

# Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies in Sociology

## 36-Hour Thesis/Non-thesis Program

The M.A.I.S. degree requires a total of 36 semester hours of graduate credit. An area of concentration must have at least 12 and no more than 18 semester hours in the subject area.

At least six hours in the area of concentration must be in upper-level (6000) graduate work. In addition, 18-24 hours must be taken in two or more supporting fields outside the area of concentration. For course descriptions and other information related to graduate studies visit our website at <http://utb.edu/vpaa/graduate>.

### Thesis

As part of their graduate program, students may choose the option of writing a thesis, for which they will receive six hours of graduate credit. Those who take this option must select a thesis committee, composed of a committee chairperson and two other members of the graduate faculty, to approve the topic and to assist in the preparation of the thesis. (See thesis-nonthesis option under "Academic Information".) Students must pass an oral defense of the completed thesis. Students selecting this option will register for INDS 7300 and 7301 after they have completed their coursework.

### Supporting Fields

Biology, Business Administration\*, Communication, Criminal Justice, Education\*, Fine Arts, Geography, Interpreting, Psychology and Public Policy & Management \*. All areas of concentration may also be support fields for each other.

\*No more than 12 semester hours may be taken from the professionals schools. Each candidate for the M.A.I.S. degree must pass a comprehensive examination over the area of concentration and supporting fields.

### Required Courses: 36 hours

Areas of Concentration:	Credit Hours
English, Government, History, Music, Sociology or Spanish .....	12-18
Two or more supporting fields .....	18 -24
Total graduate hours for degree .....	36

Each student in the M.A.I.S. degree program will be assigned a Faculty Advisor and two additional faculty committee members who teach in Interdisciplinary Studies. Together the student and the committee will choose courses in the concentration area and will select two or more supporting

fields. Efforts are made to relate the material studied in one discipline to that studied in another and to encourage students to select courses in mutually supporting fields. A formal Program of Study as described elsewhere in this catalog will be prepared and submitted for approval.

### Comprehensive Written Examination

Each candidate for the non-thesis Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies degree must pass a comprehensive written examination prepared by the graduate faculty and administered by the Office of Graduate Office.

### Interdisciplinary Studies in Sociology

Evidence of academic achievement and potential for advanced study and research is required for graduate admission. Specific criteria for Unconditional Admission for Master's degree seeking students in Interdisciplinary Studies in Sociology are:

- Undergraduate GPA of 3.0
- GRE Verbal score of 400
- GRE Quantitative score of 400
- GRE Analytical score of 400/4.0
- 2 satisfactory letters of recommendation (one must be a former undergraduate teacher)
- A satisfactory essay of approximately 600 words, addressing why the student feels that he or she should be admitted into the program, and any additional information the faculty should consider regarding admission into the program

Submission of official GRE score report is required prior to admission.

Applicants with an undergraduate GPA of at least 2.5 and/or GRE scores lower than those specified are also encouraged to apply.

A complete application packet, including a graduate admission application and all supporting documents required by the department, must be submitted by June 1st - Fall, November 1st - Spring and April 1st - Summer.

Notification of decisions on graduate admission is made by the Office of Graduate Studies based on the admission criteria and recommendation of the academic department. Information related to application procedures and deadlines is available through the Office of Graduate Studies.

"The Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies is an extremely versatile degree that can be customized to meet most students' interests. I chose a concentration in Sociology because I work with a variety of people everyday. It was an eye-opening experience to realize we are not all cut from the same mold. The more cognizant we are of our differences the easier it is strengthening our common ground. Powerful messages for the global society in which we live!"

- Valerie Gamez, Graduate Student



### ADVISOR

DR. SHERRY MCCULLOUGH • MRCHS #225 • 882-8222 • SHERRY.MCCULLOUGH@UTB.EDU