

# SOCIOLOGY (SOCY)

Graduate Degree Program  
College: Behavioral and Social Sciences

## Abstract

The Graduate Program in Sociology is designed for students seeking a Ph.D. degree. However, the M.A. option is available to students who either wish to obtain a master's degree while continuing in the Ph.D. program, or who leave the program before finishing the PhD. Students will work with department faculty to develop their own research focus.

Typically, about half the students finishing Ph.D. degrees in the Sociology Department work as faculty members at colleges and universities, and about half are working in research, administration, and consulting in federal, state, or private organizations. Our location in the Washington, D.C., area offers an unusual number of full-time research opportunities for our graduates.

## Financial Assistance

Financial assistance for graduate students is available through teaching and research assistantships, and for advanced students through part-time instructorships. We also have several special fellowships for outstanding applicants that provide additional support tailored to each applicant's needs. All carry a stipend, tuition assistance, and health benefits.

## Contact

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**Courses:** SOCY

## ADMISSIONS

### General Requirements

- Statement of Purpose
- Transcript(s)
- Personal Experience Prompt

- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements/>))

## Program-Specific Requirements

- Letters of Recommendation (3)
- CV/Resume
- Supplemental Application (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/sites/gradschool.umd.edu/files/uploads/admissionsforms/umdsupplementaryapplication socy.pdf>)
- Writing Sample: Limited to 35 pages with references, tables, and figures.
- Description of Research/Work Experience (optional)

Admission to the graduate program is based upon the student's academic record, letters of recommendation, and other information relevant to the applicant's chances of being successful in the program. Although a previous major in Sociology is not required, students entering the graduate program should have had the following in undergraduate courses: mathematics through college algebra, elementary statistics, sociological theory, and sociological research methods. Students who have completed prior graduate coursework in Sociology may petition to waive one or more courses in Social Theory, Statistics, or Research Methods. New graduate students are assigned temporary advisors upon arrival, and are then expected to select a permanent advisor who will direct their dissertation research. For consideration for departmental fellowships or assistantships, applications should be received by the preferred deadlines.

For more admissions information or to apply to the program, please visit our Graduate School website (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/application-process/step-step-guide-applying/>).

## Application Deadlines

Type of Applicant	Fall Deadline
<b>Domestic Applicants</b>	
US Citizens and Permanent Residents	January 3, 2025
<b>International Applicants</b>	
F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas; A,E,G,H,I and L visas and immigrants	January 3, 2025

**Other Deadlines:** Please visit the program website at <http://socy.umd.edu> (<http://www.socy.umd.edu>)

## REQUIREMENTS

- Sociology, Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/sociology-socy/sociology-phd/>)
- Sociology, Master of Arts (M.A.) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/sociology-socy/sociology-ma/>)

## FACILITIES AND SPECIAL RESOURCES

In addition to these programs, the department is closely involved with the following research centers: the Center for Research on Military Organization, the Maryland Population Research Center (MPRC), the

Center for Innovation, and the Program for Society and the Environment. Collectively, these centers account for over five million dollars in annual research funding. The Department is also affiliated with an interdisciplinary Joint Program on Survey Methods (JPSM). The campus has excellent computer facilities and computer resources are available to faculty and graduate students.