



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

TRANSMITTAL

DATE: May 20, 2003

TO: Rebecca Scott
Senate Council

FROM: Lissa Holland
Graduate Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'LH' or similar initials, written over the name 'Lissa Holland'.

The Graduate School
351 Patterson Office Tower
Lexington, KY 40506-0027
(859) 257-4613
Fax: (859) 323-1928
www.rgs.uky.edu/gsl/

The Graduate Council met on May 1, 2003, and approved the following:

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Sociology

Change in Master's Degree – Sociology/Agriculture

The department has instituted more stringent entrance requirements, resulting in incoming cohorts whose level of statistical and methodological expertise is superior to what the department once experienced. Most recently entering students do not need basic courses in statistics and research design. Those who do will be advised to begin by taking STA 570 or an appropriate undergraduate course (e.g., SOC 302 or 303). The department also has found that SOC 680, which is intended to provide an overview of all methodological strategies commonly used in sociology, cannot provide sufficient depth regarding any one strategy to prepare students to embark on thesis research. As a result, many Master's level students have found it necessary to go beyond the official requirements before beginning thesis research.

The new requirements will insure that all MA and MS students are exposed to rigorous training in research design and quantitative analysis prior to attempting a thesis or research paper. Because SOC 682 alternates between quantitative and qualitative topics, those expecting to complete a qualitative project for their thesis may use SOC 682 to be exposed to a more intensive treatment of qualitative methods than was possible with SOC 680. Students expecting to conduct quantitative research will be able to choose Survey Research or another quantitative topic for SOC 682.

The proposed methodology requirements will better equip students to begin thesis research and will also prepare them more adequately to enter a Ph.D. program or to accept research-oriented employment.

REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM

Program: **Sociology**

Department (if applicable): **Sociology**

College (if applicable): **Arts and Sciences**

Bulletin pp.: **2000-2002 pp. 116-117.**

Degree title (Old): **MA in Sociology and
MS in Agriculture (Sociology)**

Major (New):

CIP Code:

HEGIS Code:

Accrediting Agency (if applicable):

I. CHANGE(S) IN PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Current

Proposed

1. Number of transfer credits allowed
(Graduate School limit: 9 hours or 25% of
coursework)

2. Residence requirement (if applicable)

3. Languages and/or skills required

4. Termination criteria

5. Plan A requirements*

6. Plan B requirements*

7. Distribution of course levels required.
(At least one half must be at 600+ level and
two thirds must be in organized courses.)

8. Required courses (if applicable)	SOC 650: Concepts and Theories in Sociology (3)	SOC 650: Concepts and Theories in Sociology (3)
	SOC 680: Methods of Social Investigation (4)	SOC 681: Research Design and Analysis (3)
	SOC 772: Topical Seminar in Sociology: Statistics (3)	SOC 682: Special Topics in Advanced Sociological Methods (1-3)

9. Required distribution of courses within program
(if applicable)

10. Final examination requirements

*If there is only one plan for the degree, plans involving a thesis (or the equivalent in studio work, etc.) should be discussed under Plan A and those not involving a thesis should be discussed under Plan B.

NOTE: To the extent that proposed changes in 5, 6, or 8 above involve the addition of courses in other programs, please submit correspondence from the other program(s) pertaining to the availability of such courses to your students.

ORIGINAL

ARTS AND SCIENCES COLLEGE COUNCIL/CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

INVESTIGATOR REPORT

INVESTIGATING BODY Area B, Stuart Kaufman
(Behav. & Soc. Sci. Curr. Com. Chair)

COURSE, MAJOR or DEGREE: SOC MA/AG SOC MS Degree
(department or college)

DATE FOR COUNCIL REVIEW Dec. 13, 2002

CATEGORY: NEW, CHANGE, DROP

INSTRUCTIONS: This completed form will accompany the course application to the Graduate/Undergraduate Council(s) in order to avoid needless repetition of investigation. The following questions are included as an outline only. Be as specific and as brief as possible. If the investigation was routine, please indicate this. The term "course" is used to indicate one course, a series of courses or a program, whichever is in order. Return the form to the Associate Dean, 231 Patterson Office Tower for forwarding to the other Council(s). ATTACH SUPPLEMENT IF NEEDED.

List any modifications made in the course proposal as submitted originally and why.

None

2. If no modifications were made, review considerations that arose during the investigation and the resolutions.

None—Changes are modest and self-explanatory

3. List contacts with program units on the proposal and the considerations discussed therein.

Phone and e-mail contacts with James Houglund, Acting Chair, Dept. of Sociology

4. Additional information as needed.

5. A&S Area B, Social Sciences Curriculum Committee Recommendation:

APPROVE, APPROVE WITH RESERVATION, OR DISAPPROVE

6. A&S Council Recommendation:

APPROVE, APPROVE WITH RESERVATION, OR DISAPPROVE

7. Stuart Kaufman
A&S Council Investigator, Dr. Stuart Kaufman

Date: 12/13/02

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
INVESTIGATOR REPORT**

Course/Courses/Program: P22; MA in Sociology, MS in Agriculture (Sociology)

Category (check one): New Change Drop

Date for Council Review: May 1, 2003

Recommendation (circle one): Approve Approve with Reservation Disapprove

Investigator's Signature: 

INSTRUCTIONS:

The following questions are included as an outline only. Be as specific and as brief as possible. If the investigation was routine, please indicate this. Attach supplements as needed. Please return the form to Lissa Holland, 355 P.O.T., 0027, at least two days before the next Council meeting.

List any modifications made in the course proposal as submitted originally and reason(s) why.

2. If no modifications were made, review considerations which arose during the investigation and the resolutions.

The proposal upgrades the level of required coursework in research design and quantitative methods. Most students enter the program with sufficient preparation to immediately take the more advanced courses. The few that do not will be required to do remedial work.

3. List contact(s) with program units and the considerations discussed therein.

I spoke with James Hougland, Chair of the Department of Sociology.

4. Additional information as needed.