

Sociology: MA

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology is well established and has been offering a Master's degree in Sociology since 1967. Our MA program provides students with the opportunity to become actively engaged in research, teaching and professional practice, and offers the flexibility to identify an area of research that they can pursue with passion and commitment. Part of this flexibility stems from our faculty who have expertise in a wide variety of topics.

socioanthro.uoguelph.ca/future-students/sociology-ma

PROGRAM

Students may choose one of two study options: i) Thesis and complete a minimum of 2.0 credits (4 courses) ii) Major research paper as part of 4.0 credits of coursework (6 courses and a 1.0 credit major paper).

Students also participate in the professional seminar, which provides opportunities to enhance professional and practical skills related to their degree and beyond.

RESEARCH FIELDS

- Environment, Food and Communities
- Work and Organization
- Crime and Social Control
- Identities and Social Inclusion

COLLABORATIVE SPECIALIZATIONS

All of our fields of research can be combined with a specialization in International Development Studies.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students require a 4 year honours BA (or equivalent) with a B+ average over the last 2 years of study. They must also have a familiarity with the discipline of sociology, including a basic understanding of sociological theory and methodology. Two academic letters of references and a statement of interest are also required.

Application Deadlines:

Fall Entry (September 2026):

OUAC Application Deadline – Jan 2, 2026
Required Documents Deadline – January 15, 2026



Alexa Avelar (2019 MA graduate) conducted research focusing on the experiences of other young women farmers. (Photo credit: Alexa Avelar)

FUNDING

Students are guaranteed financial support through teaching assistantships and/or scholarships. Students also have the opportunity to participate as research assistants on various projects when available. Our students have used their MA degree as preparation for doctoral studies or to enter the labour market and pursue careers in government, with non-profit organizations, or in the private sector.

FACULTY AND FACILITIES

There are currently 29 faculty in the department with backgrounds in Sociology, Anthropology, or a related discipline. The Department maintains Blackwood Hall, Room 214 as a common study space for graduate students.

The department has a computer lab for the exclusive use of Sociology and Anthropology graduate students. Research software (including NVivo, STATA and SPSS) are available for use in this lab. Other computer facilities are available both in the library, and in Computer Services.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:

- Crime and Social Control
- Applied Qualitative or Quantitative Data Science
- Social Policy
- Internet, Technology, and Digital Sociology
- Social Equality

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Government / Research
- Corrections / Law / Courts
- Community Affairs
- Business / Communications
- Teaching / Education

CONTACT INFORMATION

Graduate Program Coordinator:

Ryan Broll
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rbroll@uoguelph.ca

Graduate Program Assistant:

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519-824-4120 x56973

Sociology: PhD

This program aims to prepare students for a career in research and teaching. The program is designed so that students will deepen and broaden their knowledge in sociological theory and methodology as well as in one of the four substantive fields offered. Students will also become highly independent sociological thinkers and skilled researchers capable of pushing the boundaries of knowledge in their chosen field.

uoguelph.ca/socioanthro/phd-sociology

PROGRAM

Students are required to complete at least four courses during the first two semesters of study, including the PhD Professional Seminar, Advanced Topics in Sociological Theory and Advanced Issues in Mixed Research Methodologies. Students must also successfully complete a qualifying exam and a research proposal, and produce and orally defend a dissertation on a topic that has been approved by the advisory committee. Students will be given the opportunity to actively engage in the discipline through activities such as a teaching and research assistantships, and the preparation and presentation of papers at conferences.

RESEARCH FIELDS

- Environment, Food and Communities
- Work and Organization
- Crime and Social Control
- Identities and Social Inclusion

COLLABORATIVE SPECIALIZATIONS

All of our fields of research can be combined with a specialization in International Development Studies.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are expected to have a recognized MA degree in Sociology with high academic standing (80% or higher). They are normally expected to have completed Masters-level courses in sociological theory, and qualitative/quantitative methodology courses in Sociology.



Community event output that G. Benchimol (2019 PhD Graduate) led in Arizona as part of a panel to discuss sexual victimization in Jewish workplaces and communal spaces. (Photo Credit: Maya S. Horowitz, 2019)

Applicants must submit a statement of intent and two academic letters of reference.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact a faculty member to serve as a potential advisor prior to applying to the program.

FUNDING

The program is committed to providing a minimum stipend of \$20,000 for all doctoral students for a period of four years. Students are guaranteed financial support through teaching assistantships and/or scholarships. Students also have the opportunity to participate as research assistants on various projects when available.

Application Deadline:

Jan 2, Application Submission
Jan 15, Required Document Submission
Entry: Fall

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:

- Crime and Social Control
- Applied Qualitative or Quantitative Data Science
- Social Policy
- Internet, Technology, and Digital Sociology
- Social Equality

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Research
- Teaching
- Government (local and national)
- Philanthropy and non-profit organizations

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