

SOCIOLOGY, MS

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum degree requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#requirements>) and policies (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policies>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW-Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail	
Minimum Credit Requirement	30 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	16 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	15 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.25 GPA required (3.00 in the first semester)

Other Grade Requirements Students must earn a BC or above in all required courses. Grades of Incomplete are considered to be unsatisfactory if they are not removed during the next enrolled semester.

Assessments and Examinations Master's students write a thesis under the supervision of their major professor. After completing the thesis, students take a comprehensive oral exam covering general sociology, graduate work to date, and the thesis.

Occasionally students decide not to continue pursuit of the PhD and opt to complete the requirements for a non-thesis master's degree. In these rare cases, students complete course requirements and take the comprehensive oral exam.

Language Requirements No language requirements.

REQUIRED COURSES

The Departments of Sociology and Community & Environmental Sociology have one graduate program, and we admit only those students who intend to complete a PhD. Students admitted to the doctoral program earn a master's degree en route to the PhD. They complete the courses listed below and also write and defend a thesis. Students who earned a master's degree that included a thesis before entering the program may apply the work to the thesis requirement.

Master's Degree Course Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
SOC 700	Introductory Proseminar for Graduate Students	1
SOC/C&E SOC 361	Statistics for Sociologists II	4
SOC 754	Qualitative Research Methods in Sociology	3
SOC 773	Intermediate Classical Theory	3
Additional credits		19

Additional credits should be selected from SOC/C&E SOC courses and seminars restricted to graduate students (typically these courses are numbered 700-984). These additional credits may include no more than 9 credits numbered 985 and above (e.g., working group courses, independent reading courses, and thesis credits).

Those students affiliated with the multi-disciplinary Center for Demography & Ecology and Center for Demography of Health & Aging must complete these courses toward the Methods requirement:

SOC 674	Demographic Techniques I	3
SOC 756	Demographic Techniques II	3

Each semester, throughout the graduate program, CDE/CDHA students must also enroll in:

SOC/C&E SOC 995	Research: Methodology Trainees	1-3
SOC/C&E SOC 997	Research: Demography and Ecology Trainees	1-3

Total Credits **30**