SOCIOLOGY - PH.D.

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Sociology
215 Merrill Hall
Kent Campus
330-672-2562
www.kent.edu/sociology

Description
The Ph.D. degree in Sociology prepares students for research and teaching careers in higher education and for research-based careers in both the public and private sectors. The program offers specializations in criminology and deviance, the sociology of health and mental health, social inequalities (race, class, gender), and social psychology.

FULLY OFFERED AT:
• Kent Campus

Admission Requirements
• Official transcripts(s)
• Bachelor’s or master’s degree
• GRE scores (taken within the last five years)
• Three letters of recommendation from current/former professors who can adequately evaluate the applicant’s past work and potential
• Goal statement (1-2 pages), describing current academic interests, research interests, long-range career goals and how admission to the Department of Sociology at Kent State University will facilitate the achievement of these goals
• English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following (effective spring 2018):
  • Minimum 587 TOEFL PBT score (paper-based version)
  • Minimum 94 TOEFL IBT score (Internet-based version)
  • Minimum 82 MELAB score
  • Minimum 7.0 IELTS score
  • Minimum 65 PTE score

Admission is limited to students whose records clearly indicate both scholarly and research potential to do doctoral-level work. For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the Graduate Studies admission website. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education’s admission website.

Program Learning Outcomes
Graduates of this program will be able to:
1. Demonstrate a practical understanding of sociological theory by using it to better understand social phenomena and human behavior, develop new theoretical arguments and pose and attempt to answer research questions.
2. Demonstrate a practical understanding of research methods in sociology, including both quantitative methods (e.g., survey, experimental) and qualitative methods (e.g., participant observation, content analysis).
3. Demonstrate a practical understanding of statistics in application to social research, including basic multivariate statistics (e.g., multiple regression) as well as advanced techniques (e.g., structural equation modeling).

Program Requirements
Major Requirements
[AS-PHD-SOC]

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<th>Professional and Ethical Issues in Sociology 1</th>
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<td>SOC 72002</td>
<td>CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THOUGHT</td>
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<td>ADVANCED DATA ANALYSIS</td>
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<td>QUALITATIVE METHODS IN SOCIOLOGY</td>
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<td>DISSERTATION I 2</td>
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Minimum Total Credit Hours for Post-Baccalaureate Students 96
Minimum Total Credit Hours for Post-Master’s Students 62

1 All students who entered the program with an M.A. degree earned at another institution must take SOC 72002. This course will not be waived.
2 Each doctoral candidate, upon admission to candidacy, must register for SOC 82199 for a total of 30 credit hours. It is expected that a doctoral candidate will continuously register for Dissertation I, and thereafter SOC 82299, each semester, including one term each summer, until all requirements for the degree have been met. After completing the dissertation, students must successfully defend it in an oral examination.
3 Students who will have a completed master’s degree from another accredited institution may transfer a maximum 12 credit hours of relevant coursework with minimum B grade, subject to approval by the Department of Sociology and college dean.

Candidacy Examination
To earn the Ph.D. degree, students must pass the doctoral candidacy examination. The examination will include an evaluation of theory, methodology, analysis and other topics relevant to the student’s specialty areas.

1 Applicants who do not hold the M.A. degree upon starting the program must complete all the requirements for the master’s degree. Applicants who will have a completed master’s degree from another accredited institution upon starting the program may transfer their master’s degree/thesis and maximum 12 credit hours of relevant coursework with minimum B grade towards the doctoral degree, subject to approval by the Department of Sociology and college dean. If the M.A. degree is not completed upon admission, students must complete it before the start of the second semester after they begin the program.