

## Sociology and Gerontology Dual-Title PhD

The Sociology & Gerontology dual-title degree program is an option available to students who have completed the Master's degree, been accepted and enrolled in the doctoral program in the Department of Sociology, and completed a minimum of one semester of course work in good academic standing. This option is designed to appeal to students who are strong in Sociology but also motivated to study across disciplinary lines. The dual-title degree program allows students to pursue a single degree that incorporates study in a traditional discipline and training in an interdisciplinary field. Upon the successful completion of the PhD requirements of both areas, the student is awarded a single degree (Ph.D.) with both titles identified on the diploma ("Ph.D. in Sociology & Gerontology").

**Admission to the Dual-Title Program:** After one semester in good standing in the Sociology PhD program, the interested student must write a letter requesting admission to the program that outlines his/her professional and educational goals in gerontology and also reasons for pursuing the dual-title option, along with a resume and a list of all courses previously taken in relevant areas. The letter will be submitted to the Graduate Studies Committees of Sociology and Gerontology, and both must accept the candidate for admission into the program.

**Advising:** The student's advisor must be a faculty member in both fields; or, if this is not possible, the student must have co-advisors from each of the two fields.

**Plan of Study and Graduate Teaching Assistantship Application:** With the advice of their advisor / committee, all students shall complete an **annual** Plan of Study, due on the first day of the Spring semester. If you are interested in being considered for a Graduate Teaching Assistantship, please indicate so on the Funding Application accompanying the plan of study.

**Timelines:** Doctoral students are expected to complete all their course work and defend their dissertation proposal within 6 semesters (e.g., those entering Fall 2012 should defend their dissertation proposal by Spring 2015).

**Coursework Requirements:** Students pursuing the dual-title degree must complete the required coursework for the doctorate in Sociology and the required coursework for the doctorate in Gerontology. Many theory, methods, and content courses for each side of the pairing can jointly fulfill requirements for both programs in the dual-title degree. Dual-title students may require an additional semester to fulfill requirements in both programs.

The combined course requirements for both fields require 45 credit hours (excluding dissertation hours):

- Gerontology Proseminar (3 hours)
- Sociological Theory Seminars (9 hours)
- Research Methods (12 hours; 6 hours must be in advanced statistics, including SOC812).
- Other Seminars (21 hours; at least 6 of these hours must be in core courses in Gerontology selected from the following areas: biology of aging, psychology of aging, social gerontology; at least 9 hours must be Sociology Department graduate seminars).

*For students who completed the thesis-option M.A. in the Department of Sociology at the University of Kansas, the graduate level theory, methods, and sociology seminars taken while earning the M.A. count toward meeting these requirements.*

**Area Specialization Dossier (ASD):** One of the two ASDs will be Life Course & Aging. The Gerontology program requires a written preliminary examination, which should be included with other work the student has completed in field and placed in the ASD. The second ASD may or may not include a critical review essay, at the discretion of the student's committee.

\*First ASD due within first 3 semesters \*Seconds ASD due within first 5 semesters

**Oral Comp Exam** - must be taken within one semester of having completed the second ASD. The committee must be comprised of two members of the Sociology faculty, two members of the Gerontology faculty, and one outside member affiliated with neither program.