Penn Sociology

Sample of Double Degree & Certificate Opportunities at Penn

Dual or joint degrees must be sought with the consultation of the Chair of the Graduate Group in Sociology and the Dean of the Graduate Division, School of Arts and Sciences.

Certificates are offered by various departments at the University of Pennsylvania and often can be completed as you work on your Sociology degree. You should consult with the Chair of the Graduate Group if you are interested in pursuing a certificate from another department.
Double Degree and Certificates at Penn

It is possible to earn a dual or joint PhD in Sociology and other disciplines, such as law or medicine. Students may also earn a joint degree, by being admitted to and satisfying the requirements of two graduate groups, and writing a single dissertation. Currently, students are enrolled in joint degrees with Demography, Education, and Business. Students seeking a joint PhD combining Sociology with some other field must be admitted in that field (as well as Sociology); admittance to the second program may occur after admission to the Sociology program.

The following pages provide basic information on some of the opportunities for double degrees and certificates in combination with the Sociology Doctoral degree at Penn. Please visit the websites that are listed for more information.

**This is not an exhaustive list; students who are interested in supplementing their Sociology degree are encouraged to look into additional opportunities based on research interests.**
Sociology / Demography Joint PH.D

Contact: Hans-Peter Kohler
Email: hpkohler@pop.upenn.edu | Phone: (215) 898-6444

Website: https://www.pop.upenn.edu/demography-phd-program

From the Graduate Group in Demography Website:

The Graduate Group in Demography administers the Ph.D. program in demography. The Ph.D. program in demography includes the acquisition of an A.M. degree in demography. We do not however offer a terminal master's degree program here at Penn. The Graduate Group in Demography is responsible for training students through course work and supervised research. Those seeking a Ph.D. degree in Demography should apply to the Graduate Group in Demography.

Demography has a long and proud tradition at Penn, and students seeking to specialize in it have an unusually broad array of courses from which to pick and a relatively large number of faculty members with whom they can work. Penn is unique in having professors who teach and conduct research within virtually all substantive areas of population.

The Population Studies Center provides office and work space for graduate students, both those in the Graduate Group in Demography and those otherwise affiliated with the Center and its research projects. These include access to the Demography Library and to computing facilities. The Center sponsors a weekly seminar series that affords students the opportunity to keep abreast of the latest work by leading scholars in the field of populations, as well as less formal opportunities to interact with visiting scholars.
Sociology PH.D, Master’s Degree in Statistics at Wharton

Contact Professor
Dylan Small
Advisor for the Dual Master's in Statistics
dsmall@wharton.upenn.edu | 215.573.5241
Website: https://statistics.wharton.upenn.edu/programs/dual-masters/

From Wharton’s Website:

The Dual MS Degree in Statistics is offered only to students enrolled in a Ph.D. program other than Statistics at Penn. The requirements [for the Wharton Master’s Degree in Statistics] are completion of the following:

(1) Six 500 level or 900 level Statistics Department courses.

(2) Four additional approved Penn courses with statistical content. These can be Statistics Department courses or courses from other departments.
   a. Note: Approval of the student's list of 10 courses for (1) and (2) is subject to approval of the Director of Graduate Studies of the Department of Statistics.

(3) An approved master's thesis. The master's thesis is a research paper that makes substantial use of statistics and is not part of a student's dissertation (though it can be related to the dissertation work) or material you completed for a course (though it can build on a paper completed for a course). The thesis can be original research or can be a literature review of some area of statistics related to a student's research. The thesis must be approved by a standing faculty member in the Statistics Department who has agreed to serve as an adviser for the project.
Sociology / Penn Graduate School of Education Joint Degree

Contact coordinators for requirements:

Education Policy
Krista Featherstone
Program Manager
(215) 573-8075
edpolicy@gse.upenn.edu

Education, Culture and Society Division
Alex Posecznick, Ph.D.
Core Faculty and Program Manager
(215) 573-3947
alpos@gse.upenn.edu
Website https://www.gse.upenn.edu/ecs/msed
**Sociology / Africana Studies Dual Degree**

Contact: Carol Davis, Graduate Coordinator  
Email: daviscl@sas.upenn.edu | 215-898-4965  
Requirements webpage: https://africana.sas.upenn.edu/department/phd-requirements

*From the Africana Studies website:*

The Program is designed to provide students with the flexibility to design courses of study that reflect their individual interests and are responsive to emerging fields of research within African, African American, and African Diaspora Studies. The program's requirements have also been specifically designed so that dual degree students can complete all requirements in both programs.

**Graduate Certificate Program in Africana Studies**

Contact: Carol Davis, Graduate Coordinator  
Email: daviscl@sas.upenn.edu | 215-898-4965  
Requirements webpage: https://africana.sas.upenn.edu/department/certificate-program

From the Africana Studies website: https://africana.sas.upenn.edu/department/graduate/certificate-program

The Graduate Certificate Program in Africana Studies draws on Department faculty as well as other faculty from departments in the School of Arts and Sciences and other schools of the University.

**Purpose**

The Graduate Certificate in Africana Studies provides students with an interdisciplinary, comparative, cross-national approach to the social sciences and humanities. This approach enables participants to address their research interests from a wide variety of perspectives than is typically allowed in traditional academic disciplines. The Graduate Certificate Program—particularly participation in the proseminar—gives students a familiarity with the essential social, historical, cultural, economic, and political background for studying issues that are central to the Africana experience, and the ability to produce richly contextualized analyses while maintaining their focus within one discipline.

**Benefits**

The Certificate Program expands the professional options of its graduates by providing interdisciplinary training and exposure to the totality of the African Diasporic experience. Such training provides graduates with the flexibility to teach in both traditional academic departments (e.g., one of the cognate disciplines) as well as in programs in Afro- or African American Studies, African Studies, Africana Studies, Black Studies, Ethnic Studies or American Studies. The Certificate Program is also open to students from other schools (e.g., Nursing, Engineering, and the Graduate School of Education) and graduate students enrolled in non-PhD. courses of study.
Sociology Ph.D / Masters of Public Health [MPH] (Ph.D / MPH)

Contact: Moriah Hall, Associate Director
Phone: 215-573-8841
moriahh@mail.med.upenn.edu
Webpage: http://www.cphi.upenn.edu/mph/phd-mph.html

From Penn Master’s Of Public Health Website:

Prospective students who are matriculating into any School in the University have the option of applying to the MPH Program for Joint Degree status. Students apply separately to each program and each program makes an independent admission’s evaluation. If a joint-degree applicant lacks sufficient relevant public health experience, admission to MPH will be partially contingent on acceptance into the other graduate program. Joint-degree applicants are advised to apply to the MPH program as early in the academic year as possible, and to indicate on each application that they have applied, or have been admitted, to another program. Please note: students may have exploratory conversations with faculty/advisors/staff of each program before they apply; however, any curriculum planning prior to admission is considered tentative and will be re-evaluated after admission.

Before or upon admission to the MPH program, the student will obtain approval from their home school (primary program) chair/director to pursue a joint-degree program with the MPH. The program chair/director will sign the Joint Degree Approval Form to indicate his/her approval. This form will be kept in the students' file in the MPH program office.

Sociology Ph.D / Master of Public Health Certificate Program:

Moriah Hall, Associate Director
Phone: 215-573-8841
moriahh@mail.med.upenn.edu
Webpage:
http://www.cphi.upenn.edu/mph/Certificate-Programs.html
Certificate in Law (from the Penn Law School)

Contact: Sherita Ragins
Email: sragins@law.upenn.edu | 215-746-7822
Requirements website: https://www.law.upenn.edu/registrar/certificate-in-law.php

From the Penn Law website:

Just as lawyers benefit from a better understanding of related disciplines, so do scholars, practitioners, and medical doctors gain from knowledge of the legal issues facing their fields.

Our Certificate of Study in Law gives Penn students an opportunity to become immersed in important legal topics in the areas of their academic interests.

Certificate Program Opportunities & Requirements

- Successfully complete four courses in the general area of Law and related issues.
- Take a minimum of three of these courses at Penn Law. One additional course may be taken at the Law School or may be approved from related courses in any of the University’s graduate and professional schools.
- These courses may be completed at any time during the candidate’s masters, doctoral or medical studies.
- Students must achieve at least a grade of B- in all courses counting toward the Certificate.
- The Certificate of Study in Law will be granted by the University of Pennsylvania Law School faculty to masters, doctoral candidates and medical students who successfully complete its requirements.

For more information please visit: https://www.law.upenn.edu/registrar/certificate-in-law.php
Certificate in Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS)

Contact: Cathy Bartch  
lals@sas.upenn.edu  
215-898-9919  
Requirements website: https://lals.sas.upenn.edu/graduate/graduate-certificate-lals

From LALS website:

Doctoral students affiliated with any department or School at the University of Pennsylvania who have focused at least part of their academic training on Latin America and Latinos are encouraged to document their specialization by earning a Certificate in LALS in conjunction with their doctoral degree. The Certificate documents that the student has developed rich cross-cultural fluency in Latin American traditions and culture and acquired specific knowledge about the history, social conditions, political challenges, or environmental issues affecting the region. Such recognition is expected to be valuable in academics, business, non-governmental organizations and other institutions dealing with Latin America and Latinos in the U.S.

Certificate requirements

1. Five approved graduate level courses related to Latin America, including the Caribbean, or Latinos in the U.S. These courses may be selected from LALS courses listed each term. Students may request special approval for other courses to count towards this requirement as long as 50% of the graded content deals with Latin America or Latinos.

2. Students must demonstrate proficiency in Spanish, French, Portuguese, or a less commonly taught language such as Yucatec Maya, Quechua, Haitian Creole, etc. Language proficiency can be demonstrated by proof of being a native speaker, evidence of extensive fieldwork in the language in question, language certificates or exams. In rare cases students can petition a waiver of the language requirement if their research focuses on Latinos in the U.S. or other situations where foreign language proficiency might not be necessary. In such situations, the student must substitute the language requirement with an additional course.

Students interested in applying to the Certificate should contact LALS (lals@sas.upenn.edu) or the LALS director directly.
The Graduate Certificate in Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies

Luz Marin, Program Coordinator
Email: lmarin@sas.upenn.edu
Requirements webpage: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/gsws/program/graduate/graduate-certificate

From the Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies website:

The Graduate Certificate in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies is designed to enrich students' traditional disciplinary training and broaden their perspectives on the study of gender and sexuality. The Graduate Certificate provides students with opportunities to think in an integrated fashion about the relationship between their scholarship and the study of gender and sexuality. It facilitates learning from a variety of methodological approaches including critical feminist, race, and legal theory, cultural studies, and psychoanalytic theory, as well as traditional disciplinary methodologies.
Graduate Certificate in Urban Studies

Elaine Simon esimon@sas.upenn.edu | Tel: (215) 898-6948
Requirements website: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/urban/students/graduate-certificate

From the Urban Studies website:

ABOUT THE PROGRAM
The Graduate Urban Studies Program offers a Certificate in Urban Studies to be taken in conjunction with a Ph.D. offered by the University through one of the disciplines or professional schools. It is aimed at students who want to augment their disciplinary studies to address urban topics or problems from an interdisciplinary perspective. The Program draws on faculty and encourages course-taking from the various departments of the School of Arts and Sciences and other schools of the University. Our students’ interests have focused on many areas of the world and include: housing, employment, economic development, finance, social welfare, poverty, education, community organization, history, ethnicity, culture, family, architecture, urban design, planning, law, and policy.

PURPOSE
How should the new leaders in urban theory, research, policy, and practice be educated? Urbanism is not the subject of any one discipline or profession. It does not honor the boundaries with which scholars and practitioners have divided their respective worlds. At the same time, the disciplines and professions require mastery of theories and tools essential to reasoned, effective approaches to urban-related issues. This tension between disciplinary and interdisciplinary study complements the tension between theory and practice.

By themselves, neither theory nor practice provide the key to the education of urban leaders. Abstracted from practice, theory lacks grounding in an appreciation of the complicated day-to-day interactions and struggles that constitute experience within a city. At the same time, successful practice requires the ability to step back from daily conflicts, to analyze them within a larger framework, to assess the consequences of action, and to apply sophisticated tools to the solution of problems.

Therefore, an appropriate and effective education in urban studies needs to combine mastery of a discipline or profession with interdisciplinary study and to join theory with practice. This combination of theory with practice underlies the design of the Graduate Certificate Program in Urban Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

BENEFITS
The Program increases its graduates’ professional options by helping to prepare them for research careers in both academic and policy settings. By providing them with the flexibility to teach within both conventional disciplines and urban-related programs and professional schools, it will enhance their attractiveness in the academic job market. Through its combination of rigorous, disciplinary-based research training with the interdisciplinary analysis of urban issues and the application of ideas to practice, the Program will develop their skills as policy researchers. The Graduate Certificate Program in Urban Studies at the University of Pennsylvania responds to the need for leadership in urban research, policy, and governance.
Certificate (from the Penn Fels Institute of Government)

Contact: Jaclyn Clevenger
Email: jaclyncl@sas.upenn.edu
Phone: 215-746-6684
Website: https://www.fels.upenn.edu/academics/certificates

From the Penn Fels Institute of Government Website:

The Politics Certificate offers current and aspiring leaders a practical education to working in the political realm. The graduate level certificate can be completed in one year of part-time study as a stand-alone program, or can be combined with another graduate program, including the MPA.

The certificate has a broad-based curriculum and covers the fundamental competencies of political management.

Upon completing the certificate, students will be prepared to work in a wide range of spheres ranging from political consulting to elected office to politically-based governmental positions.
Graduate Certificate in Cinema and Media Studies

Contact: Nicola M. Gentili  
Email: ngentili@sas.upenn.edu

Website: http://cinemastudies.sas.upenn.edu/graduate

*From Cinema and Media Studies website:*

Students admitted and already enrolled in graduate programs at Penn may apply to the Graduate Certificate in Cinema and Media Studies. **Students cannot apply for the Graduate Certificate in Cinema and Media Studies without having first been admitted to a graduate degree program at Penn.**

Programs in humanities around the country often seek job candidates from traditional fields who can also demonstrate pedagogical and scholarly strengths in cinema and media studies. Responding to these intellectual and professional currents, Penn's Graduate Certificate in Cinema and Media Studies aims to prepare students with the skills to research and teach film and media in order to advance their own work and to provide them with clear evidence of their training and abilities when they seek positions at other universities.

Students working in this area have a wide range of resources at their disposal, including Penn’s extensive Muybridge archive, the artists’ video collection at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the large film-related holdings of Penn’s libraries, as well as the important film archives that lie within easy reach of Philadelphia, such as the Library of Congress and MoMA. These students will also be eligible to apply for the paid, year-long internship in film programming at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, in which a graduate student programs a film series of films on or by artists, and does research for the museum in film archives such as MoMA. Along with regular appearances and presentations by filmmakers such as Stephen and Timothy Quay, Ross McElwee, Werner Herzog, Mira Nair, Alex Gibney, Frederic Wiseman, and others, Penn and Philadelphia offer graduate students a variety of ongoing intellectual and cultural opportunities to support their work in film and media studies, including those provided by the Philadelphia Film Festival, the Penn Humanities Forum, the Slought Foundation, and the International House film series, as well as the Cinema and Media Studies colloquium, where faculty and students exchange work-in-progress.
Graduate Certificate in Interdisciplinary Studies in Global Human Rights

Contact: Eileen Doherty-Sil, Assoc. Director, PSCI Undergrad Program
Email: dohertye@sas.upenn.edu

Website: https://www.law.upenn.edu/international/certificate/globalhumanrights/

From the Interdisciplinary Studies in Global Human Rights site:
The mission of the Global Human Rights Certificate is to promote human rights at Penn with enrolled undergraduate and graduate students. The certificate offers curricular options for gaining knowledge of global human rights through a variety of courses across various disciplines.

Human rights have assumed great prominence as globalization has advanced. Not only are human rights of vital practical importance in fields like international politics and development strategies, but in the academic domain, problems are increasingly being assessed in relation to human rights. The study of human rights now constitutes a portion of most disciplines in the social sciences and the humanities as well as the professions, including the fields of medicine, law, and engineering. The certificate courses will be useful for advanced students with interests in a variety of fields, as well as for teachers, researchers, and the service professions. These interdisciplinary studies will also be of value for law enforcement, military, public health, and governmental personnel.
**Graduate Certificate in Social, Cognitive & Affective Neuroscience (SCAN)**

Contact: Sue Yee Chen, Program Coordinator  
Email: schen@neuroethics.upenn.edu

Website: [https://neuroethics.upenn.edu/scan/](https://neuroethics.upenn.edu/scan/)

*From Graduate Certificate in Social, Cognitive & Affective Neuroscience (SCAN)*

The Graduate Certificate in Social, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience (SCAN) program enables graduate students and professionals preparing for a wide range of careers to work knowledgeably with neuroscience. Our program’s aim is to supplement your education if you have expertise in areas other than neuroscience, enabling you to incorporate some of the concepts and methods of neuroscience into your work. The curriculum focuses on the aspects of neuroscience that have the most direct application to the understanding of human behavior, specifically social, cognitive and affective neuroscience.
Master of Science in Criminology

Contact: Knakiya Hagan, Graduate Coordinator
Email: khagans@sas.upenn.edu

Website https://crim.sas.upenn.edu/graduate/master-science-criminology

Few problems of public policy are as important as crime and how to deal with it. Yet much crime prevention work today is guided more by anecdote than by systematic evidence, despite the fact that an enormous amount has been learned in recent years about what works, what doesn’t, and what’s promising. Penn’s unique Master of Science in Criminology Program has a three-fold purpose. It is designed:

- for those who want so spend their careers as "change agents" applying criminological research in public and nonprofit organizations, from law enforcement, prison and probation agencies to think tanks and consultancies
- for research-oriented students preparing for a doctoral program
- for those who are interested in exploring both career tracks in just one year