the time at Saint Louis University
  - A letter from the sponsor’s bank verifying that the funds are available and will be so for the duration of study at the University
  - Academic records, in English translation, of students who have undertaken postsecondary studies outside the United States must include the courses taken and/or lectures attended, practical laboratory work, the maximum and minimum grades attainable, the grades earned or the results of all end-of-term examinations, and any honors or degrees received. WES and ECE transcripts are accepted.

Review Process

Applications are reviewed by the admissions committee members.

Scholarships, Assistantships and Financial Aid

For priority consideration for graduate assistantships and tuition scholarships, applicants should complete their applications by the program admission deadlines listed. Fellowships and assistantships provide a stipend and health insurance for the duration of the award.

For more information, visit the student financial services office online at http://www.slu.edu/financial-aid.

Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will be able to critically assess sociological literature and sociological theories.
2. Graduates will be able to appropriately apply major research methodologies utilized in sociology.
3. Graduates will be able to apply the Sociological Imagination to the study of social issues in a broader societal context.
4. Graduates will be able to clearly articulate scholarly research activity, for professional and/or general audiences, in written, oral or visual formats.
5. Graduates will be able to evidence scholarly and/or professional ethical integrity in their research of social issues.

Requirements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 5050</td>
<td>Quantitative I: Applied Inferential Statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 5600</td>
<td>Research Methodology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 5990</td>
<td>Thesis Research</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 6320</td>
<td>Organization Theory &amp; Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Concentration or Elective Courses</td>
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<td>Select Concentration or five of the following:</td>
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<td>Urban Social Policy Concentration</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 5200</td>
<td>Cities, Suburbs, &amp; Neighborhoods</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 5540</td>
<td>Environmental Impact of City</td>
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<td>SOC 5550</td>
<td>Comparative Theories of Race / Ethnic Relations</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 6200</td>
<td>Urban Social and Political Theory</td>
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<td>SOC Elective</td>
<td>Any Elective from below</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Concentration in Health and Social Policy</td>
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<td>Choose five of the below:</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 5550</td>
<td>Comparative Theories of Race / Ethnic Relations</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 5610</td>
<td>Death Investigation</td>
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SOC 5640  Demography: Measuring & Modeling
SOC 6250  Poverty, Inequality and Public Policy
SOC 5275  Health and Social Sciences
SOC 6300  U.S. Health Care Policy

Sociology Elective without Concentration
SOC 5171  Law, Policy, Society
SOC 5200  Cities, Suburbs, & Neighborhoods
SOC 5210  Law, Crime, and Policy
SOC 5205  Science, Technology & Policy
SOC 5300  Police Administration
SOC 5310  Issues in Jurisprudence
SOC 5320  Contemporary Issues in Law Enforcement
SOC 5400  Race, Gender, Class and Criminal Justice
SOC 5470  Advanced Issues in Criminal Justice Policy
SOC 5500  Social Stratification
SOC 5510  Constructing Social Problems
SOC 5520  Sociological Social Psychology
SOC 5530  Urban Ethnography
SOC 5540  Environmental Impact of City
SOC 5550  Comparative Theories of Race / Ethnic Relations
SOC 5610  Death Investigation
SOC 5620  Probation, Parole, & Community Corrections
SOC 5640  Demography: Measuring & Modeling
SOC 5650  Intro to GIS
SOC 5660  Intermediate GIS
SOC 5670  Spatial Demography: Applied Statistics for Spatial Data
SOC 5700  Applied Spatial Analysis
SOC 5750  Qualitative Analysis, Grounded Theory Method
SOC 5800  Survey Design & Sampling
SOC 5840  Research in Criminal Justice
SOC 5850  Policy Evaluation and Assessment
SOC 5890  Reading Statistics in Research
SOC 6100  Regression Analysis & Non-linear Models
SOC 6200  Urban Social and Political Theory
SOC 6500  Exploratory and Confirmatory Factor Analysis
Total Credits 30

Course  Title  Credits
Year One
Fall
SOC 5050  Quantitative I: Applied Inferential Statistics  3
SOC 6320  Organization Theory & Behavior  3
SOC 5990  Thesis Research (Pro Seminar)  1
Credits  7

Spring
SOC 5600  Research Methodology  3
SOC 5990  Thesis Research (Thesis Proposal)  1
Concentration Elective  3
Credits  7

Year Two
Fall
SOC 5990  Thesis Research (Thesis Analysis)  3
Concentration Elective  3
Concentration Elective  3
Credits  7

Spring
SOC 5990  Thesis Research (Thesis Writing)  3
Concentration Elective  3
Concentration Elective  3
Credits  9
Total Credits 30

1 Outcome: Introduction to profession, choose topic, choose mentor, write and present a literature review.
2 Outcome: Design research methods, write proposal, submit to IRB if applicable, and defend proposal.
3 Outcome: Analyze data and write results section.
4 Outcome: Write conclusions, synthesize all sections, complete and defend thesis.

Continuation Standards
Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 in all graduate/professional courses.

Roadmap

Roadmaps are recommended semester-by-semester plans of study for programs and assume full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.

Courses and milestones designated as critical (marked with !) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation. Transfer credit may change the roadmap.

This roadmap should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor/mentor each semester. Requirements, course availability and sequencing are subject to change.