

**Degrees Available at SIUE**

- Master of Arts in Sociology
- Master of Science in Integrative Studies - Sustainability

**Sociology at SIUE**

Graduate work in sociology involves the advanced study of human social life, its processes, problems and possible future forms. Areas of study in the College of Arts and Sciences include social problems and policies, deviance and crime, gender, race and ethnic relations, employment relations and complex organizations, sexualities, intersectionality, sustainability, social inequality, social change, theory, research, and data analysis. Career objectives are furthered with an advanced degree in sociology. The study of sociology at the master's level strengthens students' analytical, research and writing skills. These skills are useful in positions involving problem analysis, research and data management, effective communication, and leadership.

**Career Opportunities**

Graduates of the master's program in sociology have used their degree as a stepping stone to a PhD or law degree, a credential for a teaching position at a community college, preparation for doing research for private business or public service agencies, or for acquiring decision-making positions in diverse occupational settings. The program also accommodates persons who already hold positions in the public or private sector and for whom the graduate degree improves career benefits and opportunities.

**Admission Requirements**

- Graduate School application and \$40 fee
- Submission of all post-secondary academic transcripts
- Successful completion of a bachelor's degree prior to enrollment
- International Applicants: Proof of English Proficiency, minimum requirements are TOEFL (79), IELTS (6.5) or equivalent
- Submit a writing sample
- Statement of Purpose: Submit a written personal statement of one to two pages indicating their motivations and objectives for graduate study in sociology. The writing sample, which should be 4-15 pages in length, may consist of a paper turned in for a course or other written work prepared by the applicant. It should address some social scientific and preferably sociological issue.
- Admission is usually routine for those who meet the following requirements and standards:

**Faculty****Graduate Program Director****Sandra E. Weissinger, PhD**

University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign

**Denise Cobb, PhD**

Tulane University

**Connie D. Frey-Spurlock, PhD**

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Mark Hedley, PhD**

University of Arizona

**Florence C. Maatita, PhD**

University of Connecticut

**Linda J. Markowitz, PhD**

University of Arizona

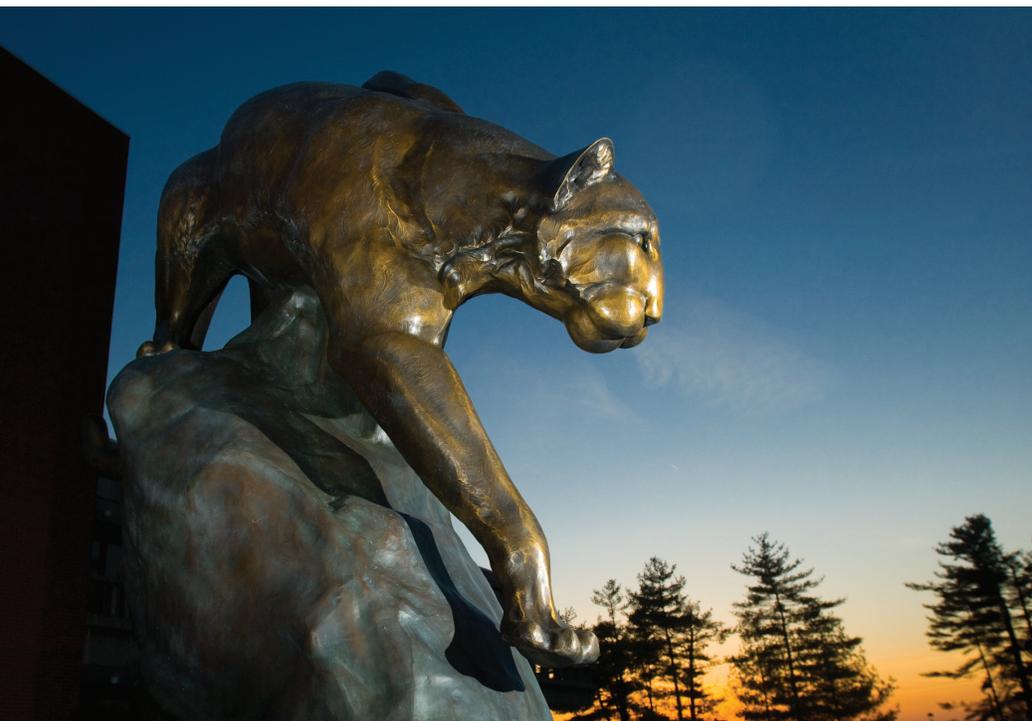
Department Chair

**Lisa Martino Taylor, PhD**

University of Missouri-Columbia

**Ezra Temko, MA**

University of New Hampshire



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
**EDWARDSVILLE**

GRADUATE SCHOOL

## Admission Requirements, Cont.

- 30 or more semester hours in the social sciences (anthropology, political science, economics, psychology, history) including 21 hours in sociology, six of those hours being sociological theory and sociological statistics or methods, with grades of B or better.
- An overall grade point average of at least 2.7 (A=4.0).

Program application materials may be uploaded during the application process, but official transcripts must be sent directly from the school attended, and test scores must be verifiable with the appropriate testing service. Please contact the Graduate Admissions office with questions regarding the application submission process at [graduateadmissions@siue.edu](mailto:graduateadmissions@siue.edu).

Review the SIUE Admissions Policy for more information.

## Application Deadline

Students may be admitted to the program at the beginning of any semester, but we encourage applications for admission in the fall semester because of course sequencing. Persons seeking admission for the fall semester should apply no later than July 10 of the year in which they wish to begin their studies. Although all applicants are encouraged to apply to begin their studies in the fall semester, applications for other semesters will be considered up to the following deadlines: for spring semester-November 15; for summer term-April 1.

## Graduation Requirements

The completed thesis must be defended in a final oral examination administered by the student's thesis committee. Students pursuing the internship option must successfully complete an oral examination administered by the advisory committee. This examination will cover both the internship experience and the written internship report.

The program also offers a comprehensive exam option to complete graduation requirements.

Review the graduation policy for more information.

## Curriculum

Requirements for the master of arts degree in sociology include 33 semester hours of graduate credit, distributed as follows:

**Required courses (15 hours):** SOC 500, 501, 515, 518, 592

SOC 501, 515, and 518 are taken in the first year to ensure a basic knowledge of sociological theory, methods and data analysis. SOC 592 is taken after completion of 18 hours, including 515, or with consent of the graduate program director. Students must receive a grade of B or higher in all required courses. Also, during the first 12 semester hours of graduate study, only courses with a grade of B or higher can be counted toward the degree.

**Electives (12 hours):** Students completing the thesis or internship exit requirements must complete 12 hours of electives, at least 9 hours of which must be sociology seminar courses at the 500-level. Students completing the comprehensive exam exit requirement, must complete 18 hours of electives, 15 of which must be sociology seminar courses at the 500-level. For all options, up to three semester hours of 500-level electives may be taken in related fields outside sociology when approved by the graduate program director.

**Thesis or Internship (six hours):** By the completion of 18 semester hours and in consultation with the graduate program director, the student must select either: six hours of SOC 599 (Thesis) or three hours of SOC 593a (Graduate Internship-Experience) and three hours of SOC 593b (Graduate Internship-Report). The internship comprises two parts: at least 140 hours of a supervised work experience in either a research or public service setting (SOC 593a), and a substantial, original written report concerning a sociological issue related to the internship (SOC 593b). Guidelines for the internship report are included in the department's Graduate Student Handbook. Normally, the thesis or internship options will not be taken until the student has completed at least 24 semester hours of course work. Additional information can be obtained from the department office, Peck Hall, Room 1205.

## Contact Information

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College of Arts and Sciences  
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
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