
Master of Science in Applied Sociology

Degree Description

The M.S. in Applied Sociology promotes the use of sociological and anthropological theory and research methods to formulate, implement, and evaluate organizationally-based interventions. This degree program builds on our existing strengths in human services and criminology/criminal justice, and provides students with knowledge and skills that can be used in multiple settings, including (but not limited to):

- Problem formulation
- Program/Intervention design
- Organizational development
- Program advocacy
- Program evaluation

Career Paths in Applied Sociology

Funding requirements for human service and criminal justice organizations have changed dramatically in the last decade. New buzz-words such as “accountability,” “measurable outcomes,” “best practices,” “theory and research based program development,” and “program evaluation” have become critical prerequisites for public and private funding. Many human service and criminal justice organizations do not have the staff who possess the necessary knowledge and skills to respond to these new funding imperatives. Graduates of the M.S. in Applied Sociology are well equipped to confront the challenges posed by the accountability revolution.

A graduate with an M.S. in Applied Sociology will be qualified for the following careers:

- Program Director
- Program Developer
- Program Evaluator
- Grant Writer
- Researcher/Data Analyst
- Team Leader
- Project Coordinator

Curriculum

The program’s curriculum requirements include a set of six (6) required courses and five (5) electives designed to appeal to students with professional experience or interest in the human service, criminal justice, or education fields.

Sample Course Rotation

Semester I

SOC 510 Social Paradigms and Interventions - R*
SOC 500 Designing Interventions

Semester II

SOC 532 Methods of Research: Survey And Experimental Design - R
SOC 521 Crime and Social Policy
OR
SOC 595 Practicum in Sociology – R

Summer Session I

SOC 534 Methods of Research: Qualitative Research Techniques

Semester III

SOC 533 Methods of Research: Statistical Analysis - R
SOC 574 Drug Epidemics

Semester IV

SOC 596 Proposal and Grant Writing Seminar
SOC 590 Selected Topics in Sociology

Summer Session II

SOC 590 Selected Topics in Sociology

Semester V

SOC 597 Seminar in Applied Sociology - R
OR
SOC 599 Thesis - R
OR
SOC 597 Seminar in Applied Sociology - R

Semester VI

SOC 597 Seminar in Applied Sociology (Continued)

**R = Required Course, all other courses are electives*

Degree Requirements

Each graduate degree student must complete 33 credits (36 credits if the student opts to take SOC 597: Seminar in Applied Sociology in lieu of a thesis or project) and maintain an overall grade point average of 3.0 (B grade). Regardless of the overall G.P.A., no more than two C grades will count toward degree requirements. All courses resulting in a grade lower than a C must be repeated.

Admissions

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and students may begin their studies in either the Fall or Spring semesters. This program is intended for students interested in studying part-time. Admissions requirements are as follows:

- **A baccalaureate degree from an accredited university or college.**
- **A 3.0 overall GPA.**
- **For those without a Bachelors degree in sociology, at least 15 credits in sociology or closely related field.**
- **A course in Statistics with a B- or better. A student who does not meet this requirement may be admitted with a deficiency that must be removed before taking SOC 532 or SOC 533.**
- **Six hours of graduate credit in sociology or a closely related field can be transferred if the course content parallels core requirements of the M.S. in Applied Sociology.**

Application Checklist

- Completed application for Graduate Admissions (available through the SUNYIT Admission Office (315) 792-7500) and payment of the application fee.
- Graduates of colleges other than SUNYIT must request that transcripts of all undergraduate and post-baccalaureate work be sent to the Admissions Office. Transcripts of SUNYIT graduates will be secured by the Admissions Office directly from the Registrar.
- Three letters of recommendation must be submitted to the Admissions Office. Applicants are encouraged to seek letters from a current/former workplace or practicum supervisor as well as at least one faculty member.
- GRE scores are desirable but not required.
- Applicants must submit an essay responding to the question: How will a Master's of Science in Applied Sociology further your career goals?

- Applicants may submit additional materials that support the student's preparation for graduate level work. Such materials might include copies of grants submitted, programs designed or evaluated, or a list and brief description of programs/projects the student has worked on; it must be clear what role the applicant played in the development of these materials.

Full Time Faculty

Dr. Veronica Tichenor, Sociology Program Coordinator

Interests: Gender and power dynamics in families
Youth involvement in violence
Motherhood and identity

Dr. Alphonse Sallett

Interests: Drug use among adolescents, especially pre-teens

Dr. Ken Mazlen

Interests: Links between unemployment and crime

Dr. Kris Paap

Interests: White working-class masculinity and construction
Women in prison
Agricultural safety

Dr. Kathryn Stam (Anthropologist)

Interests: Information technology in the work place
Employees' rights and behavior
Cross-cultural perspectives on health

Dr. Linda Weber

Interests: Social practice, medical sociology, and social psychology. Current research examines health promotion, the creation of trust and at-youth risk.