

# BACHELOR OF ARTS

# APPLIED SOCIOLOGY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

## Lewis University Accelerated Programs

The School for Professional and Continuing Education provides adult students an opportunity to complete a college degree with a learner-centered, accelerated delivery format compatible with their needs and lifestyles. Most three semester credit hour courses are completed in five- or eight-week sessions.

The academic focus is on the integration of theory and practice emphasizing application, analysis and synthesis through collaborative learning experiences. Through small class size, group interaction and one's unique life experiences, the classroom becomes a dynamic environment in which each student is an active participant.

Lewis faculty are prepared as teachers, scholars, researchers and practitioners. In the adult classroom, they serve as coaches, role models and facilitators. Faculty hold a master's or doctoral degree, providing a rich blend of academic knowledge in their discipline with practical, professional experience.

## Applied Sociology and Political Science

The Applied Sociology and Political Science program prepares individuals for the contemporary workforce and provides a greater understanding of our diverse communities. This flexible, interdisciplinary degree examines individual behavior and group dynamics, particularly ways of dealing with conflict. Students learn to create opportunities for cooperation as well as understand the diversity of individual beliefs, values, and attitudes that can divide people and communities. In addition to teaching students to work collaboratively, this degree will enhance students' verbal and written communication skills and analytical abilities. To reach a variety of learners, the Applied Sociology and Political Science program utilizes a variety of educational methods, including information sessions, case study analysis, collaborative learning activities, and independent and team research opportunities.

## Program Entrance Requirements

Applicants should be at least 24 years of age; have earned a minimum of 12 semester (18 quarter) hours of transferable credit at a regionally accredited post-secondary institution; have earned a minimum of a 2.0 (4.0 scale) cumulative transfer GPA, based on all transferable courses to be considered for admission; and have at least 3 years of full-time work experience. Credits earned through PLA cannot be used for satisfying the transfer credit hour requirement for admission into an accelerated degree program.

## Degree Requirements

- Successful completion of a minimum of 128 semester credit hours.
- Completion of 32 semester graded credit hours at Lewis University including four upper division foundation courses and/or major courses (12 semester credit hours.)
- Achievement of an overall grade point average of at least 2.00 ("C") for all courses taken at Lewis University and a 2.20 average for the major area courses.

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## CURRICULUM

### General Education

- College Writing I (3)

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- College Writing II (3)

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- Introduction to Human Communication (3)

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- Mathematics (3)

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- Natural Science (3)

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- Natural Science (3)

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- Social Science (3)

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- Social Science (3)

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- Social Science (3)

*Three of the following courses:*

- Culture and Civilization I (3)

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- Culture and Civilization II (3)

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- Fine Arts Requirement (3)

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- Introduction to Philosophy (3)

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- Literature Requirement (3)

*Two of the following Mission-based courses must be taken at Lewis:*

- Christian Action and Values (3)  
OR Ethics (3)

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- Cultural Diversity and Intergroup Relations (3)

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- Theology (3)

### Core Courses

- Introduction to Applied Sociology and Political Science (3)

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- Conflict, Cooperation and Mediation (3)

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- Gender and Society (3)

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- Political Socialization (3)

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- Politics of the Mass Media (3)

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- Public Opinion and Behavior (3)

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- Political Sociology (3)

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- Social Deviance and Control (3)

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- Sociology of Careers and the Emerging Workplace (3)

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- Applied Social and Political Science /Community Research (3)

### Related Electives

- Independent Study in Applied Sociology and Political Science (3)

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- Special Topics in Applied Sociology and Political Science (3)

*An advisor will work with students to select appropriate electives.*

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Core Courses

#### **LJ-300 Introduction to Applied Sociology and Political Science:**

Current cases or events provide the context for introducing the principles and methods of social science research. Research methods include observation, case study, and experimentation, with a special emphasis on understanding survey research. Practical applications of data analysis are also introduced. Recommended as the first course in the sequence.

#### **LJ-320 Conflict, Cooperation and Mediation:**

This course addresses the causes of conflict, violence, and war. Not only do students learn why people fight, they also learn about how to make conflict into opportunities for making friends and building alliances. The analyses range from the interpersonal level to the global level.

**LJ-330 Political Socialization:** This course examines the learning process, which leads to acquiring beliefs, attitudes and values. Emphasis is placed on the agents of socialization such as family, peers and the mass media. Influences of these agents are traced throughout life cycles.

**LJ-340 Gender and Society:** Students will examine the social aspects of being male or female. This course addresses how personal development, socialization, career selection, leadership and sexuality differ for males and females, and whether these gender differences are diminishing.

#### **LJ-350 Public Opinion and**

**Behavior:** This course examines political opinion in American politics. It analyzes what opinions average citizens hold about politics. Focus is placed on opinion formation and opinion change. Forms of political participation are also analyzed.

#### **LJ-360 Social Deviance and**

**Control:** Students in this course will examine what causes deviant behavior, and address the question of who, if anyone, benefits from deviance. In addition, the students will learn how society has attempted to prevent and control deviance, and address the question if rehabilitation is possible. Both criminal and non-criminal forms of deviant behavior are examined.

#### **LJ-370 Politics of the Mass Media:**

This course investigates the connection between mass media and politics. The political functions served by the media, the power of the media, and the political regulation of the media are some of the topics discussed.

#### **LJ-380 Sociology of Careers and**

**the Emerging Workplace:** This course examines which job opportunities are available and what they offer. Students will learn which skills people need to work successfully with others and what leads to job satisfaction. In addition, the students will learn about how new technologies create career opportunities.

**LJ-390 Political Sociology:** Students will examine political participation, especially voting behavior, from a sociological perspective. Emphasis is placed on sociological determinants of voting behavior such as social class, income, education, and other demographics.

#### **LJ-497 Applied Social and Political/Community Research:**

Students work collaboratively to research a selected topic of social or political/community interest. Research and writing skills are highlighted, along with group process skills such as leadership, conflict resolution, and teamwork. Fulfills the advanced writing requirement. Recommended during the final semester.

### Electives

#### **LJ-399 Independent Study in Applied Sociology and Political Science:**

The student and facilitator work in a one-on-one relationship. The course may include research on a specific sociological or political/community topic, reading in a specific area, or both. Consent of the facilitator is required.

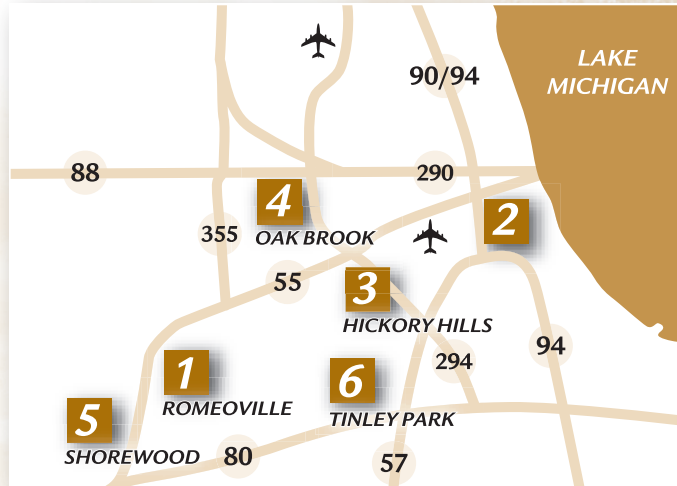
#### **LJ-492 Special Topics in Applied Sociology and Political Science:**

An intensive analysis of a specific issue or problem area within sociological or political/community studies. Consent of facilitator is required.

*Other appropriate related electives are offered through Lewis' accelerated and traditional programs. An advisor will provide you with the list.*

*Note: Material herein is subject to change. See catalog/schedule for prerequisites.*

## Lewis University Campuses



### 1 Lewis Main Campus

One University Parkway  
Romeoville, IL 60446  
[Phone] (815) 836-5610

### 2 Chicago/De La Salle Institute

3434 S. Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60616  
[Phone] (312) 326-1673

### 3 Hickory Hills Campus

9634 S. Roberts Road  
Hickory Hills, IL 60457  
[Phone] (708) 233-9768

### 4 Oak Brook Campus

2122 York Road, Suite 170  
Oak Brook, IL 60523  
[Phone] (630) 573-1740

### 5 Shorewood Campus

247 Brookforest Avenue  
Shorewood, IL 60404  
[Phone] (815) 744-0504

### 6 Tinley Park Campus

18501 Maple Creek Drive  
Tinley Park, IL 60477  
[Phone] (708) 444-3180

[www.lewisu.edu/campuses](http://www.lewisu.edu/campuses)

## For More Information

### Office of Graduate and Adult Admission

One University Parkway, Romeoville, IL 60446-2200  
(815) 836-5610, toll-free (800) 897-9000, fax (815) 836-5578  
[acceleratedprogram@lewisu.edu](mailto:acceleratedprogram@lewisu.edu)

### Office Hours

M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

