

Sociology



EMORY
LANEY
GRADUATE
SCHOOL



Emory's doctoral program in Sociology features an internationally recognized faculty dedicated to both research and teaching, excellent preparation for a range of academic and research careers, competitive funding, high levels of personal interaction between faculty and students — students often publishing with faculty — and extensive interdisciplinary connections.

Areas of Focus

We provide rigorous training in theory, research design, and statistics, as well as extensive preparation in these major substantive areas:

- Comparative political economy and global analysis: political sociology; political economy; global development and change; social movements; revolutions; world-systems; welfare states.
- Culture: mass media; religion; social change; world culture; music, literature, and the arts; popular culture; identity construction.
- Social psychology: interpersonal and group processes; social structure and personality; status and power; justice; racial attitudes; legitimacy; identity formation and negotiation; emotions; causes of crime; health and well being.
- Stratification and organization: inequality; education; organizations; work and industry; medical sociology; gender, race, class, and ethnicity; criminology.

We also collaborate in exploring links across these areas. For example, several faculty members are engaged in projects that explore the effects of inequality on physical, mental, and social well-being (e.g., educational achievement, residence in low-crime communities). Others are exploring the interface between social psychology and culture, offering an ongoing workshop that assists graduate students with research on such topics as identity, injustice, and institutions. Still others are examining the factors that impact health across a range of societies.

Research Resources

Faculty and graduate students at Emory enjoy an ample and invigorating research environment, including The Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Center which provides specialized training and support for faculty and student research. The Sociology Department houses a computer laboratory consisting of high-capacity PCs and Macs that operate a wide array of statistical, qualitative, and graphics software. The extensive

DISCOVER

the unexpected

University library systems consists of the Robert W. Woodruff General Library as well as a number of specialized facilities, all linked through a computerized circulation system.

Emory and the Atlanta areas have a number of other opportunities for research and collaboration.

The Carter Center of Emory University may be of special interest for students of social stratification and political economy. Established by former President Jimmy Carter, the Carter Center includes a Presidential Library and a policy center that involves various scholarly activities pertaining to issues of interest to sociologists such as development in the Third World, conflict resolution, and global health problems.

As the capital of Georgia, Atlanta is a major government and business center. Twenty-two colleges and universities are located in the surrounding area. Atlanta is also the U.S. government's southeast regional headquarters for the Departments of Labor, Interior, and Health and Human services, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Atlanta is also the home for a number of important civil rights organizations. Sociologists in the areas of race relations and social change may pursue interests in the activities of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, the national office of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the regional headquarters of the NAACP.

Curriculum

Our curriculum is designed to provide students with a solid foundation in theory, methodology, and the major areas of sociology; experience with conducting and presenting original research; and expertise in one or more chosen areas of specialization. The program is designed for completion in five to six years.

Coursework

The Ph.D. program usually requires three years of coursework. Students are required to take courses in research design, statistics, and theory. The remaining hours of coursework include advanced courses in statistics and theory, qualitative methods, and other substantive courses. Students are encouraged to take courses not only in their major substantive area but also in other areas of the program and in other departments.

Students take a "hands-on" research writing course in their second year to assist them in developing a publishable research paper.



Research

Our program requires a paper based on original empirical research, which is to be presented at a professional meeting. Often, students publish their research paper in a peer-reviewed journal.

Preliminary Exams

Students take one preliminary exam at the end of their third year, covering one of our four core areas and a minor area related to the student's field of research.

Dissertation

The capstone of the Ph.D. curriculum is the writing of the dissertation, which the student undertakes under the guidance of an advisor and at least two other committee members. Students have the opportunity to attend grant-writing workshops to solicit outside dissertation support. Recent students in the Ph.D. program have been awarded dissertation fellowships from organizations such as the Ford Foundation, the Spencer Foundation, the American Academy of Education Research and the National Science Foundation.

For more details about our curriculum, please visit the graduate program page on our website at www.sociology.emory.edu/pid/17/13/. You will find a student handbook that details all degree requirements, as well as reading lists, course syllabi and more.

Students

We typically have 40 doctoral students in residence, and accept about five new students each year. Students and faculty in the Sociology program are a close community of scholars, with small classes and individualized advising and mentoring.

Currently, graduate students are participating in ongoing research projects that include comparative revolutions, status and justice processes in interaction, welfare policies, schooling and the state, the construction of industries, international non-governmental organizations, race inequality and education, and the causes of juvenile delinquency.

Faculty and graduate students take part in the Sociology brown-bag series, which is an internal forum for the presentation of ongoing research. We also sponsor an active speakers series, which brings major scholars to campus each year, and typically host one major conference each year. In 2007, our conference theme was “The Effects of Inequality on Physical and Mental Well-Being” and in 2008 the theme was “Re-examining Race, Ethnic and Class Divides.” In addition, the program offers a variety of research workshops on topics such as race and ethnicity, and sustainability.

Admitted students usually receive five years of funding, which includes a tuition scholarship and stipend. The Graduate School also provides research, specialized training and professional development funds, including travel funds for students to present their work at professional meetings.

We actively support our students' efforts to find good positions in both academic and non-academic careers. Recent academic placements include the University of Delaware, the University of Vermont, the University of New Hampshire, SUNY at Albany, Drew College, Morehouse College, Ithaca College, Georgia State University, the University of Georgia, Georgia Tech University, Texas A&M, the University of Toronto, Mary Washington University, the University of Massachusetts, and Mississippi State. Recent non-academic research placements include the Centers for Disease Control, CARE, and MACRO International.



Faculty

The Sociology Department includes 21 full-time faculty and 21 associated and adjunct faculty whose primary appointments include the Rollins School of Public Health, the Candler School of Theology, and the Centers for Disease Control.

Our faculty members engage in cutting-edge research, take pride in excellent teaching, and actively contribute to the University and wider community.

Faculty publish regularly in the leading Sociology journals, including the American Sociology Review, American Journal of Sociology, Social Forces, Annual Review of Sociology, Social Psychology Quarterly, Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Poetics, and Sociology of Education, as well as in leading journals of adjacent disciplines and interdisciplinary specialties such as The American Political Science Review and Criminology.

Recent books published by our core faculty include: *Race in the Schoolyard: Negotiating the Color Line in Classrooms and Communities*, *Flourishing: Positive Psychology and the Life Well Lived*; *From Words to Numbers: Narrative, Data and Social Science*; *The Handbook of Political Sociology*; *Latinas and African-American Women at Work*; *Philosophical Perspectives and Theoretical Paradigms in Africana Studies*; *Pressured Into Crime: An Overview of General Strain Theory*; *Social Democracy and Welfare Capitalism*; *World Culture: Origins and Consequences*; *Social Democracy and Welfare Capitalism*.

A complete listing of our faculty, along with their research interests and selected publications, is available on the faculty page of our website, www.sociology.emory.edu/pid/29/50/.

Contact Information

For more information about the Ph.D. program in Sociology, contact

Professor Richard Rubinson
Director of Graduate Recruitment
rrubin@emory.edu



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Requests for Additional Information:

RECRUITMENT AND ADMISSIONS

James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies
209 Administration Building
201 Dowman Drive
Atlanta, GA 30322

404-727-6028 (ask for the Sociology program)
Fax: 404-727-4990

<http://www.graduateschool.emory.edu>
<http://www.sociology.emory.edu>