The Department of Sociology is committed to fostering diversity by considering factors such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, age, and social class in its graduate and undergraduate programs; as such, background factors and circumstances will be considered when reviewing applications.

Admissions Requirements

Applicants are examined holistically using the following information in the admissions decisions: GRE scores, GPA, quality of the undergraduate program from which the applicant graduated, two academic letters of recommendation, a personal statement, and possibly an interview with the candidate.

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While the Graduate Admissions Committee does not base admission solely on meeting—or not meeting—certain criteria, chances of admission are improved with the following:

- Undergraduate GPA of 3.2;
- Verbal and quantitative GRE scores;
- Previous undergraduate course work in statistics, methods, and theory*; and
- International students should also have either (a) a TOEFL score of at least 550 (on the paper-based test), 213 (on computer-based test) or 79-80 (on the internet-based test), or (b) a IELTS score of at least 6.5.

*Students may be allowed to make up deficiencies or use equivalent undergraduate courses for these prerequisites. Students who have completed similar courses in these areas may be asked to provide both the course syllabus and completed course work to determine equivalency. Students should contact Dr. Jonetta Weber (jonettaweb@louisville.edu) to discuss any questions regarding these prerequisites.

In exceptional cases, students not qualified for regular admission may be conditionally admitted by action of the Graduate Admissions Committee.

We encourage anyone interested in our graduate program to apply, regardless of GRE scores or grade point averages from undergraduate work or previous graduate work. When making our admission decisions, we holistically consider GRE scores and GPAs alongside personal statements and letters of recommendation (and other materials), knowing that low GRE/GPA numbers can be offset by other personal strengths. We do, however, prefer individuals with undergraduate GPAs of 3.2 or above, and (if applicable) graduate degree GPAs of 3.5 or above.

We encourage anyone who is considering applying to our graduate program to visit our department and meet with our faculty members and current graduate students.

Program Admission Procedure

All applicants must submit to the Graduate School, Graduate Admissions:

- A graduate application (http://louisville.edu/graduate/futurestudents/apply-materials/application)
- Official copies of transcripts from all colleges attended (students with a foreign transcript must submit an evaluation of the transcript from World Education Services (www.WES.org) or Educational Credentials Evaluators (www.ECE.org (http://www.ece.org))
- Two references (preferably from former instructors, and in sociology, if possible) in the form of a discursive letter of recommendation and completion of the Letter of Evaluation form
- GRE scores (GRE scores should be no older than five years unless a graduate degree has been earned within the last five years)
- A curriculum vitae or resume, and
- For international students, TOEFL or IELTS scores.

Applicants must also submit to Dr. Jonetta Weber (jonettaweb@louisville.edu) a personal statement (~500-750 words) addressing the questions below and giving the Sociology Departments’ Admissions Committee a basis for evaluating the student’s interest in and ability to complete the program:

- Please explain your reasons for applying to the master’s program in sociology at the University of Louisville.
• What are your professional or occupational objectives, and how do you envision the department’s program fitting into those objectives?
• What areas of sociology do you find especially interesting for study and/or research, and with which sociology faculty might you be interested in working?

**Application Deadlines and Graduate Assistantships**

The Sociology Department has available annually a limited number of graduate assistantships.

The **application deadline for students not seeking funding** is June 1 for fall admission and November 1 for spring admission. (Late applications may be considered on an individual basis.) The Department of Sociology does not admit students during the summer session.

The **application deadline for students seeking funding** (in the form of a graduate assistantship) is January 5 of the preceding year for fall admission and October 1 for spring admission. The materials must also be accompanied by a letter of interest (a) indicating that the applicant wishes to be considered for an assistantship, and (b) elaborating why the applicant feels that s/he would be a good candidate for an assistantship.

**Accelerated BA-BS/MA in Sociology Application Procedure**

Students must apply during the first or second semester of Junior year (i.e., when they have earned between 70-80 credit hours) by submitting the following to the Graduate Admissions Office:

• G (http://louisville.edu/graduate/futurestudents/apply-materials/application) graduate application (http://louisville.edu/graduate/futurestudents/apply-materials/application)
• Two references (preferably from sociology instructors) in the form of a discursive letter of recommendation and completion of the Letter of Evaluation form (https://louisville.app.box.com/s/w9jkkbu3cg10q7jtbwxo5rdkm2d1mjaa)
• Curriculum vitae (CV) or resume
• GRE scores.

Applicants must also submit to the Department of Sociology responses to the Sociology Graduate Admissions Questionnaire (below). Responses should be of sufficient length to give the Graduate Admissions Committee a basis for evaluating the student’s interest in and ability to complete the program, and provide a sample of the student’s writing. Responses can be submitted in four separate essays or combined in one longer essay.

**Admissions Questionnaire**

1. Please explain your reasons for applying to the accelerated master’s program in sociology. What are your professional or occupational objectives (including any study beyond the master of arts in sociology)? How does this department’s program fit into those objectives?
2. What areas of sociology do you find especially interesting for study and/or research?
3. What positions of responsibility, if any, have you had, and what, specifically, do you believe you have gained from such experience? Positions may include not only employment, but offices held in organizations, volunteer work, etc.

### Program Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 604</td>
<td>Proseminar in Sociology-MA</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 609</td>
<td>Statistics I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 610</td>
<td>Statistics II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 611</td>
<td>Statistics III</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 618</td>
<td>Qualitative Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 622</td>
<td>Survey Research and Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 628</td>
<td>Contemporary Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 690</td>
<td>Independent Study (second course may be a graduate-level sociology elective)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 693</td>
<td>Research Study Administration</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 695</td>
<td>Research Study</td>
<td>6</td>
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Minimum Total Hours

34