

Prairie View A & M University

MASTER OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY

*Division of Social Work,
Behavioral and Political Sciences*



***“If people define situations as real, they are real
in their consequences.”***

William I. and Dorothy S. Thomas

Mission

The mission of the graduate program in Sociology at Prairie View A&M University is to develop professional sociologists who are educated in substantive areas of sociology and with a comprehensive knowledge of theory and methods.

The Master of Arts degree program in sociology offers a curriculum that enables students to analyze, critically evaluate, and engage in the planning of solutions to problems that evolve from patterns of human social interaction. The graduate program prepares students for advanced study (e.g., Ph.D.) in sociology, criminology, law, and social welfare.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the regular application requirements of the University, applicants to the M.A. program must have the following:

Present evidence that they are capable of successfully completing a rigorous graduate program. Such evidence must include completion of a department application, and three letters of recommendation from persons in a position to evaluate the student's academic potential.

Master of Arts in Sociology

A total of 36 semester hours of graduate course work must be completed in graduate studies. For students opting to complete a thesis, the requirements consist of 30 hours of course work and 6 hours devoted to the M.A. thesis. Upon the decision to pursue a thesis, the student will form a committee consisting of two sociology faculty, (one of whom will serve as the principal advisor), and one additional faculty member from the Division of Social Work, Behavioral and Political Sciences. The topic of the thesis will be determined by the student and the advisor. The format will follow criteria established by the Sociology Program. The thesis must be orally defended and approved by all members of the faculty thesis committee before the degree is conferred. The student must register for thesis each semester until satisfactorily completed.

Of the 36 hours of course work, 9 hours are core requirements and the remaining 27 are sociology support/elective requirements of which no more than 6 hours are to be taken from outside the program. For students selecting the non-thesis option, 36 hours of course work must be completed: 9 hours of core courses, 27 hours of support area requirements of which 6 hours are to be taken outside the program.

Admission to candidacy will be granted upon completion of 12 semester hours of graduate work in sociology with an average grade of “B” or better. These hours must be completed at the University. The student must complete the Application for Admission to Candidacy form, through the Division of Social Work, Behavioral and Political Sciences, to the Dean of the Graduate School for approval. Students must maintain an average GPA of 3.0. Only two courses with a “C” grade, regardless of credit hours, will be accepted toward credit for the Master's of Arts degree in Sociology.

Program Degree Requirements

Common Core 9 SCH

All of the following must be taken within the student's first two semesters of enrollment:

SOCG 5123 Social Statistics
SOCG 5213 Classical Sociological Theory
SOCG 5223 Research Methods

Non-Thesis Option

21 SCH Selected From:

SOCG 5243 Urban Sociology
SOCG 5263 Sociology of Education
SOCG 5333 Criminology
SOCG 5353 Seminar in Race Relations
SOCG 5413 Contemporary Sociological Theory
SOCG 5423 Social Stratification
SOCG 5433 Theory of Criminal Justice System
SOCG 5443 Social Movements
SOCG 5453 Complex Organizations
SOCG 5553 Sociology of Gender and Sex Roles

6 SCH To be selected from related fields upon approval by advisor.

Total Degree Requirements 36 SCH

Thesis Option

15 SCH Selected From:

SOCG 5243 Urban Sociology
SOCG 5263 Sociology of Education
SOCG 5333 Criminology
SOCG 5353 Seminar in Race Relations
SOCG 5413 Contemporary Sociological Theory
SOCG 5423 Social Stratification
SOCG 5433 Theory of Criminal Justice System
SOCG 5443 Social Movements
SOCG 5453 Complex Organizations
SOCG 5553 Sociology of Gender and Sex Roles

6 SCH To be selected from related fields upon approval by advisor.

6 SCH Thesis
SOCG 5613 Thesis
SOCG 5623 Thesis

Total Degree Requirements 36 SCH

Administrative Officers

Dr. Walle Engedayehu, *Division Head*

Jackie R. Burns, Ph.D.
Kenyatta D. Phelps, Ph.D.
Sarah B. Williams, Ph.D.
Veeda V. Williams, M.A.

Famous People Who Majored in Sociology

Martin Luther King, Jr.

W.E.B. DuBois

Jesse Jackson

Maxine Waters

Paul Schaefer

Ahmaad Rahsad

Dan Aykroyd

Regis Philbin

Robin Williams

Saul Bellows

Roy Wilkins

Ronald Dellums

Gabrielle Union

Careers for Sociology Majors

College Professor

High School Teacher

Law / Corrections

Ministry

International Trade

Leadership and Planning

Medicine and Health

Social Work and Counseling

Human Resources

Marketing

Real Estate / Property Development

Public Policy

Research Analyst

For more information

Please contact:

Dr. Kenyatta D. Phelps
Sociology Program Coordinator
Prairie View A & M University
P.O. Box 519, MS 2203
Prairie View, TX 77446

kdphelps@pvamu.edu

Phone: (936) 261-3200

Fax: (936) 261-3229

www.pvamu.edu

For Additional Information Contact:

Graduate Admissions
(936) 261-3500

Financial Aid Office
(936) 261-1000



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