GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN Sociology

How can we understand the social world in this time of profound transformation? Our graduate program has an international reputation for rigorous, socially engaged, critically relevant scholarship about society and our place in it. Sociology faculty have diverse strengths, including in social theory, political economy, governmentality theory, critical race studies, feminist analyses, cultural studies, science and technology studies, studies of citizenship and migration, and criminology.

We bring together interdisciplinary reach with deep commitment to the best of the discipline of Sociology. Graduate students in our program investigate a full range of questions about social life, benefiting from a mutually supportive and intellectually exciting departmental culture.

Our Master of Arts (MA) offers three options: thesis, research essay, or solely coursework. Students can also pursue specializations in African Studies, Climate Change, Digital Humanities, and Latin American and Caribbean Studies. In addition, we offer a concentration in Quantitative Methodology, which can include a co-op option.

Our PhD program supports outstanding independent research, offering particular strengths in social theory, methodology, studies of stratification and power, cultural studies, and applied social research. We also offer a specialization in Political Economy at the doctoral level.

A key feature of all of our graduate programs is that they are student-centred. We feel strongly that students should be able to fashion, for themselves, the experience of graduate study that is going to serve them best.

Degrees Offered
MA, PhD

Career Options
Our alumni pursue research that often leads them to holding influential positions in the non-academic world and key academic positions in the national and international sociological community. Dozens of former PhD students are now professors across Canada and around the world, with very recent sociology graduates gaining tenure-track jobs at the universities of Victoria, Alberta, Manitoba and Ottawa, among others.

Fall Application Deadline
February 1, to be eligible for funding

Admission Requirements
MA: A BA (Honours), or the equivalent, with at least a B+ standing in sociology or a closely related field. Potential applicants are encouraged to contact us for advice about whether their grade point average will be competitive. Relevant previous professional experience may be taken into account in determining an applicant’s standing on admission.

PhD: A master’s degree, or the equivalent, in sociology or a closely related field, with a minimum average of A- in courses (including the thesis where applicable), and with no grade below B+.

“...The faculty are a very active research group, so for graduate students, there are so many opportunities....”
— Willow Scobie, PhD/07, Assistant Professor, School of Sociological and Anthropological Studies, University of Ottawa

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