Facilities for Graduate Work

The Department of Sociology at The University of Texas at Austin is one of the top graduate programs in the country. Its 40 faculty members are involved in research and publication on a broad range of topics. Among the department's specialties are gender; race/ethnicity; demography; family; health; poverty and inequality; political sociology/development and globalization; and work, occupations, and organizations. Graduate students receive instruction in the full range of sociological methodologies, including comparative/historical methods, ethnographic fieldwork, and quantitative data analysis. Professionalization courses include formal instruction on publishing, presenting papers at professional conferences, and teaching. The department has housed a number of prominent journals, including Gender & Society, The Journal of Health and Social Behavior, and the Latin American Research Review. Faculty members serve key roles in a number of national and international professional societies, including the American Sociological Association and the Population Association of America.

The Department of Sociology is located in Robert L. Patton Hall (RLP), which also houses the innovative Urban Ethnography Lab and the Population Research Center (PRC), one of the preeminent demographic research and training centers in the United States. Research grant and fellowship opportunities are available through the PRC. The research foci of the PRC include children, youth, and families; population health; religion and demographic processes; and Latin American and border demography. Both the Department of Sociology and the PRC have computer laboratories, data archives, and a weekly lecture series. There are also opportunities for students to receive travel and fellowship funds to support their work.

Faculty and students are also affiliated with the Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, which provides graduate students with the opportunity to receive a certification in women's studies. Many sociology students present their original research at the annual CWGS graduate student conference. Other centers on campus provide research and teaching opportunities for sociology graduate students, including the Warfield Center for African and African American Studies, the Department of Mexican American and Latino/a Studies, the Center for Asian American Studies, the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, the Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies, and the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies.

Areas of Study

Graduate study is offered in theory; education; health; family; race and ethnicity; gender; political sociology, development and globalization; crime, law, and deviance; demography; and work, occupations, and organizations.