

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

- Bachelor's or master's degree from an accredited college or university¹ for unconditional admission
- Minimum 3.000 GPA on a 4.000 point scale for unconditional admission
- Official transcripts(s)
- GRE scores (taken within the last five years)
- 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
- Three letters of recommendation from current/former professors who can adequately evaluate the applicant's past work and potential
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following:
 - 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 to the Ph.D. degree 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.

¹ Applications for admission are accepted from those who will have a completed baccalaureate or master's degree upon starting the program. It is limited to students whose records clearly indicate both scholarly and research potential to do doctoral-level work.

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

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
SOC 72002	PROFESSIONAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES IN SOCIOLOGY ¹	0-3
SOC 72105	CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THOUGHT	3
SOC 72218	ADVANCED DATA ANALYSIS	4
SOC 72219	QUALITATIVE METHODS IN SOCIOLOGY	4
SOC 72894	COLLEGE TEACHING OF SOCIOLOGY	3
SOC 82199	DISSERTATION I ²	30
Electives ³		13-18
Minimum Total Credit Hours for Post-Baccalaureate Students		90
Minimum Total Credit Hours for Post-Master's Students		65

- 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. The exam will include an evaluation of theory, methodology, analysis and other topics relevant to the student's specialty areas.
- ³ Students who have already completed a master's degree in Sociology are required to take a minimum of 13-18 elective credit hours (based on where they have earned their master's degree). Students who have not earned a Master's degree in Sociology are required to take a minimum of 26 elective credit hours. 9 elective credit hours need to be in a first specialization area; 9 elective credit hours need to be in a second specialization area.
 No more than 6 credit hours of SOC 72896 and/or SOC 72898 may be applied toward the degree as elective credit. No more than 3 credit hours of 50000-level coursework may be applied toward the degree as elective credit. No more than 6 credit hours of graduate-level coursework outside the department may be applied toward the degree as elective credit. These limits include courses taken while earning a Master's degree in Sociology.
 Students are to meet with the coordinator to discuss what coursework meets the program requirements and the specialization areas.

Candidacy Requirement

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.