

# Application Materials Required by the M.A. Program in Sociology

## Materials required of all applicants

Please e-mail the application materials below to: [socgradapp@csun.edu](mailto:socgradapp@csun.edu)

- **Unofficial Copy of your undergraduate transcripts (optional):** Sometimes official transcripts take a while to arrive, be processed by CSUN Admissions, and sent over to the Sociology Department. Therefore, you can submit a copy of your unofficial transcripts which will allow the Sociology Department to begin reviewing your application materials immediately.
- **Statement of Purpose (2-4 double-spaced pages)**  
Topics to cover in your Statement of Purpose:
  - Introduce yourself, your interests within the field of sociology, and your motivation for pursuing graduate study. Why do you want to pursue a master's degree in sociology? What particular areas or topics are you interested in researching and why?
  - What personal and academic experiences have contributed toward your preparation for study in graduate school? Give examples of personal attributes or qualities that would help you complete graduate study successfully.
  - What are your future career goals and how will a master's degree in sociology help you achieve them? (For example - researcher/data analyst, community college instructor, public sector or non-profit manager, position within a government agency, community organizer, applying to Ph.D. programs, etc.)
- **Writing Sample (Approximately 10-12 double spaced pages. Note: the writing sample can exceed 12 pages)**
  - Your writing sample can be a research or term paper you wrote for an undergraduate course.
  - We encourage applicants to revise and improve the paper that they originally submitted for the course. Incorporating any feedback received from the instructor for the course is also encouraged.
- **Letters of Recommendation**
  - Two letters of recommendation from faculty members who know your potential for success in graduate school. Please have your recommenders e-mail their letters directly to: [socgradapp@csun.edu](mailto:socgradapp@csun.edu)

## Materials required of international applicants who received their bachelor's degree outside of the U.S.

- English Language Test Score (TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, DET, EIKEN CSE, GTEC CBT, iTEP, or Cambridge C1 Advance English)
- When you take one of the above tests please specify that you want your scores sent to CSUN.
- Additionally, please e-mail an unofficial copy of your scores to: [socgradapp@csun.edu](mailto:socgradapp@csun.edu)
- For more information on materials required of international applicants go to: [CSUN International Admissions – Graduate Applicants](#)