connect with each other, faculty, and local community organizations. Because of the breadth, adaptability, and practical applications of sociology, students with a BA in Sociology choose to work in many different sectors: non-profit, private business, social services, education, health services, public relations, criminal justice, and government.

**Preparation**

In high school take math, writing and social science courses [history, psychology, sociology].

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR**

For a description of degree requirements to be fulfilled in addition to those listed below for the major, please see “The Bachelor’s Degree” section of the catalog, pp. 67-82.

**Unit Requirements**

- **Total units in the major:** 47
- **Total units required for the degree:** 120

**Special Grade Requirement**

A minimum grade of "C" is required for all courses in the major.

**Lower Division (11 units)**

- SOC 104 (3) Introduction to Sociology
- STAT 10B (3) Elementary Statistics, or
- STAT 10Bi (3) Elementary Statistics with Integrated Support
  [Coreq: STAT 8]
- SOC 225S (4) Social Issues & Action**
- SOC 282L (1) Sociological Statistics Lab

**Upper Division (17 units)**

- SOC 303* (3) Race & Inequality [DCG-d]
- SOC 303M (1) Race & Inequality for Majors
- SOC 310 (4) Sociological Theory
- SOC 372 (1) Proseminar or
- SOC 472 (1) Graduate School Planning
- SOC 382 (4) Intro to Social Research
- SOC 410 (4) Contemporary Theory

**Knowledge Based Requirements (16 units)**

Complete four courses with at least one from chosen from each category. Students may request that a sociology course not listed be approved to count in one of the knowledge areas below.

**Inequalities and Change**

- SOC 305* (3) Global Transformations, and
- SOC 305M (1) Global Transformations for Majors
- SOC 316 (4) Gender & Society
- SOC 321 (4) Sociology of Sport
- SOC 350 (4) Social Movements
- SOC 466 (4) Migration and the Global Economy
- SOC 480 (1-4) Special Topics

**Environment**

- SOC 302* (3) Forests & Culture, and
- SOC 302M (1) Forests & Culture for Majors
- SOC 320 (4) Environmental Sociology
- SOC 363 (4) Environmental Crime
- SOC 370 (4) Environmental Inequality & Globalization
- SOC 480 (1-4) Special Topics

**Capstone (3 units)**

Complete one course from the following:

- SOC 482 (3) Internship
- SOC 492 (3) Senior Thesis

The Department of Sociology offers 1-2 unit weekend workshops around pressing social issues and popular topics. We encourage our students to enroll in these workshops, but the units may not be counted as part of the required 47-48 unit major requirement with the following exception: Workshop units may be used to “make up” 1-2 units that a student may be short after transferring 3-unit courses from another college or university.

* No more than 8 units of upper division Sociology courses that have GE designations can be counted toward your major.

** Service Learning Component
The master’s program in public sociology, focuses on social justice and environmental sustainability, while fostering a network of students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members who are committed to social change. Public sociology translates sociological knowledge and skills for communities where these resources are needed.

The concept of social justice emphasizes a holistic understanding of the relationships between people, built and “natural” systems, and the social implications of particular structures and relationships. Race, class, gender, and the environment are central to analysis, as well as strategies for action. The action component emphasized in our program is tightly linked to the idea of public sociology. We understand public sociology as social change work that draws heavily on knowledge of social movements, community organizing, and applied research methods as particular plans are strategized, implemented, and evaluated.

Our MA students choose an experience emphasis in either Practicing Sociology or Teaching Sociology. Regardless of their emphasis, our alumni graduate with a solid foundation in social theory and social research that is marked by a departmental commitment and curricular integration of public sociology and social justice, as well as knowledge and skills for social action. Sociology faculty members, along with the Sociology and CJS Community Advisory Board, cultivate a range of field placement opportunities for students emphasizing Practicing Sociology.

Students develop their specialization by drawing on coursework, carefully selecting a field placement and working with faculty mentors.

In the Teaching Sociology emphasis, students learn cutting-edge pedagogical practices, and receive both hands-on experience and close mentorship. This is great preparation for facilitating and leading groups, designing and delivering workshops, teaching at the community college level, and creating educational and training materials.

In the Practicing Sociology emphasis, through classes, a 240-hour placement, paid research opportunities, and their thesis/capstone work, students become well-trained and valuable applied sociologists. They develop skills in qualitative, quantitative, and program evaluation methods; frameworks (theory) needed for complex analytical thinking and problem solving; and advanced professional communication skills—writing, speaking, presentations.  

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE MASTER OF ARTS**

For a description of degree requirements to be fulfilled in addition to those listed below see, “The Master’s Degree” section of the catalog, pp. 83-84.

**Special Grade Requirements**

Students must earn a “B” (3.00) or better in all courses taken to satisfy the requirements of the degree.

**Unit Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common coursework units:</th>
<th>22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elective units:</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total units required for the degree:</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Common Coursework (22 units)**

- SDC 583 (4) Quantitative Research Methods
- SDC 584 (4) Qualitative Research Methods
- SDC 605 (1) Graduate Proseminar in Sociology (complete twice for a total of 2 units)
- SDC 610 (4) Contemporary Social Theory
- SDC 650 (4) Race, Ethnicity & Gender
- SDC 665 (4) Community, Ecology and Social Action

**Social Action Electives (4 units)**

Complete one of the following courses:

- FILM 455 (4) Grant Writing
- FILM 455S (4) Grant Writing
- SDC 350 (4) Social Movements
- SDC 475 (4) Community Organizing

Other courses that are social action oriented and experience based may be approved by the graduate coordinator.

**Area Seminar Electives (4 units)**

Complete one course in consultation with the graduate coordinator. At least one of the two program electives [Social Action or Area Seminar] must be at graduate (500-600) level.

**Experience Electives (3 units)**

- SDC 586 (3) Community Action Research, or
- SDC 560 (3) Teaching Sociology

**Thesis or Project (6 units)**

- SDC 690 (1-6) Master’s Degree Thesis, or
- SDC 692 (1-6) Master’s Degree Project

The decision to enroll in “project” or “thesis” units is based on the orientation and content of the student work itself and is not dictated by the experience emphasis. Students should review the discussion of thesis and project units in the Public Sociology “Graduate Manual” and work with the graduate coordinator and their committee chair in determining the most appropriate course number [SDC 690 or SDC 692] for their work. Students emphasizing Practicing Sociology should enroll in thesis or project units concurrently with their field placements (see below).

**Progress Requirements**

The department reserves the right to dismiss from the program a student who does not make academically adequate and timely progress in moving through degree requirements. For more information, see the graduate school handbook regarding academic probation and disqualification.
Field Site Placement Requirements

Students emphasizing Practicing Sociology are required to complete 240 hours of field placement work that may include up to 40 hours of academic administrative work such as scheduling and meeting with faculty advisors, preparing and submitting required reporting and evaluation information, and formatting final products as required by the graduate school. Students should work closely with the graduate coordinator to identify a placement that will best support their interests and long-term goals.

Teaching Associates [Optional]

Students may apply for a teaching associate position, which is a paid union position. Teaching associates will work with a faculty member in one of two large lecture courses: SOC 104 (Intro to Sociology) or SOC 303 (Race and Inequality). Teaching associates will run up to three recitation [discussion] sections with 25-33 students per section. Teaching associates also grade student work. This model provides teaching associates a hands-on experience in the classroom.

Teaching Internship [Optional]

In addition, there are occasionally opportunities for students to petition the department to be allowed to engage in a higher level internship with a faculty member. This allows advanced students to co-teach a course with a faculty member. The positions are reserved for only the very strongest of new teachers with evidence for readiness to teach their own class. If selected, one to two students will work with a faculty mentor to teach a section of an appropriate course. The student should enroll in SOC 682 Teaching Internship; the course is not required for the MA. Prerequisites for participating in the Teaching Internship include SOC 560 Teaching Sociology and having served as a teaching associate as described in the above paragraph.

Plains of Study Submission Including Committee Identification [Semester One]

Near the end of the first semester in the program, a student should consult with the graduate coordinator to develop and submit a “Plan of Study” [see website for sample]. The plan sets student goals and strategies for accomplishment including not only coursework, but also additional professional development plans such as professional meeting attendance and networking strategies. The plan also requires that the student, with the help of the graduate coordinator, secure the commitment of two sociology graduate faculty members to serve on the thesis or project committee. This plan must be submitted to the graduate coordinator and will be placed in the student’s permanent file.

Thesis/Project Proposal [Semester Two]

Working with their committee, the student should propose their plan for completing a thesis or project. This proposal should include a potential theoretical foundation, data to be collected, and overview of literature, as applicable. This proposal must be submitted to and approved by the student’s full committee.

Advancement to Candidacy Application [Semester Three]

In the third semester in the program, students submit their applications for candidacy to Graduate Studies. This application includes a list of approved classes, a title and abstract of the thesis or project, internal review board (IRB) approval documentation and the signatures of the committee members, as well as the signature of the graduate coordinator. The application when approved places the student on the program for graduation.

Project or Thesis Work, Continuous Enrollment Requirements, and Leave of Absences

Once a student is approved for candidacy, they are required to enroll in at least 1 unit of thesis or project work every semester (fall and spring) until work is complete and each committee member has provided formal acceptance of the project or thesis. Students must file a formal “leave of absence” application if they are unable to continue enrollment (see Graduate School Handbook). If thesis/project work is in process after all coursework is complete (except for RP grades for 6 units of SOC 690 or SOC 692), the student may choose to meet the continuous enrollment requirement by taking 1 unit of SOC 693 each term through the College of Extended Education & Global Engagement.

Supplemental Coursework

Students may enroll in additional courses to supplement their coursework and further develop interests and expertise. Students desiring additional preparation for professional positions in program evaluation are encouraged to take advanced statistical analysis courses in other departments to supplement their core of methodology courses.