

Experiential Research Portfolio/Courses in Sociology

The courses below allow students to bring together their knowledge and research skills at an advanced level, in preparation for further graduate studies or employment that requires a demonstration of the ability to process information into usable knowledge.

Through pursuing a narrow focus on a specific area of knowledge, these courses help students to reflect upon, identify and enhance the skills that they have developed over the course of their degree in:

- knowledge generation
- knowledge synthesis
- knowledge assessment
- knowledge mobilization.

Application procedure

- Decide which course suits you best in terms of what it involves and the expected outcome (see below).
- Talk to a faculty member to see if they are available and willing to supervise your course – these courses are part of a faculty teaching workload so they need to be planned in advance of the following academic year in which they will occur so that they can be incorporated into your professor's workload.
- Plan ahead! **Applications open in the winter term of the preceding academic year, and normally close by the end of the exam period in winter term.** So you need to think through this issue during your third year of study.
- Use the application form available on at the end of this document

Courses

1. SOCI 4010Y/4020D: Honours Thesis:

- Full year project
- Original research conducted by student and written up
- In depth exploration of a well-defined topic using research methods and/or relevant theoretical frameworks
- Regular meetings with your supervisor – student must establish schedule
- Regular submission of draft work to supervisor

SOCI 4020D is 2.0 credits for Sociology majors and SOCI 4010Y is 1.0 credit involving submission of the same thesis to the other department/program of a joint-major.

EXPECTED OUTCOME: 10,000-to-12,000-word thesis submission by end of winter term exam period.

Pre-requisites

Open only to Honours students in Sociology with permission of the department. Prerequisite: A minimum 75% average over all SOCI credits completed and 10.0 university credits including SOCI 2110H, 3151H (or 2150Y), one of SOCI 3111H or 3100H, and 2.0 additional credits at the 3000 level.

Previous examples:

1. Qualitative study of same-sex identities in Jamaica – student went on to graduate school

2. SOCI 4021Y, 4022H, 4023H: Research Practicum:

- Full year or half year projects
- Specialized research project directly aligned with faculty research
- Regular meetings with your supervisor – student must establish schedule
- Regular submission of draft work to supervisor
- Outcomes negotiated with supervisor dependent on individual project and may include multiple reports during the course of the project

EXPECTED OUTCOME: All agreed outcomes submitted according to agreed end of the relevant exam period. Normally, a 0.5 credit range of assessments would be around 4000 words in total and a 1.0 credit around 8,000 words in total.

Pre-requisites

A minimum 75% average over all SOCI courses completed, one of SOCI 3111H or 3100H, and 2.0 additional credits at the 3000 level. Specific course prerequisites depending on the faculty supervisor. *Students may take a maximum of 1.0 credit in SOCI research practicum courses.*

Previous examples:

1. Content analysis of Celebrity magazines and websites – led to various reports for assessment and also produced a joint authored article with the student.

3. SOCI 4570Y/4580H: Community-Based Research Project

- Students are placed in research projects with community organizations in Peterborough and Haliburton counties through Trent Community Research Centre.

- Research project is specified by the community organization.
- Each placement is supervised jointly by a faculty member and a representative of a community organization. For details see Community-Based Research Program (p. 432) and trentu.ca/sociology/courses.php/#4570.
- Regular meetings with your supervisor – student must establish schedule
- Regular submission of draft work to supervisor
- Outcomes negotiated with supervisor dependent on individual project and may include multiple reports during the course of the project

EXPECTED OUTCOME: All agreed outcomes submitted according to agreed end of the relevant exam period. Normally, a 0.5 credit range of assessments would be around 4000 words in total and a 1.0 credit around 8,000 words in total.

Pre- requisite: A minimum 75% cumulative average and 10.0 university credits including SOCI 2110H, 3151H (or 2150Y), and 2.0 additional credits at the 3000 level of which at least 1.0 must be SOCI.

SOCI 4900Y, 4901H, 4902H, 4903H: Reading Course

Registration in reading courses is contingent on instructor's permission and departmental approval in advance of course registration. For details, see trentu.ca/sociology/courses.php/#4900. Prerequisite: A minimum 75% average over all SOCI courses completed and 10.0 university credits including SOCI 2110H, 3151H (or 2150Y), and 2.0 additional credits at the 3000 level of which at least 1.0 must be SOCI; or permission of instructor.

EXPERIENTIAL RESEARCH PORTFOLIO APPLICATION FORM

Students who intend to complete a fourth year honours thesis in the Department of Sociology must submit this form **by the end of teaching term in winter term** in order to be eligible. This form may be submitted electronically to sociology@trentu.ca or through hard-copy delivered to the main Sociology office.

Student Name:	
Student Number:	
Date Submitted:	
Course applied for:	
<i>Please provide a brief paragraph outlining your proposed project:</i>	
Please list any faculty member(s) you are interested in having supervise this project ¹	

¹ Please note that we will make our best efforts to match student projects with identified supervisors but there is no guarantee.