

Idaho State University
Master of Arts in Sociology
GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK

Revised 2015



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DESCRIPTION OF THE MA PROGRAM IN SOCIOLOGY

Introduction

The Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice at Idaho State University offers a program leading to the degree of Master of Arts in Sociology. This handbook describes the procedures for completing the MA degree in Sociology. Careful reading of this handbook should assist students in their progress once they are accepted. The handbook is not intended to represent all policies and procedures, and it is supplemental to the graduate catalog with whose policies and procedures you should become thoroughly familiar. If you need clarification on any of the policies or procedures, please speak with the Director of the Sociology Graduate Program.

Program Mission

The program's mission is to encourage students in developing theoretical and methodological competence applicable to their chosen fields of interest. We develop sociologists who are able to engage in teaching, research, or professional service and who are capable of investigating, and evaluating changes in both the social world at large and in their professional field. Our graduate program offers close personal contact between faculty and students. Class sizes are small, encouraging student/faculty interaction.

Graduate Study in Sociology at Idaho State University

The MA program in Sociology is the only graduate program in Sociology in Idaho. The program is part of the department of Sociology, Social Work and Criminology. Since its inception in 1979, the graduate program in Sociology has granted 65 degrees. Annual enrollment numbers varied from 5 to 15; currently we have around 10-12 graduate students per semester.

Five faculty members in sociology teach and advise the students in the MA program. The program receives support from three Social Work faculty members in our department. Our social work faculty members have varied academic backgrounds and training in different disciplines in addition to social work. They also teach graduate courses, involve students in research projects, and serve on thesis committees.

The program offers a comprehensive MA-level curriculum. Our curriculum is demanding and meets the standards of our discipline. The curriculum requires 33 credits, comprehensive exams in methods, statistics and sociological theory and a substantial MA thesis with a final defense. The theses written by our students constitute solid sociological research.

We currently have one formal area of concentration in Criminology. Classes for the area of concentration in criminology are shared with the Department of Political Science. Faculty offers expertise in criminology, environmental sociology, medical sociology, religion, social diversity, sexuality, gender studies, leisure and deviance, family sociology, quantitative and qualitative research methods, gerontology, community, social theory, media sociology, sociology of sport, and social psychology. Faculty members in our department are very active scholars. They regularly publish in peer-refereed journals; they conduct research projects, and actively pursue funding sources for their research. A list of our faculty members and their teaching and research interest can be found in the appendix.

We pride ourselves with advancing students through the program swiftly. Students typically take 2 -2.3 years to graduate. Students who have gone on to earn doctoral or professional degrees have commented on the quality of instruction they have received in our program. Students say they felt well prepared for doctoral or professional studies and were able to compete with students who had graduated from prestigious programs. Students who entered the workforce

have also given us very positive feedback. The skills learned in our MA program have prepared students well for the demands of their jobs and have often enabled fast career advancement.

The Location

ISU is located in Pocatello, Idaho. Pocatello, with a population of about 54,000, is located in a high desert and mountainous area in the Rocky Mountains in close proximity to Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Tetons, and the Frank Church Wildness. Outdoor activities and recreation are readily available year round. The area offers affordable cost of living, symphony, theatre, hiking, biking, skiing, boating, four seasons of weather, and rural and urban opportunities for research.



A Word on Graduate Studies

In important ways graduate work differs from the undergraduate experiences. It requires you to think independently and to master methods of analysis and styles of interpretation rather than memorizing neatly packaged facts. It requires dedication and commitment to learning that exceeds what is included on a syllabus. As a graduate student, **you** are responsible for mapping your course of study within the bounds of our program. In addition, **you** are responsible for taking the initiative in selecting an advisor with whom you meet regularly in order to successfully complete the degree program. We recommend that you meet with your advisor at least once each semester to discuss your academic progress. The faculty members are here to help you in any way they can, but your progress through the graduate program is your responsibility.

Utility of an Advanced Degree in Sociology

Generally, a graduate degree in sociology prepares for two types of careers: academic and applied. Within the academic setting, the MA degree enables graduates to teach at the

community college level. Often graduates pursue Ph.D.'s in order to expand their employability in tenure-track teaching and research positions to other academic institutions. Not everyone pursuing a MA is intent on teaching sociology in academic settings. Many are preparing for what is generally called "applied sociology." Opportunities for employment as a sociologist exist in industrial, medical, and public agencies. Tasks performed in such settings by individuals who are trained in sociology range from applied research to census work, from administration of programs to program development, from evaluation of past programs to planning future needs.

Where have our students gone?

Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Houston

Assistant Professor of Sociology, College of Southeast Idaho

Assistant Professor of Sociology, BYU- Idaho

Instructor in Sociology, Boise State University

Instructor in Sociology, BYU-Idaho

Assistant Dean of Students, BYU-Idaho

Academic Counselor, Southern Oregon University

Demography Ph.D. Student, U. Texas, San Antonio

Sociology Ph.D. Student, Utah State University

Sociology Ph.D. student, University of Oregon

Sociology Ph.D. student, University of Missouri

Ph.D. student, Case Western Reserve University, Ohio

Director, Market Research Company, Salt Lake City, Utah

Statistician Demographer, U.S. Census Bureau

Program Manager, Developmental Disabilities Agency

Senior Research Analyst, Idaho State Patrol

Executive Director, Help Inc.

Alcohol Rehab Counselor, Pocatello

Performance Analyst, Work Force Adjustment Board, San Diego, California

Research Director, Private Research Institute, Ogden, Utah

ADMISSION

The student must apply to, and meet all criteria for, admission to the Graduate School. In addition to the general requirements of the Graduate School, the student must comply with the following departmental requirements:

- Students must score a minimum of the 40th percentile in one of the three sections of the GRE
- Have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0) for the last 60± credits taken as an undergraduate, or permission of the Graduate Director.
- Include a statement of interest and career goals.
- Three letters of recommendation must accompany the application.

It is not necessary that a student's undergraduate major be sociology. However, for full admission to the graduate program in Sociology, the student must have completed the following courses or their equivalent:

- Introduction to Sociology,
- Social Theory,
- Social Statistics, and
- Social Science Research Methods.

In cases of deficiencies, students may be granted waivers, alternative courses, or Classified with Performance Requirements (w/PR) admission at the discretion of the Sociology Graduate Director. Courses that are taken to compensate for undergraduate deficiencies cannot be applied to the 33 required credits for the graduate program.

Please refer to the webpage of the Graduate School at Idaho State University at https://ssb.isu.edu/bprod/bwskalog.P_DisplLoginNon for information on application and admission procedures. In brief, the following are required:



View from Red Hill

TUITION AND FEES

Graduate students will be charged fees as full-time students whenever they enroll for 9 credits or more. For financial aid purposes, graduate assistants/fellows and students receiving other financial aid must enroll for 9 credits per semester to be considered full-time.

Fees are subject to change without advance notice by the Idaho State Board of Education prior to the first official day of class.

Tuition

Graduate Resident

Full-Time (9 credits or more) \$3,867.00 per semester

Part-time (8 credits or less) \$387.00 per credit

Graduate Non-Resident

Full-Time (9 credits or more) \$10,247.00 per semester

Part-time (8 credits or less) \$594.00 per credit

Student Health Insurance

\$1,251.00 fall semester, \$1,251.00 spring/summer, \$625.50 summer only.

Student health insurance is charged to full-time students (9 graduate credits or more) and international students taking one credit or more. A waiver is available with documentation of personal coverage.



Michael J – the program fox

FINANCIAL AID

There are seven sources of financial assistance available to graduate students in Sociology at ISU.

Teaching Assistantships

We have currently five teaching assistantships available for graduate students. Each teaching assistantship carries with it a stipend of approximately \$12,800 over a nine-month period. In addition, tuition and fees are paid for by the college. Teaching assistantships are awarded annually on a competitive basis. They may be continued for a maximum of two consecutive academic years. A second year award is contingent upon the performance during the first year. TAs typically teach their own classes after the first semester (usually, Sociology 101 or 102). Faculty will supervise and advise the TA in his/her responsibilities.

Only under extenuating circumstances may students who are awarded TA's hold other jobs at the same time. Graduate assistants may work for additional income subject to the following rules: 1) it must be done according to the official graduate student payment policy (see Graduate Catalog); and 2) requested in writing by the Dean of the Graduate School. Students on teaching assistantships are required to be enrolled in no fewer than 9 and no more than 12 credit hours per semester. Students who have completed SOC 5502 Proseminar will be given preference in the allocation of Teaching Assistantships.

To apply for assistantship write a brief letter indicating your interest, fill out the application form for a Teaching Assistantship (Appendix), obtain two letters of recommendation, and submit the application materials to the director of the graduate program in the department. **The application deadline is the March 15.** Teaching assistantships are awarded in April for the next academic year.

Adjunct Instructorships

We often need to cover additional courses in sociology, especially online courses. We often offer our graduate students adjunct contracts to teach these courses. The chair in consultation with faculty members selects students depending on their progress in the program, teaching experience, and teaching performance. The salary for each course is approximately \$3,400 per semester. As with the teaching assistantships the student teachers will be supported and advised by faculty.

Career Path Internship

The ISU Career Path Internship (CPI) program provides opportunities for students to be employed both on and off campus as interns in positions concomitant with their academic and professional interests. Each department receives an annual allotment of Career Path internship money. At the beginning of the fall semester, faculty members decide on the use of the internship money. Applicants for the internships must be enrolled in at least 9 credits as a graduate student. Graduate students who are working on a thesis must be enrolled in at least one academic credit to remain eligible.

Fellowships

A limited number of fellowships are available for graduate study. Some of these fellowships require the Department to nominate a student, e.g., Kasiska, while others are student initiated. Generally, fellowships require only that the student maintain satisfactory progress in the

program. They do not require services or work for the Department or the University. Students will be notified of fellowships that are linked to departmental efforts. Various listings are available in the Graduate Office, which provide data on fellowships for which graduate students might be eligible for.

Grants

Students should be aware of the possibility of obtaining grants, which are usually awarded to faculty who then can pay for student services. However, students also may be eligible for a wide variety of research grants, especially from government sources. More information is available at the Graduate School or the Office of Research.

Work study

Work study jobs are available in the department for students who qualify. Qualifications are solely dependent on income/need and skills needed by the department. Applications for work study positions are made through the office of Financial Aid.

Non-resident Tuition Waivers (NRTW)

Non-Resident Tuition Waivers cover only the non-resident tuition. Unless other scholarships are awarded, the student must pay the in-state enrollment fees each semester or term. These awards are distributed on a competitive basis by the Graduate School. Application must be received by **May 1st for the following Fall Semester** consideration and by **November 1st for the following Spring Semester**. Non-Resident Tuition Waivers may be granted for the academic year or for one semester only. Awards are made after final grades for the current semester are recorded. Out of State Scholar NRTWs are used to recruit top non-resident students to ISU. The number of awards available is based on available annual funding. Out of State Scholar NRTWs are highly competitive, consequently the average GPA awarded is typically a 3.75 or higher. These awards waive the total amount of non-resident tuition.

Minimum Criteria:

- Must be full-time (at least 9 credits each semester)
- Must be a degree-seeking graduate student
- Must have a minimum GPA of 3.00 at the time of award and for award renewal
- Awards are renewable for up to eight semesters based on meeting the minimum criteria
- Preference given to academically superior students in under-subscribed majors

See the webpage of the Graduate School at Idaho State University at http://www.isu.edu/graduate/finsupp.shtml#non_resident_tuition_waivers for opportunities and details.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

If you follow the requirements and proper sequence of procedures, then your experience in the graduate program will proceed reasonably well. The individualized nature of one's graduate program can lull one into nonchalance about formalities. To help allay such casualness, please take note of the degree requirements, procedures, and deadlines. A checklist is included in the Appendix.

Upon acceptance into the Master of Arts degree program in Sociology, you will be advised in your first semester's curriculum by the Graduate Program Director. Before the end of the first

semester you should select an advisor who may or may not serve as your thesis advisor.

Progress

Students should have and follow a plan of study (Appendix). They should accomplish specific steps within selected periods of time maintaining enrollment and paying tuition each semester.

The Graduate School stipulates that all requirements for the degree must be completed within eight years from the date of admission to graduate study. This time limit applies to both full-time and part-time students.

Students should make satisfactory progress each semester toward the M.A. degree in Sociology. A 3.0 GPA for courses listed on the plan of study is required for any graduate degree at Idaho State University. A grade of C+ is considered unacceptable performance at the graduate level. A C+ or lower in two graduate courses are cause for dismissal from the program.

Curriculum Requirements

All students are required to take a course on professionalization, SOC 5502 (Proseminar), a general theoretical course, SOC 6600 (Comparative Sociological Theories), a course in advanced research methods, SOC 6603 (Topics in Methods), and at least 6 credits in thesis hours, SOC 6650.

Students, who have not taken SOC 4408 (Advanced Social Statistics) or its equivalent, are required to take the course in their graduate program as SOC 5508. Students who have not taken SOC 4403 (Contemporary Sociological Theory) or its equivalent, are required to take this course as a prerequisite to SOC 6600.

The **minimum required number of hours of graduate work is 33**. Students must complete at least 15 credits in 6600- level courses.

Because the Comprehensive Examination is based upon theory and methods, it is recommended that students complete the required theory and research courses (and their prerequisites) as soon as possible.

Curriculum Requirements

Required Courses (15 – 18 credits)

SOC 5502 Proseminar

SOC 5508 Advanced Social Statistics

SOC 6600 Comparative Sociological Theories

SOC 6603 Topics in Methods

SOC 6650 Thesis (minimum of 6 credits)

Sociology Electives (15 – 18 credits)

To be selected from 5500 and 6600 level courses in sociology or other graduate courses approved by graduate director.

Total number of credits: 33



Seminar

Comprehensive Examinations

A written comprehensive examination is required of all students in our program. The exam consists of two parts: theory and methods/statistics. It is strongly recommended that students take the exam following the semester that they are completing the required courses in theory, methods, and research.

The exam is offered in the week prior to the onset of classes in the spring and fall semester, and in closed week of the spring semester. Students may take the exam at any of the times that it is offered. Students must pass the exam prior to filing for admission to candidacy.

The rationale for the comprehensive exam is two-fold. The exam serves first as a diagnostic tool for use by faculty to identify problems that might prevent the successful completion of the thesis. Second, the exam provides a structured opportunity for the student to integrate the diverse material comprising sociology.

The exam procedure will be as follows:

- A list of possible theory, methods, and statistics exam questions is on file in the Sociology Department. Students may obtain copies of the questions at any time. Some of the actual exam questions will be taken directly from this list.
- Students will take the two exam sections on two different days in the exam week. Students will be given 6 hours to answer the questions for each section (theory and methods/stats). Students will write their comprehensive exams on computers in the Sociology Department offices. Exams will be monitored by the Graduate Program Director.
- The exams will be graded independently by at least two faculty members chosen by the Graduate Program Director. The Director will collate the grades for each section of the exam.
- Each section of the exam will be graded either “pass”, “conditional pass”, or “fail”. The

results of the exam will be given to the student by the Graduate Program Director within two weeks of the exam date.

- Students who receive a failure on any section of the exam are permitted one retake of such section(s). **The exam has to be retaken at the next time the comprehensive exams are offered.** A student failing any part of the exam a second time will meet with his/her advisor and the Department Graduate Director to decide the best course of action.
- Students who receive a conditional pass may, at the discretion of the exam committee, be asked to write a paper or be extensively interviewed to demonstrate competence in lieu of retaking the exam.

Thesis

Students are encouraged to **identify a thesis topic as early as possible** - ideally during their first year of graduate work. The Master of Sociology thesis is intended to be a relatively limited research exercise on a focused and manageable topic. At the same time, it must be carried out with care and rigor. It can be a replication of an earlier investigation or an attempt to extend previously published research.

How do you come up with a thesis topic?

You should talk with faculty members about your thesis topic early in your graduate studies. Ideally, the thesis topic should be in the area of your future career, e.g., health, criminal justice, environment, gender. Often thesis topics are derived from research projects with faculty members. If you are working on a research project, already know the data and read the literature on the topic, your thesis topic should be based on that research.

You should first start with picking the general area for your thesis and then proceed to a narrower field. Faculty will help you with narrowing down your field of interest and formulating a good research question. Feel free to talk to any faculty member in our department about your ideas for a thesis.

Thesis Committee

Your master's thesis committee will consist of your thesis advisor, a second sociology faculty member, and a third faculty from outside the department who will represent the Graduate Faculty. Your thesis advisor will suggest and approve thesis committee members.

You should choose a thesis advisor whose research and scholarly interests are similar to your own. During the preparation of the thesis proposal, in consultation with the thesis advisor, the student will ask the second and third committee members to serve on the thesis committee. Their interests and backgrounds should be related to the topic of the thesis. Students may not always be able to get the committee requested due to considerations such as work leaves, previous commitments, or leaves of absence. And although you may suggest a faculty from outside the department as your third thesis committee member, the Graduate Dean will make the final decision.

Thesis proposal

The thesis proposal should be completed at the beginning of the semester following the comprehensive exams.

You may consult with any faculty members as you work toward the formulation of a thesis project. When you have identified the general subject area in which you want to do thesis research, you should select the professor whom you wish to become your thesis advisor. When the thesis proposal is ready, the thesis advisor will schedule a closed meeting of the

committee to review the proposal – the proposal defense.

One week prior to the proposal presentation, the proposal should be made available to the members of the thesis committee and the Department. If the thesis committee approves the proposal; the student may then proceed actively on the thesis. If approval is not given; another proposal defense meeting should be scheduled after suitable revision.

Thesis Writing

Students should refer to the Style Manual of the American Sociological Association for detailed guidance in the formulating and preparation of their research proposal thesis. The manual can be downloaded online from the website of the American Sociological Association at <http://www.asanet.org>. Copies of the manual are also in the sociology conference room and in the university library.

The student's committee will continue to supervise the preparation of the thesis with the thesis advisor taking the major responsibility. Students should consult with their advisor and other committee members with regard to any major problems and keep them informed of thesis progress. The thesis committee will have the responsibility of insuring that the final version of the thesis conforms to the consensus reached at the conclusion of the public defense of the thesis.

Thesis Defense

Oral examinations are scheduled by the department. **The oral defense must take place no later than two weeks before the end of the semester in which the student intends to graduate.** The thesis advisor will notify the Graduate School of the date of the defense, the student's name, the members of the committee, and the title of the thesis. The oral defense is open to students and faculty at Idaho State University.

Copies in substantially final form must be given to all committee members, including GFR, at **least 2 weeks prior to oral defense.** Another copy must be laid out in the department. Each member of the candidate's committee should carefully examine a preliminary draft of the thesis. Excessive numbers of corrections may warrant that a second or third preliminary draft be reviewed by the committee.

After successful defense of the thesis, the thesis committee members sign the Thesis Approval Form for final approval and acceptance of the thesis. Only after the oral defense, and with the permission of the committee, may a student prepare the final copy of the thesis.

Thesis Clearance

The student must submit a digital copy of the final thesis to the thesis advisor and the department.

The student must submit to the Graduate School the following items **two (2) weeks following the thesis defense:**

1. One pdf version of your thesis.
2. One originally signed Use Authorization page.
3. One originally signed committee approval page.

Instructions for formatting and submission of the final thesis can be found at

<http://www.isu.edu/graduate/pdf/Thesis-Dissertation-Instructions.pdf>

Application for Graduation

1. **FINAL PROGRAM OF STUDY FORM.** Must be turned into the Graduate School Office one semester before intended semester of graduation.
2. **PAYMENT OF \$20 GRADUATION/DIPLOMA FEE.** Must be paid prior to graduation. **THIS MUST BE PAID AT THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OR THE REGISTRATION AND RECORDS OFFICE,** Campus Box 8075, Pocatello, ID 83209.
3. **SUBMISSION OF FINAL THESIS OR DISSERTATION CLEARANCE TO GRADUATE SCHOOL OFFICE.** Required materials for thesis/dissertation clearance must be turned in **TWO** weeks after the oral defense.
4. **CHANGE OF GRADE FORMS FOR ALL INCOMPLETES.** Must be received by the Registrar's Office 2 weeks after the semester ends including those for 650 Thesis and 699 Dissertation.
5. **TRANSFER OF CREDITS.** Official transcripts to be used for transfer of credits in a degree program must be received in the Graduate School Office 2 weeks after the semester ends.
6. **IF YOU DO NOT COMPLETE REQUIREMENTS** for the intended graduation date, you must update your application information with the Graduate School and pay a \$20 **REPROCESSING** fee. If you do not reapply, your file will be placed on inactive status.



Graduation Celebration

APPENDICES

CHECKLIST FOR PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS

<u>PROCEDURES</u>	<u>UNDER DIRECTION OF</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Application for Admission to Graduate Study (apply online). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide official transcripts of all credits earned at other institutions. • Submit scores on Graduate Record Examination. • Students seeking financial assistance should submit GRE scores prior to 1st Friday in April. • Submit three letters of recommendations. • Submit statement of interest 	Graduate School Submit Letters of Recommendation and statement directly to department	By April 1 (SS, FS) By Nov 1 (S)
Submit Application for Teaching Assistantship. All previous steps must be completed before application will be considered.	Graduate Director	March 15th. Decisions will be made in early April.
Contact Director of Graduate Program upon arrival on campus		First week of first semester as graduate student
Fill out Plan of Study	Graduate Director	By end of first semester
Apply to take comps	Graduate Director	By May 15th for fall; by December 15th for Spring; by March 15 th for end of Spring semester.
Take comprehensive exams.	Graduate Director	A week before onset of fall or spring semesters, or in closed week of the spring semester.

File for admission to candidacy and the formal appointment of a graduate faculty representative.	Graduate Director	After passing comps
Submit Thesis proposal to committee members and department.	Thesis Advisor	One week before thesis proposal defense
Defense of thesis proposal	Thesis Advisor	In semester after passing comps
Submit "Final program of Study" to graduate school	Graduate School	One semester before intended graduation
Pay graduation fee	Graduate School	Prior to graduation
Submit final draft of thesis to each member of thesis committee plus one copy to department.	Thesis Advisor	No later than 2 weeks prior to oral defense
Notify Graduate School about defense schedule.	Thesis Advisor	At least one week prior to defense.
Defend thesis	Thesis Advisor	No later than 2 weeks before end of semester
Make final thesis corrections and send on pdf version of your thesis, one originally signed Use, and on originally signed committee approval page to graduate school	Graduate School	Within 2 weeks following thesis defense
Send final thesis copy to thesis advisor and department	Thesis Advisor	

GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SOC 5502 Proseminar in Sociology: 3 semester hours.

An overview of the field of sociology, with emphasis on the teaching of sociology, orientation to graduate education, major sociological theories, issues, research approaches, and ethical problems in the field today. PREREQ: Permission of instructor

SOC 5503 Contemporary Sociological Theory: 3 semester hours.

Survey and appraisal of sociological theories since 1945: structural functionalism, rational choice, conflict, symbolic interactionism, and phenomenology

SOC 5508 Statistical Analysis: 3 semester hours.

Emphasizes advanced techniques in research design, data measurement, and multivariate analysis utilizing computer application

SOC 5513 Mind Body and Society: 3 semester hours.

Symbolic interaction and its relation to selfhood, sympathy, illness, sexuality, and addiction; and to groupings like enemies, communities, and associations

SOC 5531 Criminology: 3 semester hours.

Analysis of criminal law, law enforcement, judicial roles and processes, correctional approaches, the criminal offender and societal reactions. Theory and research as applicable to behavior and institutional relationships

SOC 5536 Elite Deviance and Crime: 3 semester hours.

Explores the types of criminal behaviors engaged in by the American socioeconomic and corporate elite. The course first explores and identifies who this elite is and then examines their ideological and economic history in American society. Specific examples of elite and corporate crime are presented and discussed in class. Specific, evaluated graduate-level activities and/or performances are identified in the course syllabus

SOC 5538 Sexual Crimes: 3 semester hours.

Complex relationships of human sexuality to law and crime. A range of sexual attitudes, practices and lifestyles will be discussed in the context of cultural norms, legal parameters and personal expression. Students will be introduced to cultural variations in defining and addressing sexuality and crime. Current theoretical explanations of sexual offending and U.S. social policies and clinical interventions for sexual offenders. Specific, evaluated graduate-level activities and/or performances are identified in the course syllabus

SOC 5559 MA Sociology Internship: 1-3 semester hours.

The MA sociology internship will give eligible graduate students the opportunity to explore the applied work of sociology in public and private agencies and organizations, private firms and foundations. Students will be placed in supervised internship positions commensurate with their skills, abilities and career goals. Only classified students with satisfactory academic progress are eligible for this course. May be repeated for a total of 6 credits. PREREQ: Permission of instructor

SOC 5562 Power Class and Prestige: 3 semester hours.

Theories and methodology of status systems; the relation of class to the social structure; analysis of class in different societies, with emphasis upon the class system and power. PREREQ: Permission of instructor

SOC 5567 Community Networking: Cultivating the Sociological Imagination: 3 semester hours.

Advanced study of the sociology of community through readings, class discussions, lectures, and a community networking internship

SOC 5583 Independent Problems in Sociology: 1-4 semester hours.

Readings, observations, applied work, or data analysis in content area not offered in our curriculum. May be repeated up to 6 credits

SOC 5591 Topics in Sociology: 3 semester hours.

Readings, discussion, and preparation of reports on selected topics. May be repeated with different content

SOC 5592 Topics in Criminal Justice: 3 semester hours.

Readings, discussion, and preparation of reports on selected topics. May be repeated with different content. Specific, evaluated graduate-level activities and/or performances are identified in the course syllabus

SOC 5599 Experimental Course: 1-6 semester hours.

This is an experimental course. The course title and number of credits are noted by course section and announced in the class schedule by the scheduling department. Experimental courses may be offered no more than three times. May be repeated

SOC 6600 Comparative Sociological Theories: 3 semester hours.

Comparative analysis of various theoretical perspectives in sociology with special emphasis on structural functionalism, symbolic interactionism, exchange theory, conflict theories, phenomenology, and ethnomethodology. Primary emphasis will be placed on the major propositions of each perspective and the significant contributions of scholarship in each area. PREREQ: SOC 4403 or SOC 5503 or equivalent

SOC 6601 Sociological Theories: 3 semester hours.

A seminar in selected topics in theory which will focus on either historical, comparative or contemporary theories. May be repeated for up to 9 credits

SOC 6603 Topics in Methods: 3 semester hours.

In depth focus on methodological topics relevant and timely to students' needs and interests. May be repeated up to 6 credits

SOC 6605 Social Organization: 3 semester hours.

A seminar in selected topics of social organization and disorganization which will include such themes as complex organization, industrial sociology, community, and urban studies. May be repeated for up to 6 credits

SOC 6607 Topics in Diversity: 3 semester hours.

A seminar in selected topics of social differentiation such as stratification, minorities, etc. May be repeated for up to 6 credits

SOC 6613 Social Behavior: 3 semester hours.

A seminar in social interaction which will consider such themes as collective behavior, social psychology, deviance, ethnography, and neo-positive approaches to behavioral analysis. May be repeated up to 6 credits

SOC 6615 Social Institutions: 3 semester hours.

A seminar in selected aspects of medicine, law and crime, media, corporations, sports, religion, family, education, and political society. May be repeated up to 9 credits

SOC 6620 Seminar Philosophy of Social Science: 3 semester hours.

The application of mathematical and scientific methods to the study of social, economic, and political life will be considered through the reading of certain seminal writings. Attention will be given to the fundamental assumptions about the nature of scientific rationality. Required of all D.A. students

SOC 6621 Seminar Interdisciplinary Topics in Social Science: 3 semester hours.

Examination of selected topics in the social sciences from the analytic orientations and perspectives common and peculiar to the disciplines of political science, economics and sociology. Required of all D.A. students

SOC 6649 Independent Studies: 1-4 semester hours.

Consultation course consisting of independent student effort under the guidance of the instructor. Students are assigned to, or request assignment to, specific independent problems on the basis of interest and preparation. This may include preparation and presentation of a major research project, directed readings, or tutorial study. May be repeated

SOC 6650 Thesis: 1-6 semester hours.

Research, analysis, and writing of master's thesis. 6 credits of [SOC 6650](#) are required for graduation. Continuous enrollment at a minimum of 1 credit must be maintained until the thesis is defended. May be repeated. Graded S/U

SOC 6699 Experimental Course: 1-6 semester hours.

This is an experimental course. The course title and number of credits are noted by course section and announced in the class schedule by the scheduling department. Experimental courses may be offered no more than three times. May be repeated

GRADUATE FACULTY

Gesine Hearn, Chair/Associate Professor of Sociology

Ph.D., Friedrich-Alexander-Universitaet, Erlangen-Nuremberg, 2006

R.N., Friedrich-Alexander-Universitaet, Erlangen-Nuremberg, 1987

M.A., Eberhard-Karls-Universitaet, Tuingen, Germany, 1993

Specialties: Sociology of Health and Illness, Families, Theory, Qualitative Methods

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Anthony Hoskin, Associate Professor of Sociology

Ph.D., State University of New York at Albany, 1999

Specialties: Biocriminology , Interpersonal Violence, Criminological Theory, Firearms and Violence, Quantitative Research Methods

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Jeehoon Kim, Assistant Professor of Social Work

Ph.D., University at Albany, NY, 2011

M.S.W., University at Albany, NY, 2003

M.H.E., Seoul National University, 1997

Specialties: Aging and Family Studies, Macro Practice, Social Policy, Quantitative Research

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Katrina Running, Undergraduate Program Director/Assistant Professor of Sociology

Ph.D., University of Arizona, AZ, 2013

M.A., University of Arizona, AZ, 2009 - Sociology

M.A., University of Arizona, AZ, 2007 - Political Science

Specialties: Climate Justice & Inequality, Social & Environmental Sustainability, Social Research Methods • Gender

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Jeremy Thomas, Director Gender & Sexuality Studies/Assistant Professor of Sociology

Ph.D., Purdue University, 2012

M.S., Purdue University, 2007

M.Div., Asbury Theological Seminary, 2002

Specialties: Religion, Sexuality, Deviance, The Body

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DJ Williams, Associate Professor of Social Work

Ph.D., University of Alberta, 2004

M.S.W., M.S., University of Utah, 2000

Specialties: Deviant leisure, Forensic Leisure Science, Gambling in Prisons, Forensic Social Work, Sociology of Sexuality, Narrative Methodology

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APPLICATION FOR GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP
MA Program in Sociology, Idaho State University

An individual applying for a graduate teaching assistantship should complete and submit this application, a statement of interest, and two letters of recommendation to the Director of the Graduate Program in the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Criminal Justice at 921 South 8th Avenue, Stop 8114, Pocatello, Idaho, 83209-8114.

In addition, the applicant must complete the Application to Admission to Graduate School.
The deadline for application for a graduate teaching assistantship is March 15.

Name: _____

Present Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Have you ever been a teaching assistant? Yes ___ No ___ Where?

List the courses in which you have been a teaching assistant: _____

Have you ever taken the full responsibility of teaching a course? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, please list courses: _____

If you have been employed during college or after graduation, please list the positions you have held and their duties: _____

Please list your long-range educational and professional objective:

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

**Idaho State University
Masters of Arts in Sociology
Plan of Study**

Name: _____ Bengal ID: _____ Date of Admission: _____

Classified Classified (with Performance Requirements) Unclassified

Pre-requisites to Program or approved Equivalentents

____ Introduction to Sociology (SOC 1101) ____ Social Theory (SOC 3301/ SOC 4403)
 ____ Social Statistics (SOC 2207) ____ Sociological Methods (SOC 2206)
 ____ Other: _____

Plan of Study

Required Courses (15-18 credits)	Semester you plan to take class
SOC 5502 Proseminar in Sociology	_____
SOC 5508 Advanced Social Statistics	_____
SOC 6600 Comparative Sociological Theories	_____
SOC 6603 Topics in Methods	_____
SOC 6650 Thesis (minimum 6 credits)	_____

Sociology Electives (15-18 credits) – Please list semester you plan to take e.g. [F08]

- | | | | |
|----------|-----|-------|-----|
| 1. _____ | [] | _____ | [] |
| 2. _____ | [] | _____ | [] |
| 3. _____ | [] | _____ | [] |
| 4. _____ | [] | _____ | [] |
| 5. _____ | [] | _____ | [] |
| 6. _____ | [] | _____ | [] |

Total Number of Credits Taken: _____
Minimum Total Credits: 33

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Advisor Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Graduate Program Director Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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Idaho State University

**Masters of Arts in Sociology
Final Program of Study**

Name: _____ Bengal ID: _____

_____/_____
Date of Initial Admission/ Date of Full Admission

Pre-requisites to Program or approved Equivalentents

___ Introduction to Sociology (SOC 1101) ___ Social Theory (SOC 3301/ SOC 4403)
___ Social Statistics (SOC 2207) ___ Sociological Methods (SOC 2206)
___ Other: _____

Graduate Courses

Required Courses (15-18 credits)	Semester
SOC 5502 Proseminar in Sociology	_____
SOC 5508 Advanced Social Statistics	_____
SOC 6600 Comparative Sociological Theories	_____
SOC 6603 Seminar: Topics in Methods	_____
SOC 6650 Thesis (minimum 6 credits)	_____

Sociology Electives (15-18 credits) – Please list semester taken e.g. [F08]

1. _____ [] 2. _____ []
3. _____ [] 4. _____ []
5. _____ [] 6. _____ []

Total Number of Credits Taken: _____ **Minimum Total Credits: 33**
Student: _____ **Date:** _____
Graduate Program Director: _____ **Date:** _____
Graduate School Dean: _____ **Date:** _____

[] Original to Student File [] Copy to Graduate School