

SOCIAL SCIENCES

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As media analyst Marshall McLuhan wrote, “A point of view is a dangerous luxury when substituted for insight and understanding.” The social sciences provide students with a glimpse into human behavior, belief and values systems, culture, history, law and social organization. To study the social sciences is to explore how human societies have shaped—and been shaped by—the world in which we live. Our students are able to study subjects from anthropology to geography to psychology to sustainability and are trained to use that knowledge to pursue a strong career after college.

Social science programs are housed in the College of Arts and Sciences, UofL's largest and most diverse academic unit. The three A&S divisions are humanities, natural science and social sciences. We offer 45 undergraduate degree programs, 59 minors, accelerated degree programs that can help you earn a master's degree or a law degree more quickly, undergraduate certificates, undergraduate research and teaching assistant opportunities, study-abroad programs and more.



Beyond the classroom

STUDY ABROAD

Study abroad and international service learning programs are available in Botswana, Belize, China, Croatia, India, Panama, the Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago and more.

INTERNSHIPS

The social sciences departments offer for-credit internships with a number of local, state and federal agencies, including opportunities at Churchill Downs, Louisville Metro Government and the Kentucky Legislature.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Our social sciences departments offer many student organizations including academic honor societies, campus organizations and programs such as Model UN, Girls League of the West, Psi Chi and Sociology Student Association.

RESEARCH

Undergraduate research opportunities are available in several social science departments. Faculty and students have worked together on research subjects ranging from environmental analysis in geography to neuroimaging in psychology.

LIVE AND LEARN

Live and study in one of our Living-Learning or Themed Communities (LLC/TC)! Participants will have increased faculty and staff engagement, opportunities to actively engage in community-specific programs, and be exposed to campus resources relevant to their academic, personal, and/or professional endeavors. Visit uofl.me/llc to learn more.



DEGREE PROGRAMS

ANTHROPOLOGY

Anthropology is the study of the biological and social natures of human beings. You will take courses in archaeology, biological anthropology and cultural anthropology. The department also offers an accelerated BA-MA degree program.

ASIAN STUDIES

Asian Studies is an interdisciplinary undergraduate program. You will take course work in Asian art, history, language, literature and culture, philosophy and religion, politics, and popular culture.

COMMUNICATION*

The Department of Communication focuses on the study of messages. Communication majors and minors learn interpersonal, persuasive, research, media, and technological concepts and skills. You will also learn how messages are produced, disseminated and affect those who consume them.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE*

The Department of Criminal Justice offers you a practical educational background in all facets of the criminal justice system. Criminal Justice majors can participate in the 3+3 program, which combines the first year of law school and the undergraduate senior year. The department also offers an accelerated BS-MS program that allows you to take up to nine hours that can be applied to both undergraduate and graduate education.

GEOGRAPHIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

The Department of Geographic and Environmental Sciences focuses on the dynamic forces at work within our planet and the complex interactions between humanity and the natural environment. The department offers four concentrations: environmental analysis, geospatial technologies, human and cultural dynamics, and urban analysis. The department also offers an undergraduate Certificate in Applied Geospatial Technologies.*

HISTORY

The History Department offers a wide range of courses focusing on various aspects of the human experience from the dawn of civilization to the contemporary world. History emphasizes the cultivation and development of vital skills, such as researching, clear and effective written communication, problem-solving, and critical thinking, that can ultimately be applied to a wide range of professions. History majors are eligible to participate in the 3+3 program, which combines the first year of law school and the undergraduate senior year.

LATIN AMERICAN AND LATINO STUDIES

This interdisciplinary program promotes an understanding and appreciation for diverse cultures of Latin American and Latino communities in the United States.

PAN-AFRICAN STUDIES

Pan-African Studies (PAS) is the study of the cultures and societies of Africa and persons of African ancestry, both past and present. You will study the diffusion of African people and cultures in North America, the Caribbean and South America, with special focus on the United States.

**Also offered entirely online*

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political Science cultivates an understanding of policy, politics and governments in the United States and around the globe. Course offerings include: campaigns and elections, the presidency and congress, social movements and civil rights, terrorism and war, constitutional law, environmental policy, religious politics, urban politics and poverty, and international politics.

PSYCHOLOGY*

Psychology is the study of the human mind and behavior. Course topics include cognitive, developmental, social and abnormal psychology, as well as behavioral neuroscience. You will be prepared for a wide range of careers or for graduate school for further training.

SOCIOLOGY*

The department focuses on diversity and inequality, the significant ways in which people and groups differ from one another, particularly in terms of race and ethnicity, social class, gender, sexuality and other social characteristics. Career opportunities include business, child welfare, criminal justice, education, gerontology, law, leisure/recreation, social work and urban planning or management.

SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is an interdisciplinary degree program that examines interrelated environmental, political, economic, and social issues and problems facing our society at local, regional, and global scales. The curriculum is designed to educate, train and prepare you for future careers in sustainability-related endeavors that include: the environment, energy, climate change, public policy, transportation, and urban and regional planning. This degree will also serve as a well-rounded base to allow you to pursue graduate training in affiliated fields of study.

URBAN STUDIES

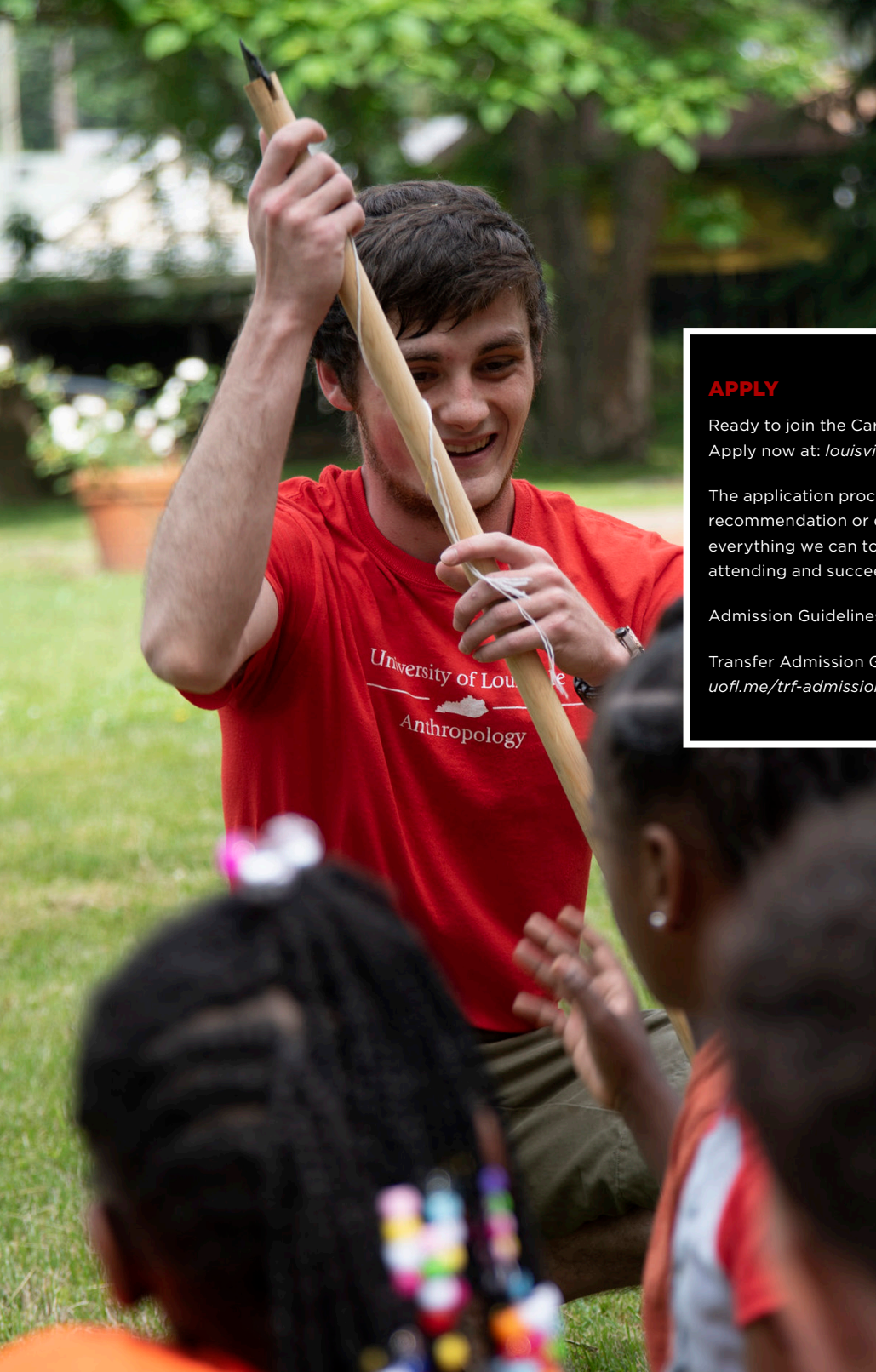
The Urban Studies degree program explores the social, economic, political, and spatial structures of cities through multiple disciplinary lenses, focusing on issues, problems, and solutions for urban areas through planning, policy, and administration. The program is designed to educate, train, and prepare students for future careers in municipal and metropolitan-related occupations, such as public administrators, policy analysts, community development specialists, or planning technicians.

WOMEN'S, GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES*

This interdisciplinary department teaches you to examine complex social problems using gender-informed analysis, research and design. There is growing demand in the professions of business, law, medicine, public administration, social work, education, counseling, and government service for expertise on issues of gender and sexual diversity. You can participate in the 3+3 program, combining the first year of law school and the undergraduate senior year.

Are you interested in designing your own multi-disciplinary major focused on your interests and goals? Qualified students may do so through the Liberal Studies/Individualized Major Program.

For more information: louisville.edu/liberalstudies



APPLY

Ready to join the Cardinal Family?
Apply now at: louisville.edu/apply

The application process is easy. No letters of recommendation or essays are required. We'll do everything we can to help make your dream of attending and succeeding at UofL a reality.

Admission Guidelines: uofl.me/ftf-adm-guidelines

Transfer Admission Guidelines:
uofl.me/trf-admissions



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