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# MA IN SOCIOLOGY & CRIMINOLOGY

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## MA PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The University of Windsor's Sociology and Criminology MA programs have an established reputation for critical, contemporary, and interdisciplinary scholarship and for recruiting excellent graduate students year after year. The MA programs leverage the combined expertise and resources of the Department to develop an innovative program that attracts graduate students to the University of Windsor from Canada and all around the world.

The Department's full-time graduate faculty consists of 16 active researchers with national and international reputations. They have exemplary records of funding and training highly qualified graduate students. The combined network of expertise provides Sociology and Criminology MA students with invaluable exposure to diverse faculty resources and research opportunities. The programs are housed in state of the art research facilities in a scholarly, dynamic, and collaborative research environment.

Through course work and thesis research, seminars and networking experience, the programs provide students with an opportunity to acquire academic and professional knowledge in multi-faceted areas of social research.

The programs are designed to meet the clear and growing demand for highly qualified personnel. We emphasize student training and the development of research competencies and skills demanded of contemporary professionals. Our students are prepared to work in research settings including community-based research, work in public policy, in government or non-governmental organizations, and work in the private sector in areas to human resources, equity, and community development.

Our graduates have very successful careers. They have positions within and outside academic institutions in Canada and the world. Graduates working outside of the University have obtained professional positions in national and international research institutes, government and policy departments, legal research agencies, union, and advocacy organizations. We are very pleased to have the opportunity to help launch the professional careers of our students.

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## SECTION ONE: ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM

### PROGRAM ADMISSIONS AND PROCEDURES

For admission to the MA programs in Sociology and Criminology, applicants must hold an Honours degree in Sociology or Criminology or Anthropology or a related discipline from a recognized university. Possession of the minimum academic requirements does not ensure acceptance.

Applicants will be assessed with respect to their academic qualifications, achievements, and letters of recommendation. The specifics of the application procedures are outlined below.

#### PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants with an Honours degree in Sociology/Criminology or a related field from an accredited university may be admitted into the candidate year of this M.A. program. Applicants without an Honours degree in Sociology/Criminology or a related discipline may be required to take additional courses. Students transferring into Sociology/Criminology from a non-related discipline and those with insufficient preparatory background may be required to take additional courses before proceeding into the candidate year.

Applicants will be considered on the basis of:

- ❖ Obtaining a 77% minimum cumulative average in the final two years of study (full-time equivalent) of the 4 year undergraduate degree
- ❖ Strong recommendations based on faculty observation of student's performance, work experience, or community involvement demonstrating clear commitment to and understanding of sociological/criminological concerns
- ❖ Background preparation and graduate faculty resources that are available in the area of specialization indicated on the application

#### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Completed applications must be received by the Office of the Registrar, Graduate Studies Division by February 1st for consideration for the following September admission. All supporting documents and reference letters must be submitted for the application to be considered complete and ready for review.

Applications and supporting documents are completed online through the new electronic Graduate Application System (eGAS). Application information can be found on the [Graduate Studies](#) websites.

The online application can be found here at: <https://www.uwindsor.ca/graduate-studies/354/apply>

Applications must include (all documents are submitted online through eGAS):

- ❖ Transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended, which must include the institution's grading scale (unofficial transcripts in PDF format should be uploaded to your application in eGAS, however official transcripts sent directly from the institution(s) will be required only upon acceptance into the program);
- ❖ Letter from the application indicating a statement of interest or plan of study (normally a page or two)

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Thesis stream applicants please include your preference type of methodology (Quantitative or Qualitative). Applicants are encouraged to identify one (1) or more member(s) of the Department's graduate faculty with whom they would like to work.

- ❖ Two academic letters of reference letters (referees will receive an automatic email notification to complete the forms electronically once the applicant submits the application);
- ❖ A resume or CV;
- ❖ Program Stream Option Form;
- ❖ English Language Proficiency Score (if applicable)

The Graduate Committee will review all applications. Ranking of all applications will be based on the Committee's assessment of the quality of the application and the availability of graduate faculty to advise, supervise, and provide funding/ research training in conjunction with their own research projects and the diversity of subject areas represented in the applicant pool. Successful applicants will receive an official letter of admission from the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

For more detailed information on admission requirements and application procedures please see the Faculty of Graduate Studies [Admission website](#).

## REGISTRATION

All students must maintain continuous full- time registration in the program or receive permission for a leave of absence.

Registration for each term is completed by logging on to the [UWinsite Student](#).

The three terms in the program are Fall (September to December), Winter (January to April) and Summer (May to August).

The [Graduate Calendar](#) is the official comprehensive guide to all graduate programs and courses available at the University of Windsor. It outlines academic regulations and standards, program degree requirements, registration information, and general University policies. All graduate students are expected to familiarize themselves with the Graduate Calendar.

**The Graduate Calendar remains your comprehensive guide.**

Please complete your registration as follows:

1. Contact your advisor for counselling, in order to complete course selections.
2. Log onto the [UWinsite Student](#) and register.
3. Course changes made after the last day to register via the [UWinsite](#) must be submitted for approval using the Course Add Form – Special Circumstances Request.

Additional registration notes:

- ❖ Students will proceed towards completing the degree by achieving at least a 77% cumulative average in all courses.
- ❖ The minimum passing grade in a graduate course is 70%.

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- ❖ Seminar courses require active class participation. Instructors may therefore take into account class participation in grading students, in accordance with Senate regulations.
- ❖ Students cannot take more than three (3) courses a term.
- ❖ Students are strongly encouraged to have an A- in their Fall term courses in order to proceed with the thesis stream

If registration has lapsed, application for readmission is required, and prior term fees may be charged.

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Students accepted into the MA program are eligible for funding packages, which may include graduate and research assistantships, as well as competitive tuition scholarships and other scholarships.

See the [Graduate Studies website](#) for information on funding.

### GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS (GA)

Graduate Assistantships (GAs) may be offered to full-time graduate students registered in research programs. These positions give students valuable experience assisting professors with teaching and related duties. GAs are paid as salary and are considered employment. GAs are governed by the CUPE 4580 Collective Agreement.

Notes:

- ❖ MA students may be eligible for three (3) semesters of Graduate Assistantship funding and may be eligible for one (1) additional semester of funding depending on available resources.
- ❖ Graduate Assistantships are normally advertised at least 4 weeks prior to the start of each term (Fall, Winter and Summer). All positions are posted on the [Departmental website](#), SAC Graduate Student Blackboard site, and the SAC Graduate Student Bulletin board.
- ❖ In order to qualify for a GAship, students must ensure they apply by the specified date.
- ❖ The Department attempts to match the needs of the instructors with the qualifications of students in assigning these duties.
- ❖ Graduate Assistants may be assigned to conduct one or two introductory sociology, anthropology, or criminology tutorials, labs, or to assist individual instructors with course related duties, e.g. proctoring exams.

Please be aware that while offers of assistantships are made for three (3) terms they are NOT guaranteed during the Inter/Summer sessions as there are limited course offerings and positions available. If a student completes their program requirements prior to receiving three assistantships, they will not receive any further assistantships, nor will they receive monies in the amount equivalent to an assistantship as per the CUPE 4580 Collective Agreement.

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### GA Training

All Graduate Assistants (GA) are expected to attend the GA/TA Orientation workshop held in September. The workshop is designed to familiarize the GA with the general teaching duties and regulations associated with holding an assistantship.

All new employees of the University of Windsor are required to complete the Accessible Customer Service Training & the AODA and Ontario Human Rights Code training (2 hours) and the Health and Safety modules (1.5hours). All online training modules are available at:

<http://www1.uwindsor.ca/safety/requiredtraining>.

### RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS (RA)

RAs are normally funded by a professor's research grant. Payment for RAs can be in one of two forms, salary or scholarship. If paid as a salary, an RA is considered employment.

One member of the Department has a Canada Research Chair and regularly offers fellowships and research assistantships to qualified students pursuing work related to their research program.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

Windsor is proud to offer a competitive funding program for graduate students. A comprehensive list of scholarship opportunities and funding sources can be reviewed on the [Graduate Studies Funding website](#) and through your [UWinsite Student](#).

Scholarship opportunities include:

- Internal Graduate Scholarships and Awards ex. Entrance Scholarship
- External Scholarships and Awards
- Conference Travel Support Fund
- National and Provincial Scholarships and Awards

Specific deadlines and procedures may change from year to year, so information is circulated via Blackboard as it is announced by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Scholarship details can also be found on the department website as it becomes available.

Scholarships for both Canadian and International students entering research- based programs with averages that meet or exceed the equivalent of a Canadian 80% cGPA will be considered for an entrance scholarship. Early applications are strongly encouraged to be considered for entrance scholarship support.

The Ontario Student Assistance Program is also another resource. Contact the Office of Student Awards and Financial Aid at the University of Windsor or (519) 253-3000 ext. 3300 or [award1@uwindsor.ca](mailto:award1@uwindsor.ca).

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## TUITION FEES

Full information on tuition fees and methods of payment (including a [fee estimator](#)) can be found on the [Cashier's Office website](#).

Students who are holders of a GA/TA/RA contract may have their tuition, residence, and food plan expenses deducted from their pay cheques by completing a Payroll Deferment form at the beginning of *each* semester.

Full-time students must be either actively registered or on an approved leave of absence every term during their programme, including summer term. A graduate student who is registered full-time in any term is expected to pursue their studies as a full-time occupation.

Students may not work more than 240 hours per term on campus while in full-time attendance. A full-time Graduate Assistantship requires an average of ten hours of work per week, for up to 140 hours per term.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Students wishing to obtain a Leave of Absence must first submit a letter to the Graduate Chair explaining the reason(s) for the request, the projected date of return to the program, request form and letter of support from the supervisor. The request is submitted to the Graduate Committee for approval. The Graduate Committee Chair will forward the formal request and the decision of the Graduate Committee to the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) for final approval. The student will hear from FGS with the final outcome.

Note: Only the Dean of Graduate Studies can authorize a leave of absence.

The Dean of Graduate Studies may grant a Leave of Absence to students under the following conditions:

**MATERNITY LEAVE:** Graduate students may request a maternity leave for no more than three consecutive terms without prejudice to their academic standing.

**PATERNITY LEAVE:** In recognition of a father's role, a graduate student may request paternity leave for no more than one term without prejudice to academic standing.

**PARENTAL LEAVE:** Parental leave is intended to recognize the need for a pause in studies in order to provide fulltime care in the first stages of parenting a child. Either or both parents may request one term of leave without prejudice. The request for leave must be completed within twelve months of the date of birth or custody.

**FINANCIAL LEAVE:** In the case of financial necessity, primarily as evidenced by the support awarded through the University, a student may be granted a leave of no more than one term out of three upon application (not available to part-time students).

**MEDICAL LEAVE:** Graduate students may apply for a leave of absence on medical grounds for up to three terms without prejudice to their academic standing. Students are required to provide documentation to support a medical leave of absence.

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**PERSONAL LEAVE:** Graduate students may apply for a leave of absence on grounds of serious personal circumstance for up to three terms without prejudice to their academic standing. Examples, though not wholly inclusive, are death in the immediate family, psychological difficulties, and educational opportunities. Upon request, documentation may be required to support the leave.

While on leave, a student may NOT have access to any University resources, including office space, computer access, library facilities, continuation of laboratory experiments or computer research applications and guidance by faculty members.

For complete information on Leave of Absence requests and the necessary documentation see the Graduate Studies [Registration, Policies, and Regulations](#).

### OTHER REQUESTS FOR EXCEPTIONS or VARIANCES

From time to time students may request variances to either calendar requirements, exceptions to policy, or variation of common administrative practices. In such a case the Procedure is:

1. Students will submit a request in writing to the Graduate Committee either through the Graduate Chair or Graduate Secretary.
2. The request should set out the nature of the request, the rationale for the request, and how the request aids the student's pedagogical goals and/ or plans for graduation.
3. The request will be accompanied by a written communication from the student's Dissertation Advisor (or temporary Advisor as a permanent advisor has not been appointed) stating their opinion with respect to the request.
4. The request will be reviewed by the Graduate Committee, normally at its next regularly scheduled meeting.
5. If the Committee affirms the student's request, the Graduate Chair will forward the submitted documentation and a summary of the Committee's reasons for its decision to the Graduate Dean for final approval.

Note: The Department's Graduate Committee only advises the Dean. Final responsibility for granting approval for variations and exceptions rests with the Dean of Graduate Studies.

## STUDENT FORMS

All students' forms can be found on [Graduate Studies website](#).

Here is a list of forms:

- [Annual Report Form](#)
- [Course Add Form – Special Circumstances Request](#)
- [Course Substitution Request Form](#)
- [Request for Consideration for Health, Bereavement, or Extenuating Circumstances](#)
- [Leave of Absence Application Form](#)
- [Time Limit Extension Form](#)
- [Master's Thesis / Doctoral Dissertation Committee](#)



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## SECTION TWO: ACADEMIC PROGRAM INFORMATION

### FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES

The Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) is the governing body for all graduate programs on campus. They will be an important resource during your time in the program, especially for those completing a thesis or dissertation.

[Faculty of Graduate Studies](#)

### BLACKBOARD

Blackboard is the learning management system used at the University, which brings state of the art technology to campus and is one of the most popular learning management systems used around the world.

During your time in the program, you will be using Blackboard for your courses and for the graduate program. When an announcement has been added to the Sociology Graduate Student Blackboard site, you will receive an email. It is your responsibility to ensure you read the announcements and notifications you receive in these emails. It is also your responsibility to login and check the Graduate Student Blackboard site on a regular basis. You will find information on upcoming events, calls for papers/ posters, program reminders, GA postings, defense notices and more!

[Blackboard login portal](#)

[Blackboard Student Resource Quick Links](#)

### FACULTY ADVISORS

Upon admission to the MA program, the Graduate Committee will assign a faculty advisor ideally, whose research and teachings coincide with the student's area of interest. Students may also submit a request to the Graduate Committee for a particular advisor.

Faculty advisors are provided for incoming students to assist with course selection and to provide advice on succeeding in the graduate program. However, applicants wishing to complete a thesis may change advisors, ideally by the end of their first term.

### RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

Every student in a program leading to the Master of Arts must be registered in a full- time program of study for a minimum of one (1) academic year/ three (3) terms, normally in succession.

All students should be aware that course offerings in the Inter/Summer session are vastly reduced and therefore it is recommended that students in the course stream obtain the majority of their course requirements during the Fall and Winter terms, taking three (3) courses during those terms. Students are strongly encouraged to enrol in three courses in the Fall term.

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### ANNUAL REPORT FORM

By May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, students and their advisors are required to complete the Annual Report Form. Students meet with their advisor to complete and sign the form, outlining their academic progress in the past year. The form is submitted to the Graduate Secretary's office where it will be forwarded to the Graduate Chair for review. Permission to continue to register in the program depends on a satisfactory report.

### COURSES OUTSIDE DEPARTMENT

Students have the option of taking one graduate course outside the Department. Advance permission from the Graduate Committee is required in order to take a course outside the Department. Courses that are recommended will need to be approved by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Permission may be required from the department or program offering the course as well.

### GRADES

The minimum passing grade in a graduate course is 70%. A student who fails to achieve a grade of 70% in a graduate course may repeat the course once (scheduling considerations may require the Graduate Committee to substitute an alternative course). If a student fails to achieve a grade of 70% in their second attempt, or fails to achieve a grade of 70% in two courses, a recommendation will normally be made to the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research that the student be required to withdraw from the program. Graduate students in SAC are required to maintain a cumulative graduate average of 77%.

## SECTION THREE: PROGRAM DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

### MA PROGRAMS

The following timelines are provided to serve as a guide to monitor progress in the program.

Course Stream:

- ❖ Within 3 semesters, (1 year) – complete coursework and complete program

Thesis Stream:

- ❖ Within 2 semesters, (6 months) – complete coursework
- ❖ Within 3 semesters, (1 year) – complete thesis proposal
- ❖ Within 6 semesters, (2 years) – complete thesis and complete program

Changing from the thesis stream to course stream, or vice versa, requires approval of the Graduate Committee.

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## MA SOCIOLOGY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

### **COURSE STREAM**

Successful completion of seven graduate courses within 12 months (3 consecutive semesters):

- ❖ SACR-8000 (Sociological Theory) OR SACR-8010 (Classical Social Theories and Beyond)
- ❖ SACR-8050 (Quantitative Statistics and Analysis) OR you can choose between the following: SACR-8060 (Qualitative Methodology) OR SACR-8160 (Qualitative Research Design)
- ❖ Three graduate courses which must be selected from the following list:
  - SACR-8020 (Social Theory and Social Justice)
  - SACR-8200 (Social Movements and Popular Mobilization)
  - SACR-8210 (Social Inequality and the State)
  - SACR-8250 (International Development and its Discontents)
  - SACR-8300 (Work and Social Change)
  - SACR-8400 (Race and Ethnic Relations)
  - SACR-8500 (Family Relations and Gender Politics)
  - SACR-8550 (Sexualities and Social Justice)
  - SACR-8690 (Culture and Globalization) and/or SACR-8800 (Subordination, Identity and Empowerment)
- ❖ Two graduate level courses from any SACR-8xxx courses

**\*\*All course stream students should be aware that course offerings in the Inter/Summer session are vastly reduced and therefore it is recommended that students in the course stream obtain the majority of their course requirements during the Fall and Winter terms, taking three (3) courses during those terms. Students are strongly encouraged to enrol in three courses in the Fall term.**

### **THESIS STREAM**

Successful completion of four graduate courses and a Thesis within 24 months (6 consecutive semesters):

- ❖ SACR-8000 (Sociological Theory) OR SACR-8010 (Classical Social Theories and Beyond)
- ❖ SACR-8050 (Quantitative Statistics and Analysis) OR SACR-8160 (Qualitative Research Design)
- ❖ Two graduate level courses from any SACR-8xxx course \*
- ❖ SACR-8900 (Thesis Proposal) and SACR-8970 (MA Thesis Oral Defenses)

\*<sup>1</sup>The methods course selected should correspond to the methodological orientation of the thesis. SACR-8050 is intended for a quantitatively oriented thesis; SACR-8160 is intended for a qualitatively oriented thesis

\*<sup>2</sup> One of which may be taken outside of the department subject to prior approval of the Graduate Committee

#### *Thesis Stream Progress Requirements:*

Students are required to complete all four courses in two consecutive semesters; SACR-8900 should be taken during the second semester.

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M.A. thesis students are expected to submit a full first draft to their Advisors by the end of June, to have a proposal defense date set by the beginning of the Fall term, and to have defended by Sept. 30 of their second year in the program. Those who are not in a position to do so are expected to enroll in two courses in September, so as to complete the course stream degree in the Fall term.

### MA CRIMINOLOGY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

#### COURSE STREAM

Successful completion of seven graduate courses within 12 months (3 consecutive semesters):

- ❖ SACR-8640 (Contemporary Criminological Theory)
- ❖ SACR-8050 (Quantitative Statistics and Analysis) OR you can choose between the following: SACR-8060 (Qualitative Methodology) OR SACR-8160 (Qualitative Research Design)
- ❖ Three graduate courses which must be selected from the following list:
  - SACR- 8610 (Crime and Exclusion)
  - SACR-8620 (Security and Regulation)
  - SACR-8650 (Law and Governance)
  - SACR-8670 (Current Issues in Criminology)
  - SACR-8680 (Critical Perspectives on Policy Development), and/or SACR-8710 (Critical Cultural Studies)
- ❖ Two graduate courses from any SACR-8xxx courses\*

**\*\*All course stream students should be aware that course offerings in the Inter/Summer session are vastly reduced and therefore it is recommended that students in the course stream obtain the majority of their course requirements during the Fall and Winter terms, taking three (3) courses during those terms. Students are strongly encouraged to enrol in three courses in the Fall term.**

#### THESIS STREAM

Successful completion of four graduate courses and a Thesis within 24 months (6 consecutive semesters):

- ❖ SACR-8640 (Contemporary Criminological Theory)
- ❖ SACR-8050 (Quantitative Statistics and Analysis) OR SACR-8160 (Qualitative Research Design)
- ❖ One graduate course which must be selected from:
  - SACR-8610 (Crime and Exclusion)
  - SACR-8620 (Security and Regulation)
  - SACR-8650 (Law and Governance)
  - SACR-8670 (Current Issues in Criminology)
  - SACR-8680 (Critical Perspectives on Policy Development) OR SACR-8710 (Critical Cultural Studies)
- ❖ One graduate course from any SACR-8xxx course\*
- ❖ SACR-8900 (Thesis Proposal) and SACR-8970 (MA Thesis Oral Defenses)

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### *Thesis Stream Progress Requirements:*

Students are required to complete all four courses in two consecutive semesters; SACR-8900 should be taken during the second semester.

M.A. thesis students are expected to submit a full first draft to their Advisors by the end of June, to have a proposal defense date set by the beginning of the Fall term, and to have defended by Sept. 30 of their second year in the program. Those who are not in a position to do so are expected to enroll in two courses in September, so as to complete the course stream degree in the Fall term.

\*<sup>1</sup> The methods course selected should correspond to the methodological orientation of the thesis. SACR-8050 is intended for a quantitatively oriented thesis; SACR-8160 is intended for a qualitatively oriented thesis.

\*<sup>2</sup> One of which may be taken outside of the department subject to prior approval of the Graduate Committee

## MA THESIS STREAM COMPONENTS

### THE THESIS COMMITTEE

Research undertaken as part of the master's program is directed by a Thesis Committee.

The Thesis Committee must consist of a (n):

- ❖ Principal Advisor (selected from the department's graduate faculty)
- ❖ Program Reader (one faculty member from inside the department)
- ❖ Outside Program Reader (one University of Windsor faculty member that is outside the program in which the student is obtaining their degree)

A Thesis Advisor will be a graduate faculty member who has agreed to supervise you working on your thesis during your time in the program. A Thesis Advisor does not have to be your temporary advisor. The member(s) from outside the program need not participate in the direction of the research but shall contribute a judgment on it upon completion. Additional members may be added only with the approval of the Graduate Chair and Graduate Studies.

The majority of the members of a Thesis Committee must have graduate faculty status and the Advisor must have graduate faculty status. In the case of co-supervision, one of the co-supervisors must have graduate faculty status.

By the end of the first term, students in the MA Thesis stream will be required to have a faculty member (their Advisor) and a program reader who agree to supervise their thesis in place.

By the end of the Winter term (2<sup>nd</sup> term) they should have declared a title, provided an abstract for their Thesis, and listed all members of their Committee (Advisor, Program Reader and Outside Reader). The Master's Thesis/ Doctoral Dissertation Committee Form listing the Thesis Committee members should be completed at this time and be submitted to the Graduate Secretary for approval by the Graduate Chair and the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

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### Establishing a Thesis Committee:

The best way to establish a Thesis Committee is to:

- ❖ Meet a variety of professors, not only those with whom you have taken classes
- ❖ Prepare a list of possible thesis topics and your theoretical orientation and methodological preferences
- ❖ Make appointments with graduate faculty members you would like to work with. Ask them questions about their preferred thesis procedures and expected time for completion of coursework and thesis. Ask what their expectations are of their graduate students and consider these in relation to your own expectations. Determine their availability to supervise and find out if you can stay in contact by email.
- ❖ Discuss potential committee members with your advisor. Mention faculty that you would like to have on your committee. Listen to the suggestions of your advisor and agree on one or two choices.
- ❖ Approach these potential committee members and ask them if they are interested in serving on your committee. If they do not have time or indicate reluctance, do not persist. Move on to the next person on your list. Follow the same procedure for other members. Inform them who the other committee members are, and what your study will be about. Also discuss your proposed time frame from proposal to thesis defense. Check the schedules of the other committee members.

If you have a problem with any member, discuss your problem with your Thesis Advisor. If you have a problem with your Thesis Advisor, try to work it out and if this proves to be impossible, discuss the problem with the Chair of the Graduate Committee and/ or the Head of the Department. If you find yourself in the position where you want to change your Thesis Advisor or the composition of your committee, ensure that:

- ❖ All parties are informed in writing, and
- ❖ Approval of the Graduate Committee is obtained

Do not assume because you like a particular professor that this person will be the best advisor for you, nor should you assume that a professor will want to be your Thesis Advisor because you received a good grade in their course.

Keep in mind that faculty are not expected to advise more than four students at one time.

### THE THESIS PROPOSAL

Students should register in SACR-8900 (Development of Thesis Proposal) ideally or as soon thereafter as possible during the Winter Semester with the objective of defending their thesis proposal by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> term. Credit is received for SACR-8900 upon successful completion of the proposal defense.

The thesis proposal is an outline of your Thesis project, prepared under the supervision of the Thesis Committee. Ask your Advisor for an outline, examples, and assistance.

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The grant proposal format mandated by such major funding agencies as the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of the Canadian Institutes for Health Research can be used as a standard format for the proposal.

The thesis proposal should be a concise document of no more than 15 double spaced pages that discusses the:

- ❖ Central research topic of the Thesis
- ❖ Significance of the research
- ❖ Theoretical framework guiding the research
- ❖ Proposed research methods
- ❖ Plan and schedule for the completion of the Thesis
- ❖ Feasibility of the research project and any ethical issues raised by the research

The thesis proposal must be approved at a meeting of the Thesis Committee before the research can proceed. The purpose of the meeting is to reach an agreement that the research is well designed, feasible, and appropriately grounded in the relevant research literature.

All master's students are required to comply with the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association's Code of Ethics. The proposal for research involving human subjects must be approved by the University of Windsor, Research Ethics Board before the research work commences. The [Research Ethics Board](#) administers the Tri- Council Policy Statement.

### *Thesis Proposal Procedures*

- ❖ The Advisor must notify the Graduate Secretary at least 10 days in advance when a date and time has been set for the Thesis Proposal oral defense.
- ❖ The student must submit one (1) electronic copy of the completed proposal to the Graduate Secretary at least ten (10) business days in advance of the proposal defense date.
- ❖ The student must provide copies of the proposal to all of the Thesis Committee members at the same time.
- ❖ The Graduate Secretary will distribute a notice concerning the date, time, place, title of the thesis proposal and location, to members of the department and graduate students.

## THE THESIS

There are two formats for a Master's Thesis currently in use in this department. The student may choose which format to use in consultation with their Thesis Committee.

The first format is a journal article format, based on the structure of an article found in a scholarly journal such as The Canadian Review of Sociology.

The second format is a more traditional Thesis structure, in which the student produces a document of 70-100 double- spaced pages that provides a review of the literature, theoretical framework, research methods, analysis, and conclusion. The Thesis should display awareness about the theoretical, methodological and practical choices made during the research process and the implications of the research.

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You can read previous students published Theses as they are available through Leddy Library's [Theses and Dissertations](#) website.

Thesis research and writing processes vary significantly depending on the methods used and preferences in working style. Research may begin after the successful defense of the Thesis Proposal. Many students find it beneficial to meet with the Advisor weekly, or bi-weekly, because it enables them to remain focused and to work expeditiously through challenges and issues as they arise.

Please note: Students are considered full- time students while enrolled in the Master's program including the period of study in which they are working on their Thesis Proposal and Thesis. As such, they are not expected to have full time employment outside of the University, or work more than 10 hours per week at the University under the CUPE 4580 Collective Agreement. However, you can hold a RA scholarship at the same time as a GAsip.

Once you begin your research, you may want to devise a schedule with your Advisor that establishes specific times at which your work is to be submitted. Many students find it useful to submit work as it is completed, receiving feedback before additional work is undertaken.

Your Committee is composed of three professors, each with their own unique insights and skills. Keep in constant contact with all of the members so that you and your project can benefit from their comments and considerations.

### *Thesis Format*

The Thesis must follow the style form of the Canadian Review of Sociology or another standardized format (e.g. Canadian Journal of Sociology, APA, MLA, Chicago Guide to Preparing Electronic Manuscripts). Check with your Advisor for selection of the appropriate format.

The Thesis must be prepared according to [the Guidelines for Major Paper, Theses, and Dissertations](#) set out by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

### *Thesis Defense Procedures*

- ❖ The Advisor must notify the Graduate Secretary at least 10 days in advance when a date and time has been set for the Thesis oral defense.
- ❖ The student must submit one (1) electronic copy of the completed thesis to the Graduate Secretary at least ten (10) business days in advance of the defense date.
- ❖ The student must provide copies of the thesis to all of the Thesis Committee members at the same time.
- ❖ The Graduate Secretary will select a Chair for the oral defense.
- ❖ The Graduate Secretary will distribute a notice concerning the date, time, place, title of the thesis and location, to members of the department and graduate students.

Students are strongly encouraged to attend other MA defenses.

Once you have completed your oral thesis defense you will need to contact the Faculty of Graduate Studies to complete the submission process.

After required changes are completed, a hard copy must be submitted to the Administrative Officer for format checking (allow for 2 business days for this). Students are also required to pay the cost of binding



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the Thesis. Once format checking has been completed, students have to submit the final version to Graduate Studies for binding. The Faculty of Graduate Studies has all the [steps required to deposit](#) on their website.

### APPLICATION TO GRADUATE

Once a student is ready to apply to graduate, they will need to submit an application to graduate to the Registrar's Office through their UWiniste Student. See the [Convocation & Graduation](#) website for more information on applying to graduate.

## SECTION FOUR: RESOURCES

### STUDY & RESEARCH SPACES

#### SAC LEARNING CENTRE LAB

A computer lab with office space is located in Chrysler Hall South Room 154. This room may be used for individual or group interviews, for statistical computer use or for quiet study. The room is equipped with six computer workstations, a printer, six large study desks, and a small table with chairs. Incoming graduate students may use this room to hold their office hours for GAsheps. This room will require a swipe key to enter. See the Graduate Secretary if you would like access.

#### THE GRADUATE MUSE (SAC Lounge)

The graduate students in SAC are able to enjoy the use of The Graduate Muse lounge (room 159) when they need break time from studies and work. This room is available for use during the Sociology Department's office hours (8:30am – 4:30pm) and will not be open outside of those hours.

#### FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES GRADUATE LAB

The FAHSS Graduate Lab is located in Chrysler Hall North Room G103. This room may be used by graduate students and contains 30 Windows computer workstations loaded with R and SPSS.

#### LEDDY STUDY CARRELS

Leddy Library offers free study carrels to graduate students for a rental period of one (1) year. Those interested must contact the Access Services Coordinator at the Circulation Desk to put your name on a waiting list and once a study carrel is available you will be notified. Students assigned a study carrel must abide by the rules and regulations set out by Leddy Library.

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## SUPPORT SERVICES & UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT

### FEMINIST RESEARCH GROUP

The Feminist Research Group (FRG) is a multidisciplinary group of graduate students seeking to highlight feminist research at the University of Windsor. The FRG has organized a conference dedicated to graduate student feminist research (broadly defined) across all disciplines (e.g. Nursing, English, History, Psychology, Human Kinetics, Sociology, Law, Philosophy, Women's Studies, and Visual Arts).

Becoming involved in the FRG provides an opportunity to meet new people, discuss feminist issues, be exposed to new ideas, and develop professionally as you organize the conference. To learn more about the FRG, please visit their [website](#) or email [frg@uwindsor.ca](mailto:frg@uwindsor.ca).

### SOCIOLOGY & CRIMINOLOGY STUDENT SOCIETY

The Sociology & Criminology Student Society (SCSS) is a student service dedicated to integrating full-time and part-time students at the undergraduate and graduate level. The purpose is to offer approachable means for educational networking, mentoring, and enhancing the student experiences in hopes of generating useful resources for all students. SCSS offers resources for students and is not a social club. To learn more about SCSS, please visit the [Facebook](#) page or email [soccrimsociety@gmail.com](mailto:soccrimsociety@gmail.com).

### GRADUATE STUDENT SOCIETY

The [Graduate Student Society](#) (GSS) is the official representative organization of all graduate students at the University of Windsor. Elected representatives of the Graduate Student Society represent graduate students at different levels of the University. Through its work, the GSS actively represents and advocates for graduate students' interests.

The Graduate Students Handbook is a publication of the Graduate Student Society and is designed to offer graduate students guidance and assistance in academic, personal, and financial matters while they are registered at the University of Windsor.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SOCIETY

The [International Student Society](#) (I.S.S) is a political body that aims to provide the administration of the affairs of the International students and to lend assistance, as well as protection of rights and interests, within their power, to international students, in academic and other matters.

They also provide guidance and assistance to international students regarding student authorization, immigration regulations, and financial matters.

### RESIDENCE/ LIVING ON CAMPUS

Residence Services offers on Campus Living for graduate students in residence buildings.

For more information, please contact [Residence Services](#) at:  
[www.uwindsor.ca/residence](http://www.uwindsor.ca/residence)

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resservices@uwindsor.ca  
(519) 253-3000 ext. 3279

Another resource for information is on the University of Windsor Student Alliance [Housing and Dining](#) website.

### HOUSING

Apartments and houses in the Windsor area are readily available at significantly lower rents than many other urban areas in Canada.

## SAC GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

All courses listed will not necessarily be offered every year. All courses except those in statistics are taught as seminars.

### **SACR-8000. Sociological Theory**

A seminar on current and emerging trends in social theory from social constructionism to world systems theory, including contemporary debates on impacts of globalization, modernity and postmodernity, and the recovery of neglected voices in sociological theory.

### **SACR-8010. Classical Social Theories and Beyond**

A seminar on creative, critical, and reflexive modes of theoretical development and appropriation grounded in sections of classical social theory. Topics covered may include causality, power, justice, love, sexuality, the family, class, solidarity, religion, science, ideology, culture, state formation, and cosmopolitanism. Attention will be given to the discursive formation of the social sciences and epistemological, ontological, and normative debates.

### **SACR-8020. Social Theory and Social Justice**

A seminar to develop the theoretical foundations of doctoral research by critically examining the location of research and researchers in the global system, presumptions concerning human subjectivity and empowerment, and the conceptualization and practice of social justice. (Pre-requisite: permission of instructor).

### **SACR-8050. Quantitative Statistics and Analysis**

Construction and testing of regression and logit models, sampling and questionnaire construction. Additional topics may be selected in view of the needs and interests of students.

### **SACR-8060. Qualitative Methodology**

Examination and practice of qualitative methods used in social research. An examination of Students will critically examine the ethics and politics of research. The course is primarily designed to provide MA course-stream students with an opportunity to engage in various research methods and debates in the field.

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### **SACR-8070. Survey Data**

Student will work in teams to develop questionnaires, gather data, and prepare them for analysis. Extensive reading will be required on sample design, questionnaire design, and survey administration. (two (2) lecture, one (1) laboratory hour each week.) (Cross-listed with PSYC 8070).

### **SACR-8080. Data Analysis**

Students will explore their data and test hypotheses, drawing on methods from other graduate data analytic courses. Students will be required to write a final report, which emphasizes communicating findings to non-specialists. (two (2) lecture, one (1) laboratory hour each week.) (Cross-listed with PSYC 8080).

### **SACR-8150. Statistics and Quantitative Methods**

Sociological applications of structural equation modeling, hierarchical modeling, log-linear models, multinomial and ordinal logits, consideration of the strengths and limitations of quantitative sociology and political issues in its exercise. (Pre-requisite: SACR 8080 or permission of instructor).

### **SACR-8160. Qualitative Research Design**

An exploration of the epistemological assumptions and analytical tools that underpin the design of students' qualitative research projects. Students will be exposed to a variety of research issues in areas such as of sociological fieldwork, select ethnographic techniques, the analysis of documents, and participatory action research. The course is designed to assist students in examining and employing specific qualitative methods to assist in the development of developing the methodological component of their thesis or PhD proposal.

### **SACR- 8200. Social Movements and Popular Mobilization**

Seminar on the theory and research of large-scale transformations through historical and cross-cultural examinations of such topics as the development and impact of social movements, states and social revolutions, and the mobilization of people around issues concerning human rights, working conditions, racism, gender, sexuality, environment, peace, poverty, and globalization.

### **SACR-8210. Social Inequality and the State**

Seminar on the theory and research of structured inequality in the national and international context. The focus will be on the role of the state in creating, sustaining and altering different aspects of inequality in terms of resource attainment, political ideology and behaviour. Policy related issues may include globalization, family, sexuality, multiculturalism, immigration, employment, crime, education, health and welfare.

### **SACR-8250. International Development and its Discontents**

Seminar on the central theoretical and empirical issues raised in understanding the ways in which national and global processes of socio-economic development are experienced locally.

### **SACR-8270. The Unruly City: Urban analysis and ethnography**

The aim of this course is to consider the work of anthropologists, sociologists and others who have explored and attempted to conceptualise cities and urban spaces, urban cultures and social relations, and the intersections between cultural phenomena and urban transformation all within the context of political economic formations. The course further aims to familiarize students with the variable theoretical perspectives that have been brought to bear on urban life, and the way in which ethnographic research may be undertaken in cities. Students develop the skills to analyse and debate social issues and aspects of cities and urban life.

### **SACR-8300. Work and Social Change**

This course examines current research and theoretical approaches in the sociology of work with an emphasis on understanding the relationship between the transformation of work and broader social change in class,

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gender and ethnic relations. Areas of concentration may include the organization of production, worker control and resistance, state labour policies and legislation, unemployment, labour market segregation, and globalization.

### **SACR-8400. Race and Ethnic Relations**

A comparative analysis of race and ethnic relations focusing on such issues as ethnic stratification and mobility patterns, assimilation and cultural pluralism, and policies and legislation governing multiculturalism, employment equity and collective rights.

### **SACR-8500. Family Relations and Gender Politics**

An examination of historical and contemporary debates on gender politics within the context of family formation and social change in Canada. Special attention will be given to the gender division of labour, sexuality, economy and class, and to related social justice issues such as state regulation of marriage, divorce, childcare and procreation, reproductive engineering and rights, and ideological power structures and practices that construct family member's in particular social and cultural contexts.

### **SACR-8550. Sexualities and Social Justice**

This course will investigate the relationship between sexuality, power inequalities and social change. This may include an examination of the impact of globalization processes on sexualities, the development of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer identities and movements, the racialization and gendering of sexual identity (and the sexualization of racial, ethnic and gender relations), the criminalization of sexualities, and the construction of sexual 'health'.

### **SACR-8610. Crime and Exclusion**

An exploration of research and theory on the conception, construction, and production of crime and other exclusionary processes. Substantive topics may include violence, victimization and the impact of culture, borders, inequalities, and regulatory agencies on crime and deviance.

### **SACR-8620. Security and Regulation**

An examination of research and theory on the regulatory agencies of criminal law and social policy (e.g. courts, police, corrections, social service agencies), modes of regulation (e.g. discipline, surveillance, detention) and their application (e.g. to bodies, spaces, borders and subjectivities).

### **SACR-8640. Contemporary Criminological Theory**

An advanced analysis of social theories in Criminology. Various perspectives will be covered including feminist, Marxist, cultural, postmodern, and constructionist theories.

### **SACR-8650. Law and Governance**

This course examines perspectives on moral regulation, the social construction of law and law as governance. The focus will be the analysis of various forms of law, policy and regulation. Substantive issues to be covered may include sexuality, immigration and exclusion, labour and economic policies, drug policies and communication, or cultural policies.

### **SACR-8670. Current Issues in Criminology**

An examination of contemporary research in criminology, deviance, and/or social justice. Students will critically engage with the results of recent research central to these areas of investigations.

### **SACR-8680. Critical Perspectives on Policy Development**

This course provides an in-depth study of the process of policy formation, development, and implementation in the area of crime and criminal justice broadly defined.

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### **SACR-8690. Culture and Globalization**

This seminar course uses cultural perspectives to explore processes of globalization. Topics may include migration, mass mediated practices, transnational organizations, work and employment, and human rights.

### **SACR-8710. Critical Cultural Studies**

A critical examination of popular culture within contemporary social and cultural contexts. Topics may include: media representations of crime/criminality/criminal justice, gender, sexuality, race/ethnicity; the role of power and inequality in cultural production; myth; ideology; and how media and popular culture inform and impact various forms of social policy.

### **SACR-8740. Health and Social Justice**

Examines the social construction, production, and subjectivities of health and illness with reference to a variety of social justice developments and policy issues.

### **SACR-8800. Subordination, Identity and Empowerment**

A micro level examination of the effects of subordination on everyday life in the generation of acquiescence and resistance, including the use of discourse in identity formation and popular ideologies.

### **SACR-8870. Selected Topics in Sociology**

This course involves an examination of a selected topic within Sociology based on new developments in particular areas, special faculty interests, and opportunities afforded by the availability of visiting professors. Topics covered will vary from semester to semester.

### **SACR-8900. Directed Readings: Development of the Thesis Proposal**

Students will register for this course with a faculty advisor in their declared area of specialization with the purpose of developing a thesis proposal. (Available for credit only in the MA program by thesis).

### **SACR-8794. Directed Study Major Project I**

Under the guidance of the instructor, the candidate will engage in research on a discipline relevant issue, using existing data set(s), leading to the production of a final project, which entails empirically grounded policy suggestions. Students will select a Project Committee, review literature and develop research question and identify data set(s). (Cross-listed with PSYC 8794 (46-794)).

### **SACR-8795. Directed Study Major Project II**

In the Summer Semester, operationalize concepts, recode variables, analyze data, write report and suggest policies. The final project will show evidence of methodological skills, knowledge of the relevant substantive area, and ability to define policy implications based on analyzed data. (Cross-listed with PSYC 8795 (46-795)).

### **SACR-8970. MA Thesis**

### **SACR-9980. Doctoral Dissertation**

### GRADUATE FACULTY RESEARCH AREAS

Arnold, Robert (PhD, McMaster 1988; Associate Professor) Quantitative Methods, Family, Stratification, Program Evaluation

Basok, Tanya (PhD, York 1988; Professor) Development, Race/ Ethnic/ Minority Relations, Migration and Immigration

Cheran, Rudhramoorthy (PhD, York 2001; Associate Professor) Ethnicity, Migration, Racialization, Identity, International Development

Cradock, Gerald (PhD, University of British Columbia; Associate Professor) Family, Children, Child Abuse, Government Inquiries, Theory, Social Policy

Datta, Ronjon Paul (PhD, Carleton 2008; Assistant Professor) Social Theory, Power, Philosophy of Social Science, The Sacred

Deckard, Natalie Delia (PhD, Emory University 2016; Assistant Professor) Critical Criminology, Crimmigration, Quantitative and Mix Methods

Deukmedjian, John (PhD, Toronto 2002; Associate Professor) Policing, Security, Intelligence, Political Economy, Criminology/ Delinquency

Fitzgerald, Amy (PhD, Michigan State 2006; Associate Professor) Green Criminology, Environmental Sociology, Gender Studies, Animal Studies

George, Glynis (PhD, Toronto 2000; Associate Professor) Culture, Identity, Gender and Movements

Ku, Jane (PhD, Toronto 2003; Associate Professor) Newcomer Settlement, Immigrant Women, Feminist Activism, Race and Gender

Lewis, Jacqueline (PhD, Toronto 1994; Associate Professor) Crime, Deviance, Social Legal Studies, Qualitative Methodology, Health & Illness

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Lippert, Randy (PhD, University of British Columbia 1998; Professor) Law and Security, Criminology, Policing and Security

McMurphy, Suzanne (PhD, Bryn Mawr 1993; Associate Professor) Trust, Social Capital, Public Sociology, Research Ethics, Social and Institutional Trust

Nakhaie, Reza (PhD, Waterloo 1986; Professor) Race/ Ethnic/ Minority Relations, Stratification Mobility, Political Sociology, Quantitative Methodology

Omorodion, Francisca (PhD, Benin, Nigeria 1995; Associate Professor) Sexuality and Health Development, African Immigrant Families, Trafficking, Sex and Gender

Faculty members that are available as a member of a Thesis Committee and not the Advisor:

Phipps, Alan (PhD, Iowa 1978; Professor) Urban Sociology, Micro computing, Quantitative Methodology, Statistics

Soulliere, Danielle (PhD, Wayne State 2001; Associate Professor) Cultural Criminology, Gender Studies, Media

## GRADUATE FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

For a list of current publications, please visit the Sociology [Faculty Member](#) website.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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