

# Integrative Social Science, MS

LSISSMS

Traverse traditional intellectual boundaries and immerse yourself in theories and skill sets relevant to success in many fields. You'll cultivate an approach to social analysis that might otherwise escape students in traditional, siloed social science programs.

## Program description

### **Degree awarded: MS Integrative Social Science**

The MS in integrative social science is an advanced degree program that cross-educates students in the social sciences in order to meet the complex issues that confront human society in a technologically sophisticated world.

The program emphasizes the bridging of traditional disciplinary boundaries to immerse students in theories available across multiple social science disciplines. Thus, graduates of the program are prepared with theory and research skill sets that allow them to integrate multiple perspectives when addressing modern social problems.

The Master of Science program in integrative social science is intended for foresighted students who wish to make a positive impact on society. The integrative approach emphasizes both theoretical analysis and practical problem-solving abilities. The degree puts students in an excellent position to pursue either doctoral work in the social sciences or a professional career in fields that seek to improve the quality of life in society.

Students learn skills desired in many professional fields, including creative problem-solving, the capacity to work effectively in both team-centered and self-directed contexts, advanced analysis of complex social and global issues, how to research complex problems, and professional writing and communication skills.

## At a glance

- **College/School:** [College of Integrative Sciences and Arts](#)

- **Location:** [Polytechnic](#)

## Accelerated program options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an [accelerated bachelor's plus master's degree](#) with:

[Integrative Social Science, BS](#)

[Political Science, BS](#)

[Science, Technology and Society, BS](#)

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. Students typically receive approval to pursue the accelerated master's during the junior year of their bachelor's degree program. Interested students can learn about eligibility requirements and [how to apply](#).

## Degree requirements

30 credit hours including a thesis, or

30 credit hours including the required applied project course (ISS 593)

### **Required Core (9 credit hours)**

ISS 501 Advanced Integrated Social Research Methods (3)

ISS 502 Advanced Seminar in Integrated Social Science (3)

ISS 505 Multivariate Methodologies of Social Science (3)

### **Electives or Research (15 or 18 credit hours)**

### **Culminating Experience (3 or 6 credit hours)**

ISS 593 Applied Project (3) or

ISS 599 Thesis (6)

### **Additional Curriculum Information**

Students choose either the thesis or applied project option.

For elective coursework, students choose from a list of preapproved courses for a total of 15 to 18 credit hours. Other courses may be used with approval from the academic unit.

Students are highly encouraged to participate in an internship for elective coursework. Internships are a structured practical experience that follows a contract or plan that is supervised by faculty and practitioners. Students should contact the academic unit for a list of possible elective courses and internship opportunities.

# Admission requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Integrative Sciences and Arts.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in any social science or interdisciplinary field, such as political science, sociology, philosophy, economics, psychology, public policy, administration or a closely related field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or they must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. proof of English proficiency

## Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of their current residency.

# Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

# Career opportunities

Professionals with expertise in analyzing complex social and global issues are in high demand across sectors and industries, including business, public administration, politics and community organizations. Those who possess skills in the analysis of social phenomena and complex social problems are valuable to businesses and institutions that rely on data-driven strategies for engagement and growth.

Career examples include:

- administrators
- government agency analysts and managers
- social and community service managers
- social science research analysts
- solutions resource specialists

# Contact information

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