Texas State University offers a master of science with a major in applied sociology and a master of arts with a major in sociology. Sociology is an exciting discipline with expanding opportunities for a wide range of career possibilities. Today, sociologists embark on hundreds of career paths, and the forms of employment are growing both in number and significance.

The applied sociology graduate will be well qualified to be a survey or market researcher, program evaluator, policy analyst, grant writer and in various positions requiring data analysis and interpretation. Master of arts students will be prepared for careers in corporate and community human resources, administrative positions and data analysis.

Graduates from both programs also are eligible to teach in community colleges and will be well prepared to further their graduate training at the doctorate level.

Our faculty are well-rounded methodologically and theoretically and conduct both applied and basic research. Their main areas of specialization include inequality (race, class, gender, sexuality), health and illness, aging and gerontology, and multicultural relations.
Course Work
Master of Science with a Major in Applied Sociology
(37 hours)
Students will master the techniques of both qualitative and quantitative research, general statistical analysis and impact analysis. They will learn the major theoretical perspectives of sociology and be able to apply them to situations in business and service industries.

Core Courses
• Sociological Theory
• Advanced Statistics for Social Services
• Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods
• Impact Analysis, Grant Writing
• Proseminar

In addition to course work, students complete a site-based research practicum that includes collecting assessment data and producing a final report. Although students’ research projects will vary, each will combine the emphases of the program — sociological methods and statistics, needs assessment, impact analysis and grant writing — with the collection and analysis of quantitative and/or qualitative data.

Master of Arts with a Major in Sociology
(37 hours)
Students pursuing the master of arts degree with a major in sociology can choose a thesis or non-thesis track.

The thesis option requires students to take at least six of the required hours from a minor, selected from a number of approved minors in consultation with the graduate advisor. A minor is not required for the non-thesis option.

Core Courses
• Sociological Theory
• Advanced Statistics for Social Services
• Quantitative Research Methods
• Proseminar

Elective Courses
• Community
• Criminology
• Demography
• Deviance and Social Problems
• Drugs and Society
• Grant-Writing for the Social Sciences
• Impact Analysis
• Medical Sociology
• Multicultural Relations
• Qualitative Research Methods
• Social Psychology
• Seminar in the Family

Admission Policy
In addition to the general requirements for admission to the Texas State Graduate College, the Department of Sociology requires a minimum GPA of 3.0 on the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate course work leading up to the bachelor’s degree.

Each applicant must submit the following to The Graduate College:
• the online Graduate College application through ApplyTexas
• application fee
• one official transcript from each college or university attended
• three reference forms from former professors who are knowledgeable about the applicant’s academic ability and promise as a scholar. Please use the reference form available on the Sociology Department’s website.
• a statement of purpose that speaks about your academic interests and the relationship of the graduate degree in sociology to your life goals

Visit www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply for access to an online application, where to submit application documents and additional details. Applicants who wish to be considered for scholarships and graduate assistantships should have all application materials in by March 1. We strongly encourage applicants for fall to apply in January. However, application deadlines are July 15 for the fall semester, October 15 for the spring semester and April 15 for the summer semester.

Career Options
The increasing demand for social scientists is the result of concern about issues such as the environment, urban development and a competitive global economy, as well as a shortage of trained evaluators. Job prospects are best for students with advanced degrees.

The master of arts with a major in sociology prepares graduates for the following:
• careers in government, private enterprise, education and social services
• to teach in community colleges
• further graduate studies at the doctoral level

Financial Assistance
Outstanding graduate students may be issued contracts to work as graduate instructional assistants in the department. Most assistantships require 20 hours of service per week.

For more information about scholarships, financial aid and application deadlines, visit The Graduate College website at www.gradcollege.txstate.edu and click on Financing Your Graduate Education. Please note that program admission priority deadlines must be met in order to be considered for scholarships, fellowships and assistantships.

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Texas State University, to the extent not in conflict with federal or state law, prohibits discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, veterans’ status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. This information is available in alternate format upon request from the Office of Disability Services. Texas State University is a tobacco-free campus. 15-334