

# PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY MA PROGRAM

## PICK YOUR PATH

### Teaching

#### Education/Teaching Career

Teach at a community college or some universities (like HSU!).

Learn how to develop a syllabus, manage a class, and teach diverse students. Learn pedagogical strategies, facilitation skills, and classroom management.

### Practicing

#### Research/Organizing Career

Lead a non-profit or government agency. Refine your skills to be a data or legislative analyst for a city, county or state agency.

Learn theories and strategies of community organizing and activism.

Build community connections.

## CULMINATING EXPERIENCE

#### Master's Degree Thesis

Good for: students going into PhD programs, students who want to collect data or expand theory, students wanting more academic research/writing experiences.

Product: Formal academic paper with original data that you collect, or a sophisticated contribution to a theory.

#### Master's Degree Project

Good for: students interested in applied research, activism, social service or government agency work.

Product: Based on a client project and usually part of your community placement. Includes theory, data, analysis and reflection.

## HANDS ON EXPERIENCE

#### Teaching Experiences

Mentored experience is with leading sociology instructor. Opportunities for work as Instructional Student Assistant and/or PAID Teaching Associate.

#### Community Placement

Complete a 240-hour placement with a community or campus partner. Complete a project based on their needs & your goals. Can be the foundation for your thesis/project.

## CORE COURSEWORK

	FALL SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
YEAR TWO	<b>SOC 610</b> Contemporary Sociological Theory (4 units)	<b>SOC 584</b> Qualitative Research Methods (4 units)	<b>SOC 560</b> Teaching Sociology (3 units)	<b>SOC 650</b> Race, Ethnicity & Gender (4 units)	<b>SOC 583</b> Quantitative Research Methods (4 units)	<b>SOC 586</b> Community Action Research (3 units)
	<b>SOC 665</b> Community, Ecology & Social Action (4 units)	<b>SOC 605</b> Graduate Proseminar (1 unit) (Take twice)	<b>SOC 605</b> Graduate Proseminar (1 unit)	<b>SOC 690</b> Master's Degree Thesis (6 units)	<b>OR</b> <b>SOC 692</b> Master's Degree Project (6 units)	<b>ELECTIVE</b> Course of your choice, see reverse (3-4 units)
YEAR ONE	<p><b>ELECTIVE</b> Course(s) of your choice, see reverse (3-4 units)</p>					

Graduate Student full time status is 9 units. Discuss coursework plan with Graduate Coordinator.

# COURSE ROTATION

<b>SOC GRADUATE ROTATION</b> (updated 6/15/2020)	Fall (even)	Spring (odd)	Fall (odd)	Spring (even)
<b>Core Common Courses (21 units)</b>				
583 Quantitative Research Methods		x		x
584 Qualitative Research Methods	x		x	
605 Graduate Proseminar in Sociology (take twice)	x		x	
610 Contemporary Theory	x		x	
650 Race, Ethnicity & Gender		x		x
665 Community, Ecology & Social Action	x		x	
<b>Social Action Electives (4 units)</b>				
FILM 362 Social Change Digital Production		x		
FILM 455/455s Grant Writing			x	
SOC 350 Social Movements				x
SOC 475 Community Organizing	x		x	
<b>Other Electives (3-4 units)</b>				
EC 620 Economic-Political Dimensions (selected topics)	Check with EC Department			
EC 630 Socio-Cultural Dimensions (selected topics)	Check with EC Department			
EC 640 Ecological Dimensions (selected topics)	Check with EC Department			
EDUC 640 Assessment		x		x
ENGL 581 Practicum in Teaching Writing		x		x
ENGL 605 Cultural Studies Introduction		x		x
ENGL 615 Digital Humanities		x		
<b>Experience Emphasis (3 units) *Can be considered an elective</b>				
560 Teaching Sociology*	x		x	
586 Community Action Research*		x		x
<b>Thesis or Project (6 units) talk to thesis/project chair</b>	x	x	x	x

## MA Milestones

### 1st semester

Complete a Plan of Study  
Secure a Committee  
(with Graduate Coordinator)  
Teaching: Coursework; Apply for teaching-related positions  
Practicing: Choose Placement

### 2nd semester

Complete a thesis/project proposal  
(with committee)  
Teaching: Apply for teaching-related positions  
Practicing: Work on Placement

### Summer

Collect data or  
Complete Literature Review

### 3rd semester

Write thesis/project  
Advance to Candidacy (also serves as application for graduation)

### 4th semester

Complete thesis/project (11/1 or 4/1)  
Present thesis/project (12/1 or 5/1)

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**SOC 560. Teaching Sociology (3).** Explore pedagogy, theories of learning, teaching techniques, and issues in sociology classrooms. Develop teaching philosophy and portfolio in relation to own teacher identity. (Can be an elective for practicing.)

**SOC 583. Quantitative Research Methods (4).** Discover the art and science of survey methods and data analysis in community research contexts. Develop statistical (descriptive, inferential, regression) analysis skills with emphasis on conceptual understanding and written interpretation.

**SOC 584. Qualitative Research Methods (4).** Theoretical and practical elements of the interview; focus group; fieldwork and community action research. Develop and initiate original research project. Computer techniques for data management and analysis.

**SOC 586. Community Action Research (3).** Collaboratively use research skills to work with community groups and their identified research needs in ways that help our local community. Explore theoretical underpinnings uniting action research and appropriate methodologies. (Can be an elective for teaching.)

**SOC 605. Graduate Proseminar in Sociology (1).** Develop professional sociological skills and engage with faculty research and professional activities. [Offered every fall, take twice; part time students discuss with Grad Coordinator.]

**SOC 610. Contemporary Social Theory (4).** 20th century theories: functionalism, conflict, interactionism, exchange, structural, phenomenological, existential, world systems, and critical.

**SOC 650. Race, Ethnicity & Gender (4).** Causes, processes, theoretical explanations of racism, sexism, discrimination. Possible solutions. Intergroup relations from global perspective.

**SOC 665. Community, Ecology & Social Action (4).** This graduate seminar links emancipatory sociology with practical skills designed to empower ordinary people to organize effectively in the community for social, environmental and eco-

**SOC 690. Master's Degree Thesis (1-6) or  
SOC 692. Master's Degree Project (1-6).**

## SOCIAL ACTION + OTHER ELECTIVES

**ENGL 581. Practicum in Teaching Writing (3).** Designed for graduate teaching associates in English during their first semester teaching. Provides information, support, theoretical grounding, dialogue, and practice in writing instruction.

**ENGL 605. Cultural Studies Introduction (4).** Cultural studies as academic practice. History of the field; affiliations with other interdisciplinary areas; practical applications; relationship between aesthetics and politics.

**ENGL 615. Digital Humanities: Public History, Archives, & Scholarly Communication (4).** Provides broad training and professional development in curating, archiving, exhibiting, critiquing, and publishing materials across a range of media. Histories, methodologies, tools, and debates of digital humanities.

**EC 620. Economic-Political Dimensions (3).** Provides analytical frameworks for understanding the role of political and economic institutions, discourses, organizations, and movements.

**EC 630. Socio-Cultural Dimensions (3).** Provides understanding of race/ethnicity, class, gender place, and culture, including their social construction and varied intersections.

At least one elective must be graduate (500+) level. Teaching students can consider SOC 586 as an elective. Practicing students can consider SOC 560 as an elective.

**EC 640. Ecological Dimensions (3).** Provides a basic understanding of at least one ecological process or cycle within the context of human-environment relationships.

**FILM 362. Social Change Digital Production (4)** Examines how social change digital media is a tool that increases awareness and modifies behavior. Develop and produce short digital media social change productions.

**FILM 455/455s. Grant Writing (4)** Fundamental practices of proposal development and grant writing; applicable to all professions. Hands-on activities as grantee and grantor. Emphasis on post-graduation grant writing. Includes working with a fiscal agent.

**SOC 350. Social Movements (4).** This seminar introduces students to the study of U.S. and international social movements. Students study the causes, activities, successes, and failures of social movements, and their importance in the contemporary world.

**SOC 475. Community Organizing (4).** Explores community organizing history, theory and practice. Emphasizes development of conceptual framework/practical skills for organizing effectively in the community for social, environmental and economic justice.

Other options available with Grad Coordinator approval.