FAQs for Prospective Graduate Students

1. Can I submit any supplementary materials?

Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit supplementary materials. If an applicant chooses to submit a writing sample, it needs to be small (25 pages or less). All writing samples must be included in the online application to the GSAS.

2. How many letters of recommendation do I need to submit?

Two letters of recommendation are required. Applicants may submit additional materials in support of their application, including additional letters. All letters of recommendation must be submitted electronically. If you have any questions about the submission process, please contact the Graduate School Admissions Staff at gsasadmission@virginia.edu.

3. Does the department offer a terminal Masters degree?

The UVA Sociology Department does not offer a self-standing Masters program. Students entering without a prior M.A. may earn an M.A. en route to the Ph.D. Students entering with an M.A. or graduate credit from another institution will be evaluated on an ad hoc basis to determine how much transfer credit may be approved at the University of Virginia. (This will depend on where and when the prior M.A. or graduate credit was earned and in which subject). Inquiries should be directed to the Director of Graduate Studies.

4. Can I apply for admission to the graduate program for the Spring semester?

Students are only admitted to the Sociology graduate program for the fall semester. The application deadline is January 15 for all students wishing full consideration of their application. Inquiries should be directed to the Graduate Administrative Assistant.

5. Does the department accept part-time students for its Graduate Program?

No.

6. How much are GRE scores and GPA weighted in the admissions process?

While GRE scores and GPA are considered for admissions, many other aspects of the application are taken into account, including transcripts, recommendation letters, personal statement and the applicant’s overall fit to the department.

We are pleased that you have an interest in sociology and look forward to your application.