

Thank you for your interest in the doctoral program in sociology at the University of California, Riverside! Training graduate students for successful careers as scholars and teachers of sociology is a core part of the Department of Sociology's mission. The graduate program at UCR is designed to grant the Ph.D. degree, with the Master's degree awarded along the way as students meet requirements for admission to the Ph.D. program.¹

To provide our students with the most solid foundation in the field, the department faculty has recently approved an updated graduate curriculum which we expect will be implemented in the fall of 2014. The structure of the program is designed to give students a strong background in sociological theory and methods, as well as in any two of the department's seven areas of specialization: Criminology and Socio-Legal Studies, Gender Studies, Organizations and Institutions, Political Economy and Global Social Change, Race and Class Inequality, Social Psychology, and Sociological Theory.

Students normally complete the core program in theory and methods during the first year of study, finish all requirements for the MA by the end of the second year, and pass their qualifying exams and commence work on the doctoral dissertation by the end of their fourth year in the program. Each student works with a faculty mentor to chart their course of study and facilitate their development as a sociologist.

During the course of their graduate studies, students are encouraged to present papers at professional conferences and publish scholarly articles both independently and with faculty. Many faculty offer opportunities to graduate students to participate in faculty research projects and/or work on collaborative projects. Such opportunities help graduate students gain experience with various aspects of the research process, including research design, data collection and analysis, and dissemination of research findings.

Opportunities for instructional development are also available through the department and on campus through the Teaching Assistant Development Program, which offers a certificate in college-level instruction. Graduate students typically work as a Teaching Assistant for at least one quarter during their time in the program, and many also work as Instructors, either during summer session or the normal academic year, in the later stages of the program. Students thus enter the job market with experience teaching undergraduates at a highly diverse public university.

Sociology graduate students participate in self-governance through the Sociology Graduate Student Association (SGSA), which elects representatives who attend faculty meetings, serve on departmental committees, and participate in campus and University-wide organizations.

Recent graduates of the doctoral program in sociology at UCR have had exceptional success in attaining academic positions following completion of the PhD. Since 2008, recent PhDs have gone on to hold postdoctoral fellowships at UCLA, UC San Diego, University of South Florida, and Stanford University. Recent PhDs have also accepted tenure-track positions at several California State University campuses, Central Michigan University, University of Illinois-

¹ Per University of California policy, students admitted to the graduate program with a Master's degree in Sociology are not awarded a second Master's Degree in Sociology.

Springfield, University of Nebraska-Kearny, and Rutgers University, as well as at liberal arts colleges and community colleges.

We invite you to explore our website for more details about our faculty and current graduate students. Our website also includes information about application procedures and about the University of California, Riverside, a diverse and dynamic campus located in southern California.