

## **Social Science Research Methods at the Graduate Level**

### **Department of Sociology and Social Work**

The Department of Sociology and Social Work offers a Certificate in Social Science Research Methods. This certificate will prepare students to work in applied and institutional research settings. The courses required for the Social Science Research Methods Certificate focus on the understanding and application of social science research methods commonly used in the public and private sectors. The graduate certificate is open to students enrolled in any graduate program at Texas Woman's University as well as to qualified individuals seeking only the Social Science Research Methods Certificate.

### **Admissions Requirements**

Students already admitted to a graduate program at TWU should consult with the Chair or Graduate Advisor of their program to determine whether the coursework taken for the Social Science Research Methods Certificate will apply towards their degrees. Students seeking admission to a masters or doctoral program, in addition to the certification, must meet the entrance requirements of their degree program.

Students entering TWU only for the Social Science Research Methods Certificate must meet the master's-level entrance requirements for the Graduate School except for the submission of GRE scores. For certificate-only students, the Department of Sociology and Social Work requires that students have completed three hours of undergraduate statistics for the social sciences and provide a Statement of Purpose (5--600 words) describing the reason the Social Science Research Methods Certificate is sought and its importance in relation to career goals. It is understood that the student's major department will detail their specific expectations with regard to the statistical background of students who pursue this certificate.

### **Coursework Requirements**

The Social Science Research Methods Certificate requires 18 hours of coursework to be completed with an average of B or better. The following three courses are required of the Social Science Research Methods Certificate:

- SOCI 5363. Survey Research
- SOCI 5773. Qualitative Research Methods
- SOCI 6203. Seminar in Research Methods

With approval of the student's Advisory Committee, the Chair or Graduate Advisor of the respective department offering the course, the remaining 9 hours may be selected from the following list of courses:

- ELDR 5293. Research in Education
- FS 5693. Research Methods in Family Science
- FS 5783. Issues in Early Childhood Research and Evaluation
- FS 6693. Advanced Quantitative Research Methods in Family Science
- FS 6793. Advanced Qualitative Research Methods in Family Science
- HCA 5223. Analysis and Management of Health in Populations
- HCA 5463. Research Methods in Health Care Administration
- LS 5753. Research Methods
- LS 6733. Action Research in Information Issues
- PSY 6863. Qualitative Research Methods and Program Evaluation
- READ 6483. Qualitative Research
- READ 6493. Advanced Qualitative Research Design and Analysis
- SOCI 6203. Seminar on Research Methods<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> May be repeated when topics vary.

- WS 5773. Qualitative Research Methods

Other courses may be selected as electives with approval of the student's Advisory Committee, the Chair or Graduate Advisor of the Department of Sociology and Social Work, and the Chair or Graduate Advisor of the respective department offering the course.

## **Admission Requirements**

For admission to the sociology masters program, the GRE is required, along with a GPA of 3.0 or better, a personal statement (2 pages) of interest, and two letters of recommendation.

Admission to the doctoral program requires a GPA of 3.5 or better on the last 60 hours of undergraduate work and on all graduate work; three letters of recommendation; and a personal statement of interest (2-3 pages). The GRE is required. To insure adequate preparation for the doctoral program, the Department of Sociology and Social Work requires 12 to 18 hours of undergraduate or graduate credit in sociology, including a graduate course in statistics and a graduate course in social sciences research methods.

Students applying for admission to doctoral study must meet the general admission requirements of either the Graduate School at TWU (see admission section of this catalog) or the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies at UNT. Students additionally must apply to the sociology program (see departmental handbook or guidelines for details). Applications of students who satisfy the Graduate School's admission standards are forwarded for review to the department admissions committee. This committee is responsible for recommending acceptance into the Federation doctoral program.