

**DEGREE/PROGRAM CHANGE  
FORM C**

**Fields marked with \* are required**

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<b>Phone Number:*</b>	505 277-2501	Initiator's Rank / Title*	Academic Advisor:		
			Sociology		
Faculty Contact*	Beverly Burris	Administrative Contact*	Dorothy Esquivel		
Department*	Sociology				
	<b>Division</b>			<b>Program</b>	
	<b>Branch</b>				
	Main				

Proposed effective term:

Semester	Fall ▼	Year	2011 ▼
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**Course Information**

Select Appropriate Program	Graduate Degree Program ▼	CIP Code	
Name of New or Existing Program	* M.A. in Sociology		
Catalog Page Number	300	Select Category	Degree ▼
		Degree Type	M.A.
Select Action	New ▼		

**Exact Title and Requirements as they should appear in the catalog.**  
See current catalog for format within the respective college (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)

[Catalog Changes 2011-2012 M.A. Requirements.doc](#)

☐ **This Change affects other departmental program/branch campuses**

Reason(s) for Request \* (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)  
FORMALLY REQUIRE ALL MA STUDENTS TO DO A THESIS, AND ELIMINATE THE RESEARCH PAPER OPTION WHICH HAS NEVER BEEN USED. CLARIFY THAT STUDENTS CAN ENTER THE PH.D. PROGRAM DIRECTLY TO ACCOMMODATE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ROBERT WOODS JOHNSON FOUNDATION WHICH FUNDS SOME OF OUR PH.D. STUDENTS.

Statements to address budgetary and Faculty Load Implications and Long-range planning \* (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)  
THERE ARE NO BUDGETARY, FACULTY LOAD, OR LONG RANGE PLANNING IMPLICATIONS. THE FORMAL CHANGES ONLY CLARIFIED CURRENT PRACTICES.

### **Degrees Offered**

*The Department of Sociology offers both an **M.A.** degree and a **Ph.D.** degree in sociology. [The **M.A.** degree represents advanced knowledge in sociology appropriate for a variety of intellectual and occupational endeavors. It typically meets minimal requirements for teaching college-level sociology courses. The **Ph.D.** degree represents additional specialized sociological knowledge and the development of research skills appropriate for work in a variety of public and private research settings.*

*A student can enter directly into the **M.A.** program. If a student wishes to pursue a **Ph.D.** upon completion of the **M.A.**, the student can petition to move into the **Ph.D.** program.*

*A student can also enter directly into the **Ph.D.** program, with or without an existing **M.A.** degree. Typically, entrance requirements for students entering the **Ph.D.** program are more competitive than for those for entering the **M.A.** program. A student pursuing a **Ph.D.** without an **M.A.** degree will complete an **M.A.** thesis and be awarded an **M.A.** along the way.]*

### **The M.A. Program**

*Admission to the sociology **M.A.** program depends on a strong record of academic performance at the undergraduate level. While the entire application is considered, and no precise GPA cutoff is used, competitive applicants generally have at least a B average (3.0 in a 4.0 system) in previous academic work. GRE scores (general test) are also evaluated as part of the application procedure. Applicants are also asked to submit a letter of intent, three letters of recommendation and two writing samples. We recommend that entering graduate student have had 12 hours of advanced undergraduate sociology courses, especially including satisfactory performance in sociological research methods and theory. We also recommend college level algebra or its equivalent. A graduate student admitted with deficiencies in any of these may be required to satisfactorily complete (with a grade of at least B, 3.0) the appropriate undergraduate course work. Credit hours earned in courses taken to remove such deficiencies do not apply to the minimum hours required for a [masters degree.]*

*[The **M.A.**] degree requires 24 hours of course work, 6 hours of thesis, a written thesis and passing the final examination for the thesis. Students need to maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0, and all required courses must be completed with a grade of at least B-. After completing 12 hours of course work, and in consultation with the major advisor, students must file a Program of Studies with the Office of Graduate Studies. Before writing a thesis, students must appoint a thesis committee consisting of a chairperson and at least two additional faculty members. At least two of the committee members must hold regular fulltime faculty appointments at The University of New Mexico.*

*[Eliminate: “Plan 1 is the normal track for students interested in pursuing a **Ph.D.** in Sociology.” And **next section**]*

*Core course requirements for all students seeking a master's degree in sociology consist of (i) [Three hours of graduate sociological theory (either Sociology 500, 513, or 514); (ii) A one hour graduate proseminar (Sociology 523) to be taken as soon as possible; (iii) Methods of Social Research I (Sociology 580); (iv) Advanced Social Statistics I (Sociology 581); and (v) at least 12 hours of substantive courses in the social sciences,] as approved by the Department's Graduate Committee.*

*[In addition to these 22 core hours, M.A. students must complete at least 8 more hours of course work, which includes 6 hours of thesis credit (Sociology 599). Once a student enrolls in Sociology 599 she or he must stay continuously enrolled in at least one thesis hour for each semester until all degree requirements are completed.]*

### ***The Ph.D. Program***

*The department admits a small number of well-qualified candidates to its Ph.D. Program each year. Successful applicants must in addition to University Requirements, submit current (within the last 3 years) GRE General Test scores, three letters of recommendation, two writing samples, and a letter of intent. The Sociology Department recommends applicants have 12 hours of advanced undergraduate sociology courses, including statistics and methods courses (or the equivalents). We also recommend college level algebra or its equivalent. In addition, such factors such as the University's commitment to affirmative action, the applicant's non-academic experience, and the ability of the department to provide faculty guidance and courses in the applicant's areas of interest are considered.*

*[Students in the M.A. Program may petition the Graduate Committee for entrance into the Ph.D. Program upon successful completion of their M.A. degree. The petition should include the thesis and three letters of recommendation from faculty members. Students who have positive reviews will then move into the Ph.D. Program.]*

*General requirements for the Ph.D. are set forth in earlier pages of this catalog. The Ph.D. degree requires 48 hours of course work and 18 hours of dissertation. Students must also pass comprehensive examinations and write and successfully defend a dissertation.*

*Specific requirements for all students seeking a Ph.D. in Sociology include: Classical Social Theory (Sociology 500), and one course in Contemporary Theory (Sociology 513 or 514); A one hour graduate proseminar (Sociology 523) to be taken as soon as possible; Methods of Social Research (Sociology 580); Advanced Social Statistics I (Sociology 581); Advanced Social Statistics II (Sociology 582); an additional quantitative or qualitative methods/statistics course approved by the Graduate Advisor; 18 hours of Dissertation (Sociology 699); passing all required courses with at least a grade of B-; Comprehensive Examinations (written and oral); a Ph.D. dissertation and passing the Final Examination for Doctorate.*

*Prior to taking the comprehensive examinations, a Committee of Studies must be appointed which consists of at least three University of New Mexico faculty members approved for graduate instruction. The chairperson must be a regular faculty member approved by the student's graduate unit. A doctoral student must apply for and be admitted to doctoral candidacy after completing all course work and passing the comprehensive examination. The Dissertation Committee will consist of at least four members approved for graduate instruction: two members must hold regular, full-time faculty appointments at the University of New Mexico; one member must be from the student's graduate unit; the dissertation chairperson must be a regular (tenured or tenure-track), full-time member of the University of New Mexico faculty; a required external member must hold a regular full-time appointment outside the student's unit/department at the University of New Mexico. This member may be from the University of New Mexico or from another accredited institution; one member may be a non-faculty expert in the student's major research area. Doctoral candidates must be enrolled during the semester in which they complete degree requirements, including the summer session.*