Research Opportunities

Community and Family Institute
The Community and Family Institute (CFI) in the Fulbright College of Arts and Science was created in 1997 to facilitate research on community and family issues/problems. With a specific focus on but not limited to North-west Arkansas, CFI also engages in research relevant to all of Arkansas, national, and global issues.

Terrorism Research Center in Fulbright College
The Terrorism Research Center in Fulbright College (TRC) was created in 2003 to facilitate research on terrorism, extremist violence, and the effectiveness of intervention strategies. The Center plays host to the American Terrorism Study (ATS) and currently conducts research on the temporal and spatial distribution of American terrorism, pre-incident indicator, radicalization, and governmental responses to terrorism.

Apply for the MA in Sociology program
To apply for the MA in Sociology program, in addition to applying to the UA Graduate School (http://grad.uark.edu/recruit/admission/) please submit the following application materials directly to Dr. Anna Zajicek, Graduate Program Director:

- At least two, preferably three, letters of recommendation from people who can judge the applicant’s academic potential as a graduate student
- A sample of written academic work (i.e., a research paper)
- One page statement in which the applicant discusses the educational objectives sought to accomplish by entering our graduate program
- Recent GRE score
- Students interested in applying for graduate assistantship should submit an assistantship application available at http://grad.uark.edu/forms/student/appl-gradasst.pdf.

Please inform your references to expect an email from the Graduate School requesting their letters be submitted online through the Graduate School system.

Anna Zajicek, Ph.D.
Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice
226 Old Main
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72701
479-575-3205
azajicek@uark.edu
Faculty—Student Collaborations

The MA Program in Sociology at the University of Arkansas provides many opportunities for graduate students to become involved in our faculty’s research. In recent years, several of our graduate students and faculty members published co-authored articles and/or presented their work at professional conferences.

Many of these collaborations are related to the thesis projects undertaken by our students. In addition, our graduate students gain research experience by helping faculty members with the data collection, data analysis, and becoming otherwise involved in individual faculty’s projects or research teams led by our faculty. To see some examples, check our webpage:

http://sociology.uark.edu/3259.htm

MA Degree Requirements

The requirements listed below are for information purposes only. Official requirements for the Sociology M.A. are available in the most recent University Catalog of Studies online. Prior undergraduate work in social theory, research methods, statistics, and writing is considered necessary for successful performance at the graduate level. Please go to http://sociology.uark.edu/3568.php for this list.

Core Requirements (All Students):
- SOCI 5001, Proseminar
- SOCI 5253 Classical Social Theory
- SOCI 5311L, Applied Data Analysis Lab
- SOCI 5313, Applied Data Analysis
- SOCI 5013, Adv. Social Research

M.A. in Sociology with a concentration in general sociology.
In addition to core requirements outlined above, students wishing to pursue a master’s degree with a concentration in general sociology must complete the following courses:

Required courses:
- SOCI 5083, Applied Qualitative Research
- SOCI 5263, Contemporary Social Theory

Restricted Electives (general sociology students must choose two courses from the following list):
- SOCI 503V Special Topics: Organizations in Society
- SOCI 5043 Public Policy Children and Families
- SOCI 5113 Seminar in Social Inequality
- SOCI 5133 Community
- SOCI 5153 Sociological Perspectives on Social Psychology
- SOCI 5233 Theories of Deviance

M.A. in Sociology with a concentration in criminology.
In addition to meeting requirements outlined above, students wishing to pursue a master’s degree in Sociology with a concentration in criminology must complete the following courses:

Required Course:
- SOCI 5413 Seminar in Criminological Theory
- SOCI 5423 Research in Criminology

Restricted Electives (criminology students must choose two courses from the following list):
- SOCI 5233 Theories of Deviance
- SOCI 5433 Victimization
- SOCI 5443 Seminar in Terrorism
- SOCI 5453 Social Control
- SOCI 5463 White Collar Crime
- SOCI 5473 Crime and Community

In addition to the common core courses, the courses required in a specific concentration, and the six hours of specialization-specific restricted electives, the students must take sufficient hours of electives to read 32 semesters hours total.

The Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice offers a thesis and non-thesis option. Completion of the program for all students is contingent upon passing a comprehensive examination covering major course work.

Assistantships

In addition to the scholarships and fellowships offered by the Graduate School, a number of graduate assistantships are available in the Department. Assistantships differ in terms of purpose and source of funds and therefore may have different assignments. Assistants spend 20 hours per week helping faculty members with research, teaching, and other tasks. Students who are awarded graduate assistantships also receive tuition waivers.

Also, research assistantships may be awarded to graduate students on a competitive basis. Graduate students awarded these assistantships are typically involved in the research projects conducted under the auspices of the Community and Family Institute (CFI) and The Terrorism Research Center.

Students must be admitted to the Graduate School before they can be considered for an assistantship. An application packet for Graduate School Admission is available online at http://grad.uark.edu/forms/student/appl-gradasst.pdf