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S O C I O L O G Y

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The **Department of Sociology** at Texas Southern University offers the Master of Arts Degree with an emphasis on Social Inequality. Consistent with the University's focus on "urban programming," the Master of Arts Degree in Sociology emphasizes research into the complex social problems experienced by diverse urban populations, public responses to these problems in America and elsewhere, and the practical application of data in ameliorating or improving the condition of urban populations. While students are trained with an emphasis on sociological theory and methods, this program intensely addresses substantive topics such as inequality in education, employment and health as well as poverty, discrimination, and the role of media in these conversations. In addition to coursework in Social Inequality, optional coursework is offered which emphasizes the training of students who will apply their sociological skills in non academic professions on the local, state, and national levels. Ultimately, the Master of Arts Degree in Sociology at Texas Southern University emphasizes research in urban environments which produce data to be used in understanding and addressing the lived condition of varied urban populations. Toward that end, this program seeks to accomplish the following objectives:

1. Prepare graduates for successful transition into doctoral programs.
2. Prepare graduates for careers in applied sociology professions.
3. Provide graduates with the requisite skills to conduct sociological research in urban areas.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

In addition to the general requirements for admission to the Graduate School (*see the General Information section of this catalog*), applicants for admission to the Master of Arts program in Sociology are expected to have completed an undergraduate major or minor in sociology or a related discipline. Students who do not meet these criteria may be required to enroll in undergraduate Sociology courses before being fully admitted into the program. All application materials should be submitted to the **Texas Southern University Graduate School, not to the Department of Sociology**. The Department of Sociology Graduate Program Committee will review all applications and make recommendations to the Dean of the Graduate School.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

1. Degree requirements for a M.A. in Sociology:
 - A. **Thesis option:** Completion of thirty (36) semester hours of graduate work which includes twelve (12) semester credit hours of required courses with a grade point average of at least 3.0; twelve (18) semester credit hours of electives, with a grade point average of at least 3.0; successful completion of six (6) thesis hours; demonstration of competency in functional English; and the successful defense of a thesis.
 - B. **Non-Thesis Option:** Completion of thirty-six (36) semester credit hours of graduate work which includes twelve (12) semester credit hours of required courses with a grade point average of at least 3.0; twenty-four (18) semester credit hours of electives, with a grade point average of at least 3.0; successful completion of six (6) internship hours; demonstration of competency in functional English; successful completion of a written comprehensive exam; and successful completion of an oral comprehensive.

CURRICULUM SUMMARY
Allocation of Thirty Semester Hours
Thesis Option

1. Core Courses (Required).....18 SCH
SOC 525 (3) SOC 554 (3) SOC 557 (3) SOC 559 (3)
SOC 899 (6)

2.

and their current role and status.

SOC 632 BLACK SOCIOLOGY (3) Examination of African and African American contributions to the development of social scientific knowledge.

SOC 634 CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND THE URBAN COMMUNITY (3) Critical analysis of the subsystems of the criminal justice system and their impact on the urban community.

SOC 639 URBAN POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY (3) The application of sociological theory and analysis to political processes and systems in urban settings.

SOC 655A INTERNSHIP (3) Supervised work and instruction in formal organizations relevant to the student's area of specialization. **Must take part A & B for credit.**

SOC 655B INTERNSHIP (3) Supervised work and instruction in formal organizations relevant to the student's area of specialization. **Must complete part A & B for credit**

SOC 710 SOCIAL STRATIFICATION (3) Theoretical analysis of how social class, status, and power shape social relations, determine life chances, and affect attitudes, opinions, and political choices of individuals and groups; processes that perpetuate systems of class, gender, and race inequality, and degree of social mobility in societies.

SOC 715 SEXUALITY AND SOCIETY (3) Social construction of sexuality examines the ways in which human groups attach meaning to emotions, desires, and relationships; Sexuality across the life course, including dating, varieties of sexual relationships, birth control and procreative technologies, sexually transmitted diseases, and HIV/AIDS.

SOC 720 CLINICAL SOCIOLOGY (3) Presentation and analysis of the creation of sociological knowledge and the clinical application of that knowledge to various settings of group life.

SOC 739 PUBLIC AND SOCIAL POLICY (3) Policy analysis, design and implementation issues related.

SOC 750 RACE & ETHNICITY (3) Analysis of social factors affecting racial and ethnic groups.

SOC 820 FAMILY THERAPY AND FAMILY RELATIONS (3) Analysis of various issues in family relations and of the various therapeutic approaches in marital and family therapy.

SOC 840 GERONTOLOGY (3) Examination of sociological theories and analyses relevant to various socio-cultural components of aging.

SOC 857 ADVANCED SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY (3) Advanced analysis of recent developments in sociological theory, including the relationship of theory to empirical research.

SOC 859 QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS (3) Research and project problem definition, research and project design, with a focus on qualitative data.

SOC 880 SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH AND MEDICINE (3) The analysis of present and emerging sociological conceptualizations designed to understand the development, functions, organization and processes involved in contemporary systems of health and medicine.

SOC 893 ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY (3) Critical analysis of the relationships between various modes and patterns of Social organization and man environment relations.

SOC 896 INDUSTRIAL SOCIOLOGY (3) Planning, organizational, and infrastructural

