

SOCIOLOGY, M.S.

POLICIES

GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/>) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

PRIOR COURSEWORK

Graduate Work from Other Institutions

With Program approval, students may count up to 14 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions toward the minimum 30-credit Master's degree requirement and the minimum 50% graduate coursework requirement. Coursework completed five or more years prior to admission to the Master's program may not be used to satisfy either of these requirements.

UW-Madison Undergraduate

With program approval, students may count up to 7 credits earned in an undergraduate degree program at UW-Madison toward the Master's degree requirements. If the courses are numbered 300–699, the credits may count toward the minimum 30-credit degree requirement. If the courses are numbered 700–999, the credits may also count toward the minimum 50% graduate coursework requirement. Coursework completed five or more years prior to admission to the Master's program may not be used to satisfy either of these requirements.

UW-Madison University Special

With program approval, students may count up to 15 credits taken as a Special Student toward the Master's degree requirements. If the courses are numbered 300–699, the credits may count toward the minimum 30-credit degree requirement. If the courses are numbered 700–999, the credits may also count toward the minimum 50% graduate coursework requirement. Coursework completed five or more years prior to admission to the Master's program may not be used to satisfy either of these requirements.

PROBATION

The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300 or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or suspension from the Graduate School.

1. Good standing (progressing according to standards; any funding guarantee remains in place).
2. Probation (not progressing according to standards but permitted to enroll; loss of funding guarantee; specific plan with dates and deadlines in place in regard to removal of probationary status).
3. Unsatisfactory progress (not progressing according to standards; not permitted to enroll, leave of absence, change of advisor or program, or dismissal).

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

Each new graduate student is matched with a first-year faculty advisor who shares his or her research interests. The first-year advisor helps with the transition to graduate school, offers an introduction to department culture, provides a structured point of contact should questions or problems arise, and provides information and support as the student selects a permanent advisor and thesis director. Students are expected to have ongoing contact with their advisor. All students are required to submit a yearly progress report that is read and discussed by a committee of faculty during the annual review. In addition, all students are expected to create and regularly update an Individual Development Plan (IDP) and use it as the basis for conversations with their advisor about evolving goals, current strengths, and plans for mastery of new skills. A student's advisor serves as chair of the thesis committee, which is composed of three graduate faculty members in Sociology and/or Community & Environmental Sociology.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

TIME CONSTRAINTS

Students are expected to complete the Master's degree by the end of the summer after their third year in the program.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (<https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/>)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure>)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/>)
 - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (<https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/>)
- Dean of Students Office (<https://doso.students.wisc.edu/>) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- Employee Assistance (<http://www.eao.wisc.edu/>) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
- Employee Disability Resource Office (<https://employee disabilities.wisc.edu/>) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
- Graduate School (<https://grad.wisc.edu/>) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
- Office of Compliance (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/>) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
- Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (<https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/>) (for conflicts involving students)
- Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (<http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/>) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
- Title IX (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/>) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances. They may also contact the L&S Academic

Divisional Associate Deans, the L&S Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning Administration, or the L&S Director of Human Resources.

OTHER

The Department guarantees five continuous years of funding to all admitted students. Our graduate students receive support toward their studies through project assistantships, research assistantships, teaching assistantships, lectureships, traineeships, and fellowships (fellowship awards may come from either the University or external agencies). All types of funding payrolled through the university provide a full tuition remission, a stipend, and subsidized health insurance for students.