Ph.D. and M.S. Co-Major Requirements

(Revised 10/29/15)

M.S. Co-Major Requirements

Required Courses for the M.S. Co-Major Theory (3 cr)

- 1 course in sociological theory: Soc 506 (3 cr) Classical Sociological Theory OR Soc 607 (3 cr) Contemporary Sociological Theory

Methods (10 cr)

- Stat 401 (4 cr) Statistical Methods for Research Workers
- Soc 511 (3 cr) Research Methodology for the Social Sciences
- 1 course in advanced methods: Stat 404 (3 cr) Regression for Social and Behavioral Research OR Soc 513 (3 cr) Qualitative Research Methods

Thesis and Other Required (1 cr)

- Soc 591 (R 1 cr) Orientation to Sociology
- Sociology graduate faculty member on POS Committee
- Final oral exam must test for sociology major
- A thesis that reflects the student’s sociological competence

Electives (6 cr)

- 2 additional Soc 500-level courses or higher

TOTAL (20 cr)

- A minimum of 20 semester credits is required for the M.S. co-major
- A required course may be waived for students who have taken a similar course at the graduate level at ISU or elsewhere. Decisions about waiving a required course will be made on a case-by-case basis. Students must submit the syllabus for the course for review by the DOGE and faculty in that research area.
- Admission requirements to the co-major program are the same as for the major
**Required Courses for the Ph.D. Co-Major**

*Theory (6 cr)*
- Soc 506 (3 cr) Classical Sociological Theory
- Soc 607 (3 cr) Contemporary Sociological Theory

*Methods (9 cr)*
- Stat 404 (3 cr) Regression for Social and Behavioral Research
- Soc 511 (3 cr) Research Methodology for the Social Sciences
- 1 course in advanced methods: Soc 512 (3 cr) Applied Multivariate Statistics OR Soc 513 (3 cr) Qualitative Research Methods

*Dissertation and Other Required (4 cr)*
- Soc 534 (3 cr) Race, Class, and Gender Inequality
- Soc 591 (1 cr) Orientation to Sociology
- Sociology graduate faculty member on POS Committee
- Preliminary and final oral exams must test for sociology major
- A dissertation that reflects the student’s sociological competence

*Electives (9 cr)*
- 3 additional Soc 500-level courses or higher

**TOTAL (28 cr)**
- A minimum of 28 semester credits is required for the Ph.D. co-major
- A required course may be waived for students who have taken a similar course at the graduate level at ISU or elsewhere. Decisions about waiving a required course will be made on a case-by-case basis. Students must submit the syllabus for the course for review by the DOGE and faculty in that research area.
- For admission to the co-major program contact the DOGE
Co-Major Requirements for the Graduate Program in Sustainable Agriculture

- Refer to GPSA Student and Faculty Handbook (August 2013) for full requirements
- Receive a single degree but must satisfy the curricular requirements established for both academic majors, but may apply some common course work to both majors
- Take one preliminary oral exam (PhD) and one final exam (MS and PhD) that incorporates disciplinary questions from both majors
- Must select a POS Committee that includes either co-chairs (i.e. two major professors, each of whom represents one of the academic majors), or a single chair who is a member of the graduate faculty of both majors
- Must select a POS Committee whose membership representation meets normal MS and PhD rules for each major

Examinations and Progress

English Examination

To ensure competence in written English, all graduate students must take English exams that are required by the Graduate College. In addition, non-native speakers of English who will have teaching responsibilities are required to take the SPEAK/TEACH tests.

First Year Evaluation

All graduate students in sociology will be reviewed yearly (spring semester) by the faculty. After the review, the student will receive a letter as to whether his or her progress and performance in the program is satisfactory or not. If not, the student will receive specific information from the faculty as to how to remediate the issue(s). If a problem is not rectified in accordance with the faculty’s recommendation, the student may be dismissed from the program.

Time Limitations for Completion of Degrees

The master’s degree student is expected to complete the degree program within three years. A student beginning a Ph.D. degree program at ISU with a master's degree is expected to complete the
program within five years, while a student beginning a Ph.D. degree program without the master's degree is expected to complete the program within seven years. If warranted, the POS Committee may request by letter that the Dean of the Graduate College extend these time limits.

Petitioning Procedures

Students may request a waiver of any of the procedures, rules, and regulations described in this document and appeal decisions based on these procedures, rules, and regulations. Such requests are to be submitted to the DOGE and Department Chair and should take the form of a written document that presents the student's rationale for requesting the waiver or appealing a decision, accompanied by an evaluation of the request by the student's advisor or major professor. The DOGE and Chair will examine the issue, seek advice from departmental committees as necessary, and make the final decision. These petitions will be approved only under highly extenuating circumstances.

Committees and Forms

P.O.S. Committee

The POS committee for a master’s program consists of three members of the graduate faculty. It must include at least three members, at least one of which from within the department. The POS committee for a doctoral program consists of five members of the graduate faculty, at least one of which from within the department. Only Graduate Faculty currently employed by Iowa State University can serve as major professor. The major professor must be a member of the graduate faculty in the student's declared major. See Graduate College Handbook for detailed information on committee makeup. The Graduate College recommends that the committee be formed as early as the second semester of graduate study. In no case can the committee be formed later than the term before the final oral examination or preliminary oral examination.

Required Forms

The Graduate College maintains a list of current forms and worksheets, which can be found at: http://www.grad-college.iastate.edu/common/forms/student_forms.php.